

OPINION

Prepared by:

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Subject:

Competition for award of the academic position “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional field 7.1. “Medicine” and scientific major "Surgery" for the needs of the Surgical Clinic N.I.Pirogov Multi-Profile Hospital for Active Treatment and Emergency Medicine EAD (N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD), according to Order ПД-26-1168/05.05.2021

Participant who submitted documents in the competition: **Dr. Konstantin Ivanov Kostov, MD**, a surgeon at the Surgical Clinic, N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD.

The opinion was prepared in compliance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations on the implementation of the LDASRB and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD.

1. Biographical Data and Career Development

Dr. Konstantin Ivanov Kostov graduated as a Master of Medicine at the Medical University - Sofia in 2002. Since 2003 he has been working at the Surgical Clinic of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD, where he specialized and acquired a major in “Surgery” in 2008. In 2012 he graduated with a second Master's degree in “Public Health and Health Management” at the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University - Sofia. In 2012 - 2016 he was an assistant at the Department of General and Visceral Surgery at N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD. In 2017 he defended his dissertation on “Modern trends in the treatment of colon injuries” and obtained an educational and scientific degree “Ph.D.” in “General Surgery”. The candidate speaks English and Russian.

As of the date of submission of the documents for the competition, Dr. Konstantin Kostov has 18 years of work experience in surgery.

2. Evaluation of Scientific Research Activity

Dr. Konstantin Ivanov Kostov, meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements, as well as the requirements of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD for holding the academic position of “Associate Professor”.

Criterion Group A: Evidence for defensive dissertation work for the degree “Ph.D.” - 50 points has been provided.

Criteria Group C: Evidence for habilitation work is presented - scientific publications (n = 10) in peer-review articles - 300 points according to the criteria of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD and 395 points according to the national criteria.

Criteria Group D: 32 publications are presented. This exceeds the mandatory minimum of 25 publications. The total number of points is 960, according to the criteria of the Scientific Jury of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD, when 750 p. are required. According to the national criteria, the total number of points is 230.6, when a mandatory minimum of 200 points.

Criteria Group E: Dr. Konstantin Kostov has 10 citations in Bulgarian journals (50 points). Evidence is presented.

Criteria group F: Dr. Kostov presents a report on the acquired major (40 points) and a report on completed training. Evidence for participation in projects and for training of trainees is presented.

Criteria Group G: 5 publications are presented in publications with impact factor as Dr. Kostov is the first author covering the necessary standards of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM.

3. Evaluation of the main scientific and scientific-applied contributions

The main contribution of the dissertation on “Modern trends in the treatment of colon injuries” is the presentation of a rational, clinically applicable algorithm, determining the surgical tactics to achieve timely and correct diagnosis. The general and local characteristics and degree of traumatic injuries are summarized. A standardized and reasonable choice of an appropriate surgical approach is presented.

The diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms for abdominal traumatic injuries are synthesized and optimized in the articles and reports in collections and an approach is proposed to improve postoperative outcomes and reduce postoperative complications and mortality. Dr. Kostov has scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the field of colon and small intestine traumatic injuries, penetrating abdominal injuries, laparoscopic treatment of perforated ulcers; emergency laparoscopy in acute non-traumatic abdomen; laparoscopic treatment of acute appendicitis, surgical treatment of colon ileus, acute mesenteric venous thrombosis, acute peritonitis, as well as the choice of surgical approach in postoperative abdominal adhesions.

CONCLUSION

From the analysis of the submitted documents it is evident that Dr. Konstantin Kostov meets the conditions for holding the academic position of “Associate Professor” under the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions of N.I.Pirogov UMHATEM EAD.

The documents submitted for the competition demonstrate the significant scientific activity of Dr. Konstantin Kostov. He is the first author of a significant number of the presented publications. Dr. Kostov is a recognized specialist in his field and has actively participated in the teaching of surgery. The candidate demonstrates consistency in his career growth, covers the necessary scientometric criteria and years of experience in the major.

Based on the above, I confidently give my **positive assessment** for the candidate and propose to the members of the Scientific Jury to vote **positively** for the election of Dr. Konstantin Ivanov Kostov, MD for the academic position “Associate Professor”.

28.05.2021
City of Sofia

(signature: illegible)
Prof. Dr. Lazar Zhelev Slavov, MD