

To the Scientific Jury

Appointed with order No-P-109—318/7 Nov 2019

Of the Rector of Medical University – Varna

## STATEMENT

By

**Prof. Dr Boyan Dobrev Balev, Ph.D.**

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Diagnostic Imaging Clinic at University Hospital "St. Marina" in Varna

**Subject:** Competition for the occupation of the academic position Associate Professor in the field of higher education Health and Sports, in the professional field Medicine and scientific specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology" for the needs of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University of Varna and for the Clinic of Gynecology at the MHAT "St. Anna"- Varna.

By order of the Rector of Medical University - Varna No No-P-109—318/7 Nov 2019 I have been elected a member of the Scientific Jury and by order of Protocol No 1 of the Scientific Jury, I have been appointed to prepare an opinion for the purposes of the aforementioned competition. The procedure for announcing the competition is in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria / 05.05.2018 and with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Medical University-Varna / 29.10.2018. One candidate is participating in the competition - Dr. Stanislav Hristov Slavchev, MD, who presents a complete set of paper and electronic documents following the Regulations.

### **Brief CV data for the applicant**

Dr. Stanislav Hristov Slavchev graduated with a degree in medicine from the Medical University of Varna in 1996. He acquired a specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2009. He has a long experience in the specialty, working at the Gynecology Clinic at the Hospital "St. Anna" since 2008. The applicant gained qualifications and certificates after training in highly specialized activities in Ultrasound and Doppler diagnostics in obstetrics and

gynecology, diagnostic laparoscopy in gynecology I and II levels, diagnostic hysteroscopy, colposcopy and destructive treatment for precancerous lesions of cervical cancer.

In 2016, Dr. Stanislav Slavchev successfully defended his thesis on the topic "Role of radical hysterectomy with iliac and/or para-aortic lymph node dissection for optimal cytoreduction in advanced epithelial ovarian carcinoma" and obtained the scientific and educational degree "Doctor".

### **Applicant's research activities - evaluation of quantitative and qualitative indicators**

Dr. Stanislav Slavchev submits for review 30 scientific papers:

- A monograph on the topic: "Early Detection and Treatment of Carcinomas of the Female Reproductive System. Contemporary Aspects" - 2018, edition of City Center - Varna, 100 points in total.

- Full-text publications in scientific journals referenced or indexed by WOS or Scopus databases - 9 items.

- Full-text publications in non-refereed journals with a scientific review - 12 issues

- Articles in non-refereed journals with a scientific review beyond the required minimum state requirements - 3 issues.

- Participation in international, national, and regional scientific events - 4; participation in student forums as a leader of young researchers - 1.

Dr. Stanislav Slavchev is a sole author in 1 scientific paper, first author in 3 publications and third and subsequent author in 18 scientific papers.

Scientific publications are cited in 5 publications in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases and one publication in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals.

### **Scientific areas in which the applicant worked:**

- Oncogynecology - Advanced ovarian carcinoma; Contemporary aspects of early diagnosis and therapeutic strategies in female cancers; Rare gynecological tumors; Carcinoma of the cervix in stages IB1, IB2, II.

- Pathology of pregnancy - diagnosis of preterm birth.

- Rare cases in obstetrics and gynecology.
- Diseases of the chewing apparatus and oral cavity associated with pregnancy.

### **Scientific achievements and contributions**

The central part of the scientific contributions of scientific, theoretical and practical nature are in the field of oncogynecology. The applicant's monograph examines current data regarding carcinomas of the female reproductive system - vulvar carcinoma, vaginal carcinoma, cervical carcinoma, endometrial carcinoma, ovarian carcinoma, fallopian tube carcinoma. The monograph summarizes current data on the pathogenesis, classification, staging, diagnostic and therapeutic options for each of the above-mentioned oncological diseases. Particular attention is paid to developments in screening and early diagnosis of precancerous lesions. The scientific work elaborates on the contemporary data on the classification of precursor lesions and the possibilities of the modern technics for their detection and therapeutic interventions.

Surgical treatment of advanced-stage ovarian cancer is another important issue investigated in the scientific works of Dr. Slavchev. This problem is developed in the candidate's thesis and one publication. Ovarian advanced cancer has been studied in order to establish the relation of retroperitoneal pelvic invasion, the type of hysterectomy and the type of lymph node dissection to survival, and the prognostic factors for this disease.

Much of the research is devoted to cervical cancer in stages IB1, IB2, and II. The importance of lymph node spread and invasion of the lymphovascular space for survival is investigated. The need for lymph node dissection and adjuvant chemotherapy is emphasized.

Two publications address epidemiological data, lymph node metastasis, the involvement of the lymphovascular space, and survival in two rare cervical carcinomas - Warty and lymphoepithelioma-like carcinoma. These data are essential for the choice of surgical and systemic treatment.

The subject of two publications is the diagnosis of preterm birth by specific biochemical markers, the phosphorylated form of insulin-like growth factor (pIGFBP-1) and fetal fibronectin (fFN), examined in the cervical fluid of pregnant women. This collective study finds a high negative predictive value of these markers in combination with the index - cervical

length. A diagnostic algorithm has been developed that aims to avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and costs in the case of premature birth.

Other publications address rare clinical cases associated with problems with pregnancy. A rare uterine anomaly - Uterus didelphys with non-developing pregnancy in each of the uterine cavities has been described. Another clinical case addresses the problems of pregnancy with a concomitant disease - systemic lupus erythematosus.

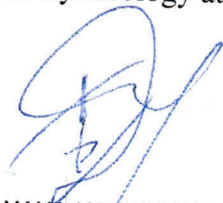
Five of the scientific papers are addressed to the diseases of the chewing apparatus and the oral cavity during pregnancy. In addition to describing the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying the damage to the dental apparatus and the oral cavity, the articles also discuss the impact of these diseases on pregnancy, fetal development, and children's health. Prevention guidelines, timelines, and methods of diagnosis and treatment are given.:

#### **Educational activity**

Dr. Stanislav Slavchev has been selected as a full-time assistant at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of Varna from September 2011 to September 2015. He was working as a part-time assistant during the academic years 2016/2017 and 2017/2018. From April 2018, he is a senior assistant in the same department. The workload survey over the last five years shows an average of 284.6 hours of practical teaching hours.

**In conclusion,** Dr. Stanislav Slavchev is a specialist obstetrician-gynecologist, with a long clinical experience and additional qualifications. The applicant's scientific production and teaching experience meet the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Medical University-Varna. With confidence, I suggest to the Honorable Scientific Jury to vote positively for Dr. Stanislav Slavchev for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" of the specialty of Obstetrics and Gynecology for the needs of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University - Varna and the Clinic of Gynecology at the MHAT "St. Anna"- Varna.

Date: 11 NOV 2019

Signature:.....

( Prof. Dr Boyan Dobrev Balev, Ph.D.)