

Review

From

Prof. Dr. Lachezar Nachev Grozdinski, PhD

Head of Angiology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic, University Hospital

elected as a member of the Scientific Jury by Order No11-03-956#2/11.11.2022 of the Manager and Procurator of the Hospital "Acibadem City Clinic, University Hospital" EOOD, under a procedure to hold a competition for the selection of

the academic position "Associate Professor"

in the field of higher education -7. Health and Sport,

professional field – 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty "Cardiology"

for the needs of the Cardiology Clinic of Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital EOOD within 6 (six) months of its announcement in the State Gazette, issue 60/29.07.2022

Scientific organization: Acibadem City Clinic, University Hospital

Professional field **7.1. Medicine**

Only candidate: **Dr. Zoran Jovan Stankov, MD, PhD**

All necessary documents for the fulfillment of the conditions specified from The Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and in accordance with the information from the reports of the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of "Acibadem City Clinic, University Hospital", Sofia was provided to me electronically. They comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation

For the purposes of this procedure, Dr. Zoran Stankov has provided a list of publications, participation with reports in scientific forums, references for scientific and teaching activities, references for scientific contributions, all necessary diplomas and certificates, etc. There was no plagiarism.

Qualification and professional path

- Graduated with medicine diploma in 2007 from Medical University-Sofia
- He acquired a specialty in Cardiology in 2014.

- Acquired specialty in Angiology 2020.
- Acquired a Master's Degree in Health Management 2021
- Acquired certificate in interventional cardiology 2016
- He was elected as part-time lecturer in 2019 at the Department of Internal Medicine, Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, Pediatrics, Epidemiology, Infectious and Skin Diseases at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". Kliment Ohridski

- He worked as a physician in the Cardiology Clinic of University Hospital Tokuda, Sofia. Sofia 2009-2012
- He worked as a physician in the Cardiology Clinic in Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital, Sofia 2012-2014
- He works as a cardiology specialist at the Cardiology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital 2014 – until now
- Head of The Department of Invasive Cardiology at Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital 2020 – present

-
- Member of the Bulgarian Society of Cardiology
- Member of the Bulgarian Society of Endovascular Therapy
- Member of the European Society of Cardiology /ESC/
- Member of the Bulgarian Association of Interventional Cardiology
- Member of the Bulgarian Society of Endovascular Treatment
- Member of the National Society of Angiology
- Author of over 50 scientific publications in Bulgarian and foreign journals.
- Regular lecturer at the annual events of a number of professional and scientific congresses and seminars:
 - Acute Stroke Interventions and Carotid Stenting /ICCA Stroke/,
 - VEITH Symposium, Balkan Endovascular Course /BEC/,
 - Paris Course of Revascularization /PCR/,
 - Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics /TCT/,
 - Top to Toe Transcatheter Solutions /4TS/,
 - Southeast European Medical Forum /SEEMF/,
- Together with prof. Ivo Petrov is the winner of the first prize of the first edition of Capital for excellence and innovations in the health sector. The project, which the jury of Capital broadcast as the most innovative, is the world's first operation for non-surgical placement of a stent in dissection of the aorta of a 48-year-old patient.

In 2022 he acquired the degree of Doctor of Science in Cardiology. Defended dissertation on the topic: *Endovascular treatment of type "A" and type "B" dissection of the aorta.*

Dr. Stankov is a professional with excellent theoretical training, broad general culture, rich erudition and clinical practice in the field of invasive and non-invasive cardiology and angiology. He actively participates in medical congresses and symposiums. He has acquired many additional qualifications and has proven his place as a leading expert in the field of cardiology.

Evaluation of quantitative and qualitative indicators of the candidate

Dr. Stankov participated in the competition with a **total of 50 scientific papers:**

- 1 dissertation for educational and scientific degree "Doctor"
- 43 research papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, most of them foreign with impact factor
- participation in 3 textbooks
- Participation in 3 collective monographs
- 8 scientific reports with published abstracts

The overall IF is high - 113.28.

According to the attached reference, Dr. Stankov's scientific works can be divided into topics as follows:

- endovascular treatment of structural diseases (1, 6, 8, 9, 17, 22, 29, 40-42),
- treatment of pulmonary thromboembolism (2, 37),
- endovascular treatment of aortic diseases(3, 4, 12, 13, 19, 24, 25, 30, 31, 34, 35) .
- treatment of ischemic stroke (5, 11, 14),
- other applied endovascular treatment methods (7, 10, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 32, 33, 39),
- others (15, 28, 36)

As significant works in the form of participation in textbooks and monographs can be noted 38, 43, 44 – 47.

Major Scientific Contributions

The research and practical and applied activities of Dr. Zoran Stankov are focused in several directions, which can be grouped several sections with the relevant most important contributions.

The dissertation proves the effectiveness of endovascular treatment of dissection aneurysms of aorta type A and B, as well as the great importance of malperfusion syndrome requiring the application of a complex therapeutic approach – endovascular, hybrid and surgical.

For the first time in Bulgaria, a large study on the endovascular treatment of aortic dissections types A and B is being carried out and therapeutic options are being explored.

It is established that endovascular treatment is a method of choice for dissections type B. Dissections type A and B lead not only to aneurysms and ruptures, but also to malperfusion, needing secondary endovascular or hybrid revascularization. This conclusion is particularly valuable for both theoretical and clinical practice.

It was found that endovascular therapy in dissections type A and B significantly increases the true lumen, which leads to an improvement in the perfusion.

It is proven, that the modern treatment of dissecting aortic aneurysms is complex and / or hybrid.

Endovascular treatment of aortic diseases:

- For the first time in Bulgaria, he conducted a large study on the endovascular treatment of aortic dissection type A and type B
- For the first time in Bulgaria he is researching the possible endovascular therapeutic options for the treatment of AD type A and type B.
- For the first time in Bulgaria he studied the frequency and methods of endovascular treatment of malperfusion syndrome.
- For the first time in the world, he managed to do a complete endovascular treatment of aortic dissection type A by Stanford

Endovascular treatment of structural heart disease:

- Participated in the implantation of the first Mitra Clip in Bulgaria
- Participated in the development and implementation of a minimalist and precise approach for TAVI in Bulgaria
- Conducted numerous successful TAVI procedures with fully percutaneous access

Endovascular treatment of complex structural defects of the heart and aorta

- He conducted an endovascular VSD closure after MINOCA using ASD occluder
- Conducted the closure of persistent false lumen after operation on the occasion of aortic dissection type A with ASD occluder

- Multiple embolization procedures of liver metastasis

Complex endovascular interventions – coronary, carotid and peripheral:

- Publications and numerous reports on interventional treatment of complex coronary interventions, combined with peripheral and carotid interventions, are of a significant scientifically applied nature.

Interventional treatment of PE

The implementation of such treatment and analysis of the methods used is of a significant scientifically applied nature.

Interventional treatment of ischemic stroke and carotid pathology.

A protocol for diagnosis and treatment of basilar artery occlusion has been developed.

The main contributions of Dr. Zoran Stankov are in the field of endovascular treatment of complex structural defects. In particular, he has made a particularly significant scientific and practical contribution to the field of endovascular treatment of aortic dissection Stanford type A and type B. Much of his scientific work is precisely in this area, which correlates with his enviable experience in the field. He conducted the first in Bulgaria and one of the few studies in the world for endoprosthetics in aortic dissection.

Dr. Stankov's procedures for diagnosis and interventional treatment of coronary, carotid and peripheral vascular pathology, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of PE are no less important. Dr. Stankov's knowledge in the field of angiology and his vast clinical and scientific experience gained in the complex treatment of coronary, carotid and peripheral vascular pathology make him one of the leading specialists in the diagnosis and endovascular treatment of cardiovascular diseases.

Teaching activities

The academic workload of Dr. Zoran Stankov for the period 01.01.2019 - 31. 12.2021 year is well presented. In Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital, he has realized **a total of 300 eq. Hours**. As a part-time assistant to the Medical Faculty of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Department of Internal Medicine, Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, Pediatrics, Epidemiology, Infectious and Skin Diseases for the academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 had respectively 60h total employment, of which 60h auditorium employment (2019/2020), 150h total employment, of which 150h auditorium activity (2020/2021), 90h Total employment, of which 90h auditorium

employment (2021/ 2022) of Medical students IV course in the cycle "Cardiology", field "Internal Medicine"

Conclusion

The candidate Dr. Zoran Jovan Stankov, MD, PhD fully meets the requirements of The Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for the Implementation of the Law on Combating Organized Crime and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff at Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital EOOD.

In conclusion, on the basis of the presented scientific indicators, the overall scientific, medical and teaching activities of Dr. Stankov, I strongly recommend to the esteemed members the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the selection of Dr. Zoran Jovan Stankov, MD, PhD to occupy the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Cardiology" for the needs of the Cardiology Clinic of "Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital".

Sofia,

10.12.2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Stankov', is written on the right side of the page.