



## OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Dimitar Petkov Sivrev, MD

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member of a scientific jury in the contest for the academic position of ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, announced by the Medical Faculty of the Trakia University, Stara Zagora in SG. no. 36 / 14.04.2020

Subject: the scientific, scientific-applied and professional-academic activity and production presented by the participants in the contest.

### **I. Administrative part**

Candidate for the announced position is Kiril Stefanov Slaveykov, MD, PhD - Chief Assistant at the I-st Department of Internal Disease and General Medicine of the Medical Faculty - Stara Zagora. The same has presented the required official documents and a declaration of authenticity for the information provided. Available is a diploma of higher education and a diploma of ESD "Doctor". It is evident from the attached reference that the teaching activity required for the academic position of "Associate Professor" is covered in the specialties "Medicine" and "Medical Assistant". In addition to the presented twenty documents, a monograph on "E-health and telemedicine" is attached, as well as a list of the overall scientific activity of the candidate.

### **II. Biographical part**

Dr. Kiril Slaveykov was born in 1984 in the city of Plovdiv. He completed his secondary education in 2003 in his hometown, majoring in Telecommunications. In 2009 he graduated his higher education with a master's degree in medicine and advanced training as a doctor.

Since 2010 he has been working at the Medical Faculty - Stara Zagora, and in 2012 he started working on a PhD thesis. He successfully defended his doctoral thesis in 2015 and acquired the ESD "Doctor".

### **III. Summary of the scientific production and activity of the candidate**

The candidate for associate professor has presented a list of scientific achievements, which includes:

### Scientific publications

1. Dissertation for acquiring ESD "Doctor" and abstract to the dissertation. The topic of the dissertation is "E-health: telescreening for the needs of general practice with a focus on teleophthalmology" - defended on 23.04.2015.

2. Twelve articles in IF journals, eight of which have already been published and four are in print. They address current issues in clinical practice and are not only of theoretical interest, but also have important practical significance.

3. Six articles listed as impact rank publications.

4. Forty-seven publications with Bulgarian and foreign publications without impact factor and impact rank.

Five publications are related to the defence of the PhD thesis, and nine for the acquisition of the academic position of "chief assistant".

### Scientific asset

1. The candidate has six participations in Bulgarian and foreign scientific forums, and reports are printed in collections in full text.

2. Participation in Bulgarian and foreign scientific forums with published abstracts, but without printing statistics in full text with sixty-six.

### Monographs

A monograph on "E-Health and Telemedicine" is presented.

### **Textbooks and teaching aids**

Of the four textbooks, two guides link to the General Medicine module, one to the Ophthalmology module, and the fourth is a textbook titled "Current Issues in General Medical Practice", in which the candidate participates in eight chapters. One of the three manuals is in English and two in Bulgarian.

### Citation

The candidate for the academic position of "Associate Professor" has submitted a list of twenty-five citations of articles in which he is a co-author. Eighteen of them are in foreign journals, and the rest - in Bulgarian editions. The attached reference shows that six of the citations are in journals referred to in Web of Sciences and SCOPUS.

### Participation in research projects

The attached official report shows that Dr. Kiril Slaveykov has participated in ten university research projects. The candidate himself has submitted a list of five research projects and the National Research Program "Electronic Health in Bulgaria (e-Health)" Agreement D01-200 / 16.11.2018.

### Work experience

As of April 14, 2020, Dr. Kiril Slaveykov has 10 years, 3 months and 14 days of experience as a doctor in the field of Ophthalmology, of which 9 years 9 months and 14 days teaching experience at the Medical Faculty of the Trakia University.

The candidate has submitted a certificate from the Trakia University for proficiency in a foreign language - level B2 in English.

## **IV. Evaluation of the scientific and practical results and contributions of the creative production submitted for participation in the competition**

The research and scientific-applied contributions from the scientific works of the candidate are in the following directions:

- eHealth - application, implementation, benefits and barriers
- Telemedicine - remote applications for training, diagnosis and screening
- Interdisciplinary collaboration between GPs and secondary care physicians

The candidate presented a list of 26 scientific and practical contributions, some of which are original and others of a confirmatory nature. Among them, the study made for the first time in Bulgaria, aimed at bringing the screening for diabetic retinopathy in the conditions of the general practice, is impressive. The advantage of the study is that the study population has a wide age range, a high proportion of women and a frequency of diabetes corresponding to the European average, which makes the study representative.

Another contribution is the developed unique, modern method, using the possibilities of telemedicine and e-health. The method is non-invasive, repeatable and safe for the patient, which makes it extremely suitable for introduction in the conditions of general practice. It is based on forwarding and staging photos of the fundus and has a high specificity, sensitivity, positive and negative predictive ability.

In connection with the interdisciplinary collaboration between GPs and secondary care physicians, ophthalmologists, general practitioners and non-medical specialists were trained to work with the Welch-Allyn iExaminer system. An analysis was made of the required number of patients and time to reach a level of competence, guaranteeing quality photos. The average duration of the examination is derived and a suggestion is made where they can be used for telecommunication by general practitioners.

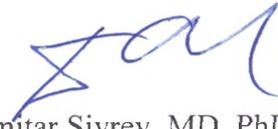
## V. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the documents and materials presented to me, and taking into account both the theoretical and practical contribution of research, as well as the professional and organizational qualities of the candidate in the contest for the academic position of "Associate Professor", I believe that Kyril Slaveykov, MD, PhD is an accomplished, but also a promising scientist with achievements in science, demonstrated by his published results.

Due to the above, I vote in favor and propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to rank Dr. Kiril Stefanov Slaveykov, MD, for the academic position of "Associate Professor" and to present him for election to the Faculty Council of the Medical Faculty - Stara Zagora, for the needs of I<sup>st</sup> Department of Internal Disease and General Medicine at the same faculty.

Date: 01.09.2020

Jury member:



(Prof. Dimitar Sivrev, MD, PhD)