



REVIEW

**BY PROF. DR. DOBRIN YOTKOV VASILEV, DM
HEAD OF THE CARDIOLOGY CLINIC
ALEKSANDROVSKA UMHAT – SOFIA**

Member of the Scientific Jury, assigned by order No. RD - 244/21.12.2020 of Prof. Dr. Magdalena Sabeva Mitkova, Rector – Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas

RE: COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POSITION OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION 7. HEALTH AND SPORTS, PROFESSIONAL FIELD 7.1 MEDICINE IN THE INTERNAL MEDICINE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALTY FOR THE NEEDS OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF PROF. DR. ASEN ZLATAROV UNIVERSITY, BURGAS

Administrative information on the procedure

The competition for the academic position Associate Professor in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field, 7.1 Medicine, in the Internal Medicine scientific specialty for the needs of the Medical Faculty of Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas is announced in SG, issue 90/20.10.2020. By order № RD - 244 dated 21.12.2020. of the Rector of the University, I have been appointed an external member of the Scientific Jury and the decision of the first absentee meeting is to present a review.

There are two admitted candidates in the competition and they fully comply with Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for Implementation of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas.

They are presented in alphabetical order respectively:

1. Petya Kamenova Petkova, MD, PhD
2. Dr. Svetlin Nedkov Tsonev, MD, PhD

I declare that I have no conflict of interest.

Brief professional data of the candidates

Dr. Petya Kamenova Petkova graduated in medicine in 1984 at the Higher Medical Institute, Medical Academy, Sofia. She started working as a clinical resident in the Second Internal Department of the Regional Hospital, Pirdop (Srednogorie) in 1985, and in 1986 after a competition she was appointed Assistant in the Diabetes Clinic of the Scientific Institute of Endocrinology and Gerontology of the Medical Academy – Sofia. The entire subsequent professional path of Dr. Kamenova is connected with the prestigious Faculty Hospital of Endocrinology and Gerontology of Medical University of Sofia, later University Specialized

Hospital for Active Treatment in Endocrinology, where she successively became a senior assistant (1990) and chief assistant (1993) and until nowadays. Dr. Kamenova speaks English and Russian.

Dr. Kamenova's current work experience is 35 years and 10 months, during which she held the academic position of "Assistant", "Senior Assistant" and "Chief Assistant".

She speaks English and Russian

Dr. Svetlin Tsonev was born in 1981. In 2006 he graduated in medicine at the Medical University – Sofia. He has acquired specialties in Cardiology in 2014 and Angiology in 2019, In the course of his professional development he managed to obtain certificates for non-invasive and invasive imaging and therapeutic methods: Echocardiography – fundamental level in 2014, Echocardiography – expert level in 2019, Invasive Vascular Medicine in 2019 and Ultrasound Vascular Diagnostics in 2020. In 2016 he graduated with a master's degree in Public Health and Health Management from the Faculty of Public Health, Medical University of Sofia.

Dr. Tsonev's professional path began as a volunteer and a member of a research group at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Medical University of Sofia in 2005, in the period 2008 – 2011 he is a full-time doctoral student in Cardiology at the Clinic of Cardiology, Medical University of Sofia, Prof. St. Kirkovich Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine and from 2009 to 2015 he was successively assistant and chief assistant at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Medical University of Sofia. For the period from March 2015 to September 1, 2019 he is a specialist in angiology at City Clinic – Cardiovascular Center Sofia and a part-time assistant at the Medical Faculty of St. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University, where in addition to the second clinical specialty in Angiology he is also certified as an interventional vascular specialist. From 02.2019 to 01.09.2020 he acquired managerial experience as Head of Intervention Laboratory at the Clinic of Cardiology, Second MHAT Sofia EAD, and from 01.09.2020 he is currently a doctor at the Alexandrovska University Hospital, Department of Cardiology. Since 2019 he has been a part-time assistant in internal medicine to medical students in English at the Medical Faculty of the Medical University of Sofia.

In 2015, Dr. Tsonev was awarded the educational and scientific degree "PhD" on the basis of a defended dissertation on "Cardiac syndrome X in women – clinical, instrumental and laboratory characteristics."

The professional qualification courses of Dr. Tsonev are directed in several directions:

- *imaging methods in cardiology*: "Clinical application of echocardiography: new and old. Training course with live demonstrations", Bucharest, Romania (2010), "Coronary reserve – echocardiographic technique", Mestre, Italy (2013),
- *peripheral arterial interventions*:
PeripheralPCR, Milan, Italy, educational grant (2016) and others.
- *risk factors and therapy of arterial hypertension, dyslipidemia*: ESH Summer School, Smolenice, Slovakia (2009), Hyperlipidemia Academy 2013, Berlin, Germany.

At the moment, Dr. Tsonev has a total work experience of 14 years and 4 months and holds the academic position of “Assistant”, “Chief Assistant” and “Part-time Assistant” of 9 years and 2 months.

He speaks English, Russian and German.

Evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative indicators of the candidate

Dr. Kamenova presents herself at the competition with **90** scientific papers,

- Author’s abstract of dissertation for acquiring educational and scientific degree “PhD” - 1;
- Related to the dissertation – 11.
 - Scientific articles in journals with IF – 1
 - Scientific articles in the Scopus database – 3,
 - Scientific reports – 7
 - In a magazine with IF – 1.
 - Participation in international congresses – 3
 - Participation in national congresses, with printed abstracts – 3
- Monograph – 0;
- Medical book with scientific editor – 2
 - In English - 2 chapters
- Medical book without a scientific editor – 2
 - In English published by Scholars' Press - 2 chapters
- Scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals – 36
 - Actual publications in journals with IF – 7
 - International medical journals in Scopus database and Web of Knowledge – 1
 - National medical journals – 23
 - In Scopus and Web of Knowledge database – 16
 - National Reference List (NRS) – 7
- Scientific reports and communications presented in Bulgarian and international scientific forums – 38
 - Abstracts printed in journals with IF – 4
 - Abstracts printed in journals in the Scopus and Web of Knowledge database – 5
 - Participation in international congresses, with printed abstracts – 12
 - Participation in national congresses, with printed abstracts – 16
 - Interview in “Health Navigator” – 1

79 of them are subject to review, which were not reviewed upon acquisition of Doctor’s Degree.

The scientific articles and summaries of Dr. Kamenova are published in Osteoporosis International – 1, Arquivos Brasileiros de Endocrinologia & Metabologia – 2, Diabetologia – 1, Endocrinology – 5.

In 29 (74.4%) of the articles she is an independent or first author. The scientific activity of the candidate includes 40 scientific reports and announcements with printed abstracts, presented in 24 Bulgarian and 16 international scientific forums, as 3 of the abstracts are printed in journals with IF. In 11 of the reports she is an independent or first author (70%).

Media appearances and participation in clinical trials are not subject to review.

The CML report contains 276 citations in the Scopus and Web of Knowledge database (173 are in an article with the results of a clinical study).

From actual publications: General IF and individual IF: 15.672/6.95

From published abstracts: General IF and individual IF: 13.064/4.053

The total impact factor of articles and abstracts is 28,738, and the individual IF is 10,903.

Dr. Kamenova submitted for review “Metformin: therapeutic option in people at high cardiometabolic risk” (2 chapters) published by Scholars’ Press in English in 2016, which I do not consider to meet the definition for monograph of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria *due to the lack* of an editor or reviewers to be voted on by a council of the Department Council, as well as due to non-compliance with the quantitative criteria for a monograph.

Dr. Kamenova presented an interview in “Health Navigator”, which does not meet the criteria for participation in a scientific forum and is not subject to review.

The notes provided by Dr. Kamenova for lectures given at forums of pharmaceutical companies should not be evaluated.

Dr. Tsonev presented himself at the competition with **161** scientific papers, of which 147 are subject to review, which were not related to the Doctor’s Degree award.

He is the first author in 11 (20.4%) of the articles. In 72 (68.6%) of the reports he is an independent or first author.

The reference made in CML and NACID shows 38 citations registered, of which 11 are in Bulgarian and in the database Scopus and Web of Knowledge – 27 citations.

From actual publications: General IF and individual IF: 6.605/0.851

From published summaries: General IF and individual IF: 48.916/15.925

The total impact factor of articles and abstracts is: General IF and individual IF: 55.521/16.776

- Author’s abstract of dissertation for acquiring educational and scientific degree “Doctor” - 1;
- Related to the dissertation – 14.
 - Scientific articles in journals with IF – 2
 - Scientific articles in the Scopus database – 5,
 - Scientific reports – 7

- Monograph – 1;
- Medical book with scientific editor –6
 - In Bulgarian with – 2 books of 1 chapter
 - In English published by Elsevier (Scopus) - 4 chapters
- Scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals – 38
 - Actual publications in journals with IF – 3
 - International medical journals in Scopus database and Web of Knowledge – 4
 - International medical journals – 1
 - National medical journals – 30
 - In Scopus and Web of Knowledge database – 6
 - National Reference List (NRS) – 24
- Scientific reports and communications presented in Bulgarian and international scientific forums 101 (printed abstracts – 48)
 - Abstracts printed in journals with IF – 21
 - Abstracts printed in journals in the Scopus and Web of Knowledge database – 3
 - Abstracts printed in journals in the National Reference List – 23
 - Participation in international congresses, with printed abstracts – 13
 - Participation in national congresses, with printed abstracts – 38
 - Participation in international congresses as a lecturer – 2

The presented monograph “Coronary Microcirculation” 2020 has 2 reviewers, which are accepted with a protocol of the Department Council of the Department of Internal Medicine, Medical University of Sofia and meet the qualitative and quantitative criteria for a monograph.. The scientific articles and summaries of Dr. Tsonev are published in the Journal of Hypertension – 9, European Heart Journal-cardiovascular Imaging – 3, Journal of Health Policy & Outcomes Research – 1, Diagnostics – 1, Arch Med Sci. – 1, Comtes Rendus de l'Academie Bulgare des Sciences – 1, Obesity Reviews – 1, Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery – 4, Value in Health – 1, European Journal of Preventive Cardiology – 1, Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging – 1 and others.

Both candidates meet the minimum quantitative criteria of the scientometric indicators of the University for holding the academic position of “Associate Professor”.

Major scientific contributions

The main topics of Dr. Kamenova's scientific contributions are:

- 1) Determination of indices and indicators of insulin sensitivity as substitutes for the “gold standard” hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp technique
- 2) Therapeutic effect of insulin resistance outside the established means for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. It was established that Alphaipoic acid administered orally for 4 weeks at a dose of 1200 mg/day improves insulin sensitivity
- 3) Determining the frequency and characteristics of cardiometabolic risk factors of the metabolic syndrome in patients with type 2 diabetes as equivalent to CVD and identifying the need for screening for metabolic syndrome and treatment of all risk factors to reduce global cardiometabolic risk.

- 4) Study of the association between two established CV risk markers – thick intima media of the carotid artery and insulin sensitivity in patients with type 2 diabetes and found a negative correlation.
- 5) Determining the effect of metformin-drug of first choice in the treatment of type 2 diabetes on cardiometabolic risk factors, metabolic syndrome factors in individuals with metabolic syndrome, normal glucose tolerance and hyperinsulinemia. Metformin has been shown to restore the physiological dynamics of insulin secretion. Its effect on hyperinsulinemia and insulin resistance increases with the duration of treatment. In individuals with metabolic syndrome, metformin may be the drug of choice for reducing cardiometabolic risk factors and for preventing type 2 diabetes and CVD. The effect of metformin on weight reduction, body mass index and waist circumference was established. It reduces the level of LDL cholesterol and Triglycerides and increases HDL cholesterol levels in patients taking antilipemic drugs.

Dr. Kamenova has scientific and clinical contributions mainly in a single area: diabetes mellitus and in particular type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Dr. Tsonev's scientific contributions are in the following areas:

- 1) Cardiac X syndrome – **(total number of publications – 7 and dissertation)**. The results of a complex clinical, laboratory and instrumental assessment of patients with Cardiac Syndrome X (CSX), which is characterized by a heterogeneous etiology, conducted for the first time in Bulgaria have been announced.
- 2) Microvascular function and dysfunction **(total number of publications – 10, of which one monograph and one chapter of a book)**. The monographic work and publications examine in detail both the anatomical and the physiological and pathophysiological mechanisms of microcirculatory function and dysfunction. The work is unique in its subject matter in Bulgaria and combines original results and a detailed literary reference on the subject. The monograph also contains a proposal for an original diagnostic and therapeutic approach in patients with microvascular dysfunction.
- 3) Arterial hypertension
- 4) Risk factors
- 5) Arterial and venous vascular diseases
- 6) Heart failure:
- 7) Imaging techniques in cardiology

The above scientific papers (scientific articles, monographs, textbooks and presentations) are devoted to a wide range of heart and vascular diseases and have scientific and applied practical contributions:

Scientific contributions of original scientific nature are related to:

1. Comparative analysis of endothelial dysfunction and myocardial ischemia-specific markers in a comparison of patients with CSX and those with coronary heart disease.
2. Comparative analysis of gene expression of α ER and serum levels of 17β -estradiol in patients with CSX and those with verified coronary heart disease.

3. A validated method for application of deformation echocardiography techniques in the assessment of the left atrium (strain and strain rate).

Contributions of scientific and applied nature are related to:

1. Developed algorithm for diagnosis and treatment of patients with microvascular angina.
2. New biochemical markers have been introduced for the differentiation of patients with microvascular and epicardial coronary disease (VEGF, alpha ER, ET1).
3. A clinical approach has been developed in patients with multifocal atherosclerosis with opportunities for endovascular and vascular surgery.
4. The latest ultrasound techniques have been introduced to assess myocardial deformity in patients with rare diseases (Fabry, Pompe), heart failure, during pregnancy, diabetes mellitus.
5. After specialization and certification in Mestre, Italy, Dr. Tsonev introduces for the first time in Bulgaria a method for transthoracic Doppler of coronary arteries, which has not only scientific but also clinical and applied benefits.

It is noteworthy that, unlike Dr. Kamenova, the scientific developments of Dr. Tsonev are not only in one, but in various areas and are accompanied by mastering and certification in various non-invasive and invasive methods for diagnosis and therapy in cardiology and angiology. Dr. Tsonev performs part of the most modern scientific and applied developments in the field of echocardiography as a member of already implemented or ongoing international projects (MASCOT, FUTURE). Confirmation of this is the attached recommendation by Prof. Matteo Cameli, MD, PhD, FESC from the University of Siena, Italy, who is chairman of the Working Group on Echocardiography of the Society of Cardiologists in Italy and Secretary of EACVI. Dr. Tsonev actively participates in the scientific and practical activities of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria as chairman of the Working Group on Valve Diseases. The provided evidence is not only for presented scientific papers and reports, but also for moderation of scientific sessions, organization of training courses, which Dr. Kamenova does not present.

Teaching activity

1. Dr. Kamenova began her teaching career as an assistant in 1986. Her entire experience as a lecturer is in the field of endocrinology, in which field she has also developed a program for training students. Despite the long teaching experience, the candidate has presented for the estimated 5-year period 2015-2020 the teaching activity of a total of 614 hours, of which 300 hours of student training and 314 hours – postgraduate training in endocrinology.

2. Dr. Svetlin Tsonev as an assistant and chief assistant in Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine at the Medical Faculty, Medical University of Sofia, for the period 2012-2015 spent 970 hours, which includes lectures and practical classes in all disciplines in the field of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine. He teaches in Bulgarian and English III year “Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine” and IV year “Internal Medicine”, specialists in cardiology, Expert courses in Echocardiography, as well as students Bachelor’s degree in nursing and medical rehabilitation, for which he presented official notes from Medical Faculty, Medical University of Sofia and St. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University - Medical Faculty and Acibadem City Clinic with a **total workload for the period 2012-2019 a total of 2535 hours.**

As a part-time assistant at Sofia University he has conducted 391 classes of medical students in Bulgarian and English III year "Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine" and IV year "Internal Medicine" and students Bachelor's degree in nursing and medical rehabilitation at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University. As a part-time assistant at the Department of Internal Medicine at the Medical University of Sofia in the period 2019/2020 – 54 hours of medical students in English IV year. For the period 2015 - 2019 he realized 924 eq. hours of training as a supervisor of 3 trainees in cardiology.

In summary, the teaching experience of Dr. Tsonev is in Bulgarian and English and mainly as an Assistant and Chief Assistant of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine and Cardiology.

Medical-diagnostic activity

1. The medical-diagnostic activity of Dr. Kamenova is in the field of endocrinology and includes treatment of patients with diabetes mellitus, obesity, metabolic syndrome, thyroid diseases, osteoporosis, hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal and gonadal diseases.
2. Dr. Tsonev as a specialist in Cardiology and Angiology develops the treatment and diagnostic activities of all cardiovascular diseases, which makes him one of the few cardiovascular specialists in Bulgaria. Certified at the expert level for echocardiographic, Doppler and interventional vascular medicine.

Expert activity and research activity

As an expert, Dr. Kamenova is a member of:

1. Bulgarian Society of Endocrinology
2. Bulgarian Diabetes Association
3. European Association for the Study of Diabetes

Member of the editorial board and reviewer:

No document attached

Participation in research projects - 1 as author and 2 as participant:

International projects:

1. Author of the project. International research project "Determination of insulin sensitivity by the gold standard manual hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp technique – a method not used in Bulgaria and study the effect of new drugs on insulin secretion and insulin sensitivity in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus" Implemented for the period October 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997 Clinic of Diabetology, Free University Hospital, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, approved after a competition by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Bulgaria and the Dutch organization NUFFIC for international cooperation in the field of medicine.

The method has a limited application at the moment due to the introduction of modern methods in clinical practice. (Art. 70, Para 8, item 2b of the Regulations for development of the academic staff of the Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas)

2. International scientific project "Evaluation of the effects of a new insulin regimen on the counterregulatory hormones in hypoglycemic clamp test in patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus" Implemented for the period April 1 – July 1,1997, Diabetology Clinic, Free University Hospital, Amsterdam, The Netherlands – Participant
3. International research project "Pathogenesis and treatment of vascular and renal complications of diabetes mellitus" and successfully passed the PhD exam with a certificate from the Cardiovascular Research Institute – Maastricht, The Netherlands, 1997 – participant

Distinctions and awards at scientific and practical competitions:

Apart from being included in 2009 in the largest bibliographic publication "Who's Who in Science and Technology", she does not present diplomas from competitions.

Expert activity

- Consultant of the National Health Insurance Fund for authorization of expensive drugs for the period 2005 – 2007.
- Expert Speaks Interviews, Clinical Pearls Publications, Inc. Prescription 2000, Tishcon Corp. (USA) on "Alpha lipoic acid and improving insulin sensitivity" – 2007

Member of an expert panel or discussant

No document attached

International current cooperation

No document submitted

Moderator of scientific events:

No document attached

Member of an expert panel

No document attached

According to the requirements, it is not appropriate to review Dr. Kamenova's participation in paid clinical trials, as well as public appearances.

Expert activity and research activity of Dr. Tsonev

Active membership in international and national scientific societies and organizations, participating in their management. (Art. 70, para 8, item 2a of the Regulations for development of the academic staff of Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas))

1. Ambassador of Heart Imager of Tomorrow to the European Society of Cardiovascular Imaging.
2. Member of the Working group on Hypertension and Sexual dysfunction of the European Society of Hypertension.
3. Chairman of the Working Group on "Valve Diseases" at the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria since 2014 to the present
4. Member of the Working Group at the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria: "Women and Cardiovascular Risk"
5. Member of the Board of the Association of Non-Invasive Imaging in Cardiology.
6. Member of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria (SCB),
7. Member of the Bulgarian Society of Angiology.
8. Member of the Bulgarian Society of Interventional Cardiology.
9. Member of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria.
10. Member of the European Society of Cardiology;
11. Secretary of the XXIV International Congress of Echocardiography, May 17-20, 2018, resort Albena, Bulgaria.

Participation in the development and validation of methodologies:

As a member of ESCVI and a participant in the multicenter international physician-initiated study MASCOT, Dr. Tsonev participated in the validation of the most modern methodology for determining the function of the left atrium-strain. The results were published in a periodical with IF and currently applied in real clinical practice.

Member of the editorial board and reviewer:

(Art. 70, para 8, item 2a of the Regulations for development of the academic staff of the Prof. Dr. Assen Zlatarov University, Burgas)

1. Journal of American College of Cardiology – case reports – emerging editorial consultant.
2. Heart Failure Reviews – reviewer.
3. Journal of Functional Morphology and Kinesiology – reviewer.
4. Bulgarian Cardiology - reviewer, section editor
5. Praemedicus since 1925 – Deputy editor
6. Continuous Research Online Library – editorial board member.
7. Credoweb Medical Editor.

Participation in research projects:

Dr. Tsonev participates in 6 (3 international, 3 national)

A. International projects – Member of the research team:

1. Multicentric Atrial Strain COmparison between Two different modalities: the MASCOT HIT study, 2019.

2. Study of the diurnal profile of the autonomic cardiac balance in patients with X-syndrome. Supervisor: Prof. M. Matveev, BAS, Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Schiller AG, Switzerland.

3. Development of a prototype of a portable system for wireless remote recording of electrocardiographic signals CADIO-DISTANCE. Supervisor: Prof. M. Matveev. BAS, Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Schiller AG, Switzerland.

B. National projects

Lead researcher

1. Project № 18-D / 2009 from the competition "Young Researcher".
"Microvascular angina – clinical, biochemical, instrumental and prognostic assessment in women" Project duration 1 year; Leading researcher: Dr. Sv. Tsonev. Project deadline: 2010 Rating: **Excellent**

Member of the research team:

2. Project with funds from NSF - MES - TC-L-1605/06: **"Evaluation of the role of vitamin E as a dietary supplement in the treatment of patients with heart failure"**; Project duration 3 years; Project manager: Prof. Dr. Temenuga Donova, MD, Dr. K. Vitliyanova

3. Medical University of Sofia, Research project 2013:
Circadian rhythm and melatonin in patients with sleep disorders. Duration: 1 year; Lead researcher: Prof. Petrova

As an envoy of Heart Imagers of Tomorrow to ESCVI, he participated in the development of the design and implementation of international projects: MASCOT and the current FUTURE HIT study.

Awards from national scientific competitions:

1. 1st prize in a competition for a clinical case, 2020, Publication: Sv. Tsonev. Microvascular angina – a therapeutic challenge. Analysis of drug possibilities and clinical case. Bulg. Card. 2020 (accepted for printing 09/11/2020)
2. Nomination for "Doctors we trust", 2014
3. 1st prize: Young Researcher Competition, National Congress of Cardiology, 2012
4. Nomination in a competition for scientific achievements for 2012 among those who defended their doctoral theses. Association of Scientists in Bulgaria.
5. Diploma for excellent performance at the annual meeting of young cardiologists, March 2012.
6. Award in a poster session, National Congress of Cardiology, Albena 2010
7. I prize: International Congress of Medical Sciences, Sofia 2006
8. III prize: International Congress of Medical Sciences, Sofia 2005.
9. III prize: International Congress of Medical Sciences, Sofia 2004
10. II prize: International Congress of Medical Sciences, Sofia 2003

Expert activity

1. Expert at the National Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation, Standing Committee on Health and Sports and has participated repeatedly in expert groups for evaluation and accreditation.

2. As chairman of the working groups of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria participates in the expert activity of the company.

Moderator of scientific events:

1. Session: Interesting clinical cases. V Bulgarian course in coronary physiology and physiology of non-coronary vessels with live cases. November 25-26, 2017, resort Borovets.
2. CARDIOMYOPATHY AND PERICARDIAL DISEASES. XXIV world congress of echocardiography and cardiovascular imaging. 17-20 May 2018y.
3. III National Meeting on Echocardiography and non-invasive imaging. July 4-6, 2019, the town of Pravets.
4. Conference "2020: The Year of Imaging". November 27 - 29, 2020

Member of an international expert panel

1. Echocardiography: masses and sources of emboli. 23rd Annual Congress of the EACVI. www.escardio.org/EACVI
2. Heart Imagers of Tomorrow (HIT) Clinical Case Poster session 2. 23rd Annual Congress of the EACVI. www.escardio.org/EACVI
3. CARDIOMYOPATHY AND PERICARDIAL DISEASES. Wold Echocongress 2018y.

In summary, the expert and research activities of the two candidates can be summarized in tabular form:

	Dr. Kamenova	Dr. Tsonev
Memberships in scientific organizations	yes	yes
Editorial boards	no	yes
Reviewer	no	yes
Scientific projects	yes	yes
Scientific awards	no	yes
Expert consultant	yes	yes
Expert panel	no	yes
Discussant / moderator	no	yes
International current cooperation	no	yes

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the presented evidence and references both candidates meet the minimum requirements of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for Implementation of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas for the academic position of "Professor".

Given the detailed analysis of the qualitative and quantitative criteria, as well as taking into account the fact that the period 2015-2020 has a great burden for review, I rank the candidates in the following order:

1. Dr. Svetlin Nedkov Tsonev, MD
2. Dr. Petya Kamenova Petkova, MD.

Reasons:

1. Dr. Tsonev has a significantly larger total scientific activity for his more than 2 times shorter work experience than Dr. Kamenova: 161 scientific works, of which 101 are scientific activity, as **55.3%** is for the period 2015-2020, which significantly exceeds those of Dr. Kamenova for the reviewed 5-year period – **9 %**.

This parameter shows the current research activity of the candidates at the moment.

2. Dr. Tsonev has many years of teaching experience in the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Medical University of Sofia, as well as more diverse teaching activities – training of medical students in Bulgarian and English III year "Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine" and IV year "Internal Medicine", specialists in cardiology, as well as students Bachelor's degree in nursing and medical rehabilitation for the period of 9 years (2012-2019) **total – 2535 hours**, as his teaching activity is in all disciplines of the specialty Internal Medicine. For the last 5 years Dr. Tsonev's hours are **1565 hours**).

Dr. Kamenova teaches only endocrinology to medical students in Bulgarian – V year, and the last 5 years the workload is **614 hours**.

I believe that in this parameter the teaching experience of Dr. Tsonev fully meets the needs of this competition.

3. Dr. Tsonev has extensive editorial experience, as well as a member of national and international societies and currently proves his qualities as an experienced researcher and lecturer with the ability to work in a collective environment.

The provided evidence are in this direction for a total of more realized projects for shorter work experience of Dr. Tsonev compared to Dr. Kamenova (6/4).

The research activity of Dr. Tsonev has been awarded 10 prizes at national competitions, which also speaks of the quality of scientific production. I propose to take into account the recommendation of Prof. Matteo Cameli from the University of Siena, Italy, who is a well-recognized scientist and confirms the quality of scientific research in collaboration with Dr. Tsonev.

4. Dr. Tsonev has managerial experience as Head of Department at the Cardiology Clinic of II MHAT Sofia, as well as a completed master's degree in Health Management at the Faculty of Public Health, Medical University of Sofia, while Dr. Kamenova does not present such evidence.

5. Dr. Tsonev, in addition to 2 specialties, has acquired also officially certified skills for the application of non-invasive and invasive modern techniques in his clinical specialty, while Dr. Kamenova does not present such.

In conclusion:

After full compliance with the current regulations – Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for Implementation of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas and objective and detailed analysis made of the necessary qualitative and quantitative parameters, **I strongly recommend the esteemed members of the Scientific jury to vote with a positive vote for the election of Dr. Svetlin Nedkov Tsonev, MD for holding the academic position “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine, in the scientific specialty “Internal Medicine” for the needs of the Medical Faculty of Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, Burgas.**

20.02.2021
Sofia

Reviewer:
(Prof. Dobrin Vassilev, MD, PhD)