



To  
The Chairman of the Scientific Jury, determined  
by Order № RD-170 / 08.04.2022  
of the Director of the NCPHA,  
Acad. Ivan Geshov Blvd. - Sofia

## OPINION

FROM PROF. Dr. YULIAN IVANOV RAINOV, MD, PhD

*Head of Hematology Clinic, Military Medical Academy, Sofia.*

*Scientific specialties: clinical hematology, oncology, internal medicine, military therapy.*

The opinion is on a competition for the academic position of **"Associate Professor"** for the needs of the Department of Health Policy Analysis and Accreditation Procedures at the Directorate for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, with two candidates for two positions, one of which is Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, Ph.D.

Chairman of the Scientific Jury: Prof. Dr. Plamen Stoyanov Dimitrov, MD, Ph.D.

**DEAR CHAIRMAN,**

Based on a decision of the Scientific Council of the National Center for Public Health and Analysis (NCPHA) - protocol №16 / 08.04.2022, competitions were announced for the two academic positions of "Associate Professor", in higher education field 7, Health and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine in "Social Medicine and Health Management". The competition was announced in the State Gazette. No.14/18.02.2022. After order № RD-170 / 08.04.2022 of the Director of the NCPHA I was appointed an external member of the scientific jury (SJ). At the first meeting held on April 20, 2022, I was proposed and elected to prepare an opinion on the competition

### **I. General presentation of the procedure:**

The two competitions for associate professor of medicine, scientific specialty "Social Medicine and Health Management" have been announced for the needs of the National Center for Public Health and Analysis (NCPHA). One of the candidates is Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, MD, PhD. The requirements of Articles 107 and 108 for the terms and conditions for awarding of academic position "Associate Professor" in the NCPHA have been met. All stages of the procedure are legitimate and the election of Associate Professor can be initiated. All required documents under Art. 108 are presented. The opinion was prepared in accordance with the criteria and indicators for evaluation by the scientific jury when conducting competitions for the award of scientific degrees and holding academic positions of the NCPHA. The candidate Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, MD, PhD covers the minimum



national and those of NCPHA - Sofia requirements for acquisition of academic position "Associate Professor". There is no legally proven plagiarism in scientific papers.

## **II. Brief biographical data about the candidate:**

Dr. Atanas Radinoff graduated in medicine at the Higher Medical Institute - Varna. He works at the Center for Immunology of the Military Medical Academy as head of the laboratory of immunology. In the Clinic of Hematology, Chemotherapy and Oncology of the Military Medical Academy he holds the positions of Assistant, Senior Assistant and Chief Assistant. In 1995 he acquired the clinical specialty of internal medicine (diploma № 43777), and in 1998 clinical hematology (diploma AC-№ 004340). He has been working at Tokuda Hospital in Sofia (2006-2014) as Head of the Hematology Department (since 2008) and Medical Director (since 2011). Since 2014 he has been Head of the Hematology Department at "St. Ivan Rilski" - Sofia. He graduated with a master's degree in health management from the University of National and World Economy in 2014 (diploma № 032417). In 2021 he acquired PhD degree in NCPHA - Sofia after defending a dissertation on "Organization and management of the elimination of the consequences of radiation contamination of the population as a result of terrorist acts and other radiation incidents" (diploma № 37/22.01.2021). He specialized in aviation medicine at the Military Medical Academy (1990); Flow Cytometry at the Medical University of Antwerp, Belgium, International Law in Armed Conflict at the ICMM and the Government of Switzerland, PLAB 2 courses in London, England. He has served in NATO's SFOR mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a doctor and as an OSCE international observer in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, and has been honored by NATO Secretaries General. In the period 2003-2006, in parallel with the examinations for the license to work in the UK (IELTS, PLAB 1 and PLAB 2), he gained experience in various hospitals of the NHS, especially in the hematology clinic of Guy's Hospital - England. He is a principal investigator in many clinical trials in the field of clinical hematology and oncology. He is a member of the Expert Council on Hematology in the Ministry of Health, BMA, BMSH and other scientific organizations. Fluent in English (certificate № 02BG0083RADA001A /08.07.2002) and Russian.

## **III. Analysis of the candidate's career profile:**

At each stage of the career development of Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff there is scientific maturity and growing professionalism. The biographical reference convincingly reveals his career development in the field of medicine, health management, his contribution to Bulgaria to the Alliance. Dr. Atanas Radinoff studied in Tokyo and Osaka, after which he began an in-depth study of the consequences of the Fukushima nuclear accident and the actions of the Japanese authorities to deal with the consequences. The candidate shows his enviable skills to organize, manage and lead his team in the conditions of modern clinical hematology and oncology. I am convinced that Dr. Atanas Radinoff meets the set of criteria and indicators for borrowing the academic position "Associate Professor" according to Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the rules for its



implementation and the regulation for borrowing the respective academic position, adopted in the Rules for the structure and activities of NCPHA - Sofia.

#### **IV. General description of the materials submitted in the competition:**

The presented set of documents is in accordance with the requirements of the regulations for awarding of the academic position "Associate Professor" of NCPHA. All required documents are available and neatly arranged, which allows easy analysis and conclusions of the scientific jury.

#### **V. Evaluation of scientific papers for the overall academic development:**

The evaluation of the candidate for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor" Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, Ph.D. is complex and includes scientific, teaching and diagnostic-treatment activities. It presents my opinion and my reasoned position as a member of the scientific jury in the competition. The general characteristics of the scientific production and publication activity are a list of all scientific papers, publications and scientific assets. The latter contains scientific communications and reports at international and national scientific forums.

**1. Evaluation of the research activity** of Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, MD is based on the adopted objective scientometric indicators and quality criteria for the development of the academic staff of NCPHA (Appendix 3). After defending his dissertation in 2021 he received the PhD Degree.

The total number of scientific participations outside the ones related to the dissertation is 105, 39 of which are publications in Bulgarian and English. Of these, 13 have been published in prestigious foreign journals with a very high impact factor and numerous citations, 26 - in referenced Bulgarian publications, and 3 are chapters of monographs. Additionally, 1 research project won funding from the National Science Foundation, 17 participations in world congresses and 37 participations in national congresses and conferences, 1 publication in an unreviewed journal and 7 participations in regional scientific meetings. Notable are numerous publications in world publications, such as Lancet (16), Leukemia (10, 17, 19), British Journal of Hematology (13), as well as presented at the forums of the European Hematological Association (57, 58, 60, 62, 64), ASH (65, 66), American Clinical Oncology Association (59, 63). The scientific contributions of these publications are in the following areas: fundamental and clinical immunology, implementation and application of immunological methods in clinical practice, major problems in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with oncohematological diseases, clinical trials and their importance for patient access to innovative therapy, quality of life in patients with malignancies, management of chemotherapy side effects, public health, crises and pandemics (Covid 19).

The evaluation of **citations** is based on the attached reference from the Central Medical Library (CMB) for the period 1999-2021. A total of 711 citations were found in the Scopus database, and 719 citations were found in the Web of Science database and 10 in Bulgarian journals. Citation report / Citation overview is attached and self-citations are



excluded. A reference for the impact factor (IF) of the journals from the Journal of Citation Reports - CLARIVATE and / or referenced and indexed in a global database with scientific information Scopus and / or Web of Science is attached to the report from CMB. With these scientometric indicators, the total IF is 229,905.

Using the accumulated knowledge about the possibilities of flow cytometry in clinical medicine in 1993, the candidate developed a research project on "Correlative relationships between the immunophenotype of major lymphocyte populations and DNA status in the neoplastic process" (49). With this project № MU-14-MED./1993 he won funding from the Young Scientist Fund to the National Research Fund, with the help of which he financed research in the field of oncological diseases. The results are presented in two scientific reports, as well as in presentations at several scientific forums (50, 67, 68, 69).

**2. Teaching activity** is assessed by indicators that reflect measurable academic results in teaching. In the materials of the competition is attached an official certificate for the workload of units with diagnostic and treatment activities. The teaching activity of the candidate is mainly related to the training of specialists in clinical hematology, medical oncology, gastroenterology, endocrinology and others. In the last 7 years, a total of 9 specialists in clinical hematology have been trained through the Clinic of Hematology at the University Hospital "St. Ivan Rilski", for 4 of them Dr. Atanas Radinoff, MD, PhD was the head of the specialization and conducted the necessary colloquia for all of them (32 in total). A total of 49 people have been trained in the module "Hematology" from other clinical specialties, some of whom have also held colloquia. The report from the Educational Department of "St. Ivan Rilski" University Hospital on the workload shows that in the period 2019-2021 Dr. Atanas Radinoff gave a total of 40 hours of lectures and 180 hours of exercises.

**3. The diagnostic-therapeutic activity is evaluated by analysis of measurable results in the diagnostic and therapeutic activity.** Dr. Atanas Radinov, MD, PhD has 2 clinical specialties: internal medicine - 1995 and clinical hematology - 1998, which allow him to carry out highly specialized diagnostic, therapeutic, expert activities on the medical standard clinical hematology in the highest 3rd level of competence. Performs all necessary highly specialized manipulations as well as mastered and introduced new diagnostic and therapeutic methods in clinical hematology. The data are also objectified by official documents for numerous specializations attached to the nomenclature of the specialty over the years. I accept and support the presentation of Dr. Atanas Radinoff, MD, PhD in his author's reference for medical-diagnostic activity.

#### **4. Information on the contributions of Dr. Atanas Radinoff, MD, PhD**

The contributions presented by the candidate in the competition are his personal work, contain innovations in clinical hematology, which enrich the existing knowledge, theories and methods. These contributions present Dr. Radinoff as a professional with outstanding qualities and as a manager with exceptional management skills that allow him to make responsible decisions on important issues in the field of socially significant diseases. The deep interest that Dr. Radinoff shows in the study of global crises of our time and their negative



impact on our society is realized in his ability to formulate organizational decisions, thanks to his qualification of Master of Health Management.

#### **5. Critical remarks and recommendations:**

I have no critical remarks. To continue his work as a clinician, scientist, teacher and health manager. I do not find signs of plagiarism; I have common publications with the candidate.

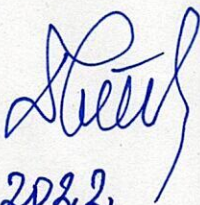
**VI. General assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements** under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively to the requirements under Art. 2b, para. 5 of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the specific requirements in the Regulations for Academic Development of the NCPHA. My general assessment of the qualities and scientific works of the candidate for academic position Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, MD, PhD is high and is in accordance with the minimum national requirements - under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively to the requirements of the NCPHA.

#### **VII. Conclusion:**

I believe that the candidate in the competition Dr. Atanas Radinoff, MD, PhD meets the mandatory, specific conditions and scientometric criteria for awarding the academic position "Associate Professor" for the needs of the Department "Analysis of Health Policies and Accreditation Procedures" at the Directorate "Health Promotion and Disease Prevention" of NCPHA.

My assessment is convincingly positive. I call on the members of the esteemed scientific jury to vote positively and award academic position of "Associate Professor" to Dr. Atanas Radinoff Radinoff, MD, Ph.D.

Prepared the opinion:



Prof. Julian Raynov, MD, PhD

Date:

29 Apr. 2022