

Statement

From Prof. Hristo Cekov Cekov, dm.
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For the contest for the academic position „**Professor**” in the area of high education 7. „Healthcare and sport“, professional area Medicine, scientific specialty Neurosurgery for the needs of the Department of Neurosurgery.

The contest is announced in DV No 16/22.02.2019

Candidates: one, Assoc. Prof. Venelin Miloslavov Gerganov, dm. Privatdozent in the Medical University Hannover, Germany

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Venelin Gerganov was born on the 19th of June 1970 in Sofia, graduated the Medical University – Sofia in 1970. His carrier in neurosurgery started in UMBALSM “NI Pirogov” and continued in UMBAL Alexandrovska”, since 2005 is with board certification in neurosurgery, in the same year received the “Doctor” degree in the scientific specialty Neurosurgery. In 2016 he received a “Master degree” for Public health and hospital management in MU Plovdiv.

He was scientific counselor of 2 “Doctor” theses, which have been presented successfully: “Epidermoids of the CPA” and “Peculiarities of cystic vestibular schwannomas”.

He has active academic lecture activity, took part in various seminars, lectured in different faculties in Hannover and Magdeburg, lectured the course “Neurosurgery and functional neuroanatomy”, “ENT symptoms in case of neurosurgical diseases” and “General neurosurgery- basics”. Not mentioned here is his daily activity with residents, students, doktorands, and nurses. He gave seminars and a course in the topic “Specific neurosurgical and neurological clinical pictures”.

Assoc. prof. Gerganov is a member of the Bulgarian and German Societies of Neurosurgery, of the German and European Society of Skull base Surgery and of the Association of the university lecturers in Germany. He is honorary member of the Southeast European Neurosurgical Society (SEENS) и Macedonian Neurosurgical Association. Faculty member of the PhD program INI-Hannover and University of Medical Sciences, Tehran.

Member of the editorial board of Clinical neurology and neurosurgery, Neurosurgery Journal, Bio Med Research International. Served as associate editor-in-chief of International Neuroscience Journal, as well as assistant editor-in-chief of Neurosurgical Review. Reviewer in practically all major neurosurgical journals.

Performed sub-specializations in Vienna, Hannover, won several times fellowships for training in prestigious neurosurgical institutes.

The scientific activity of assoc. prof. Gerganov is impressive and concerns highly technological fields that define the future of neurosurgery. His doctor thesis was successfully presented in 2005 on the topic "Surgery of vestibular schwannomas", where he described the utilization of endoscopic control in the CPA and hence concentrated on the challenging and multifaceted pathology of the CPA tumors. He wrote together with Samii the monograph "Surgery of cerebellopontine angle lesions", which is very significant work, proven by the multiple citations. He participates in this competition with this work. Assoc. prof. Gerganov besides his co-authorship of this outstanding monograph, co-authored many chapters in textbooks, edited by world-renowned neurosurgeons – Samii, Fahlbusch etc. Many of them are the main textbooks in the area worldwide. For reviewing the author presented 116 publications in full text, 32 of them published after his appointment as associate professor in 2012. 13 of the publications are in Bulgarian language. Presented are 33 printed abstracts of presentations. He was first author 29 times, while in the printed abstracts- 23 times. The overall impact factor is 136, personal impact factor – 19.

As already mentioned, the scientific interest of assoc. prof. Gerganov is related to the pathology of the posterior fossa and skull base, where he is accepted as an expert of world level. Leading publications are on the intraop application of MRI, endoscopy and neuromonitoring in skull base surgery, ultrasound studies of hemispherical problems, tractography of brain pathways and cranial nerves and so on.

I know personally Assoc. prof. Gerganov and his publications since many years and with pleasure wrote this short review of his activity. While in a large part of the current or recent professor applications just a few publications in foreign languages could be presented to cover the minimum, here the publications in Bulgarian are large minority. Most publications are with extremely important contributions, proven by the hundreds of citations. The impressive lecturer activity, active participation in neurosurgical forums, editorial boards, neurosurgical structures on European level. Achievements, sufficient to apply to competitions at world level.

In summary, I would like to state that for this competition Assoc. prof. Gerganov completely covers the qualitative and quantitative requirements, formulated in the ZRASRB and in the Law for its application in UMBALSM "NI Pirogov" – Sofia. Although this sound too modest in this particular case.

Based on the presented proofs for one impressive neurosurgical activity, active and fruitful scientific activity, the convincing academic qualities I vote with pleasure for giving dr. Gerganov the academic position "Professor", for the needs of UMBALSM "Pirogov" EAD.

27.07.2019

Sofia

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