

## OPINION

of Prof. Dr. **Atanas Dimov Arnaudov**, Head of the Department of "Preclinical and Therapeutic Disciplines" Faculty of Public Health and Healthcare, Burgas State University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov

internal member of the scientific jury, appointed by Order No. RD-345/30.09.2025 of the Rector of Burgas State University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov"

on the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty "Radiation" at Burgas State University "Prof. Dr. As. Zlatarov" under a competition announced in the State Gazette No. 61/29.07.2025.

By protocol No. 1 of 07.11.2025 of the meeting of the Scientific Jury, I was appointed to prepare an **opinion**.

The only candidate in this competition is Dr. Kiril Zhelev Zhelev.

### 1. Biographical data and career profile of the candidate

Kiril Zhelev Zhelev was born in 1990 in the town of Sliven. He received his secondary education at the "Dobri Chintulov" High School in town of Sliven. In 2016, he graduated as a Master of Medicine at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. From 2017 to 2019, he was an assistant at the Department of Imaging and Radiotherapy at MU-Varna and as a doctor at the "St. Marina" University Hospital - Varna. After 2019, he worked successively at the "Uni Hospital" Hospital - Panagyurishte, "Heart and Brain" - Pleven and the "Deva Maria" University Hospital, Burgas. In 2023, he acquired a specialty in "Radiation Therapy" from MU-Plovdiv. In 2024, he also acquired the PhD degree in the professional field 7.1. Medicine, under the doctoral program "Oncology" from the University Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Oncology "Prof. Ivan Chernozemski" in Sofia.

He is fluent in English and German.

### 2. General description of the materials submitted for the competition

For participation in the competition, Dr. Zhelev has submitted the full set of required materials according to the ASDRBA and the related regulations, proving work experience, acquired education, acquired educational and scientific degree "PhD", scientific, teaching and project activities.

### **3. Scientific and research activities of the candidate**

Regarding the scientific and research activities of the candidate, the following conclusions can be drawn:

- Dr. Zhelev's scientific production is entirely in the field of the scientific specialty of the announced competition - radiotherapy. The PhD thesis, scientific publications and their citations submitted for review are dedicated to this topic;
- his dissertation work is dedicated to a current problem in oncology and radiotherapy - analysis of the prognostic significance of the preoperative scale for assessing rectal carcinoma and its relationship with the skeletal muscle index in patients with rectal carcinoma treated with preoperative chemoradiotherapy.
- the scientific publications submitted for review are in sufficient number and have been published in reputable scientific publications, a significant part of which are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases for scientific information;
- Dr. Zhelev's scientific works have been cited 10 times in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases for scientific information, which shows a clear interest in them by other researchers in the field of oncology and radiotherapy;
- the scientific production submitted for review covers and even exceeds the minimum scientometric requirements for this competition.

### **4. Educational and teaching activities of the candidate**

For participation in the competition, Dr. Zhelev has submitted documents for educational and teaching activities, proving a total of 5 semesters of experience as a 1/2-staff assistant in "Radiation Therapy" at the Department of Imaging Diagnostics and Radiation Therapy, Medical University of Varna for the period 2017-2019. The educational and teaching activities of the candidate fully coincide with the scientific specialty of the competition in which he participated.

### **5. Assessment of the quantitative indicators according to the criteria for occupying the academic position of "associate professor"**

The overall assessment of the candidate's compliance with the mandatory conditions and mandatory scientometric indicators and quantitative criteria meets the requirements for occupying the academic position of "associate professor" at the Bulgarian State University "Prof. Dr. Asst. Zlatarov".

### **6. Conclusion**

The materials of the procedure meet the requirements of the ASDRBA and its regulations. It is clear from them that Dr. Zhelev is a well-established scientist in his field. In view of this, I propose to the esteemed scientific jury that Assistant Professor Dr. Kiril Zhelev Zhelev **be elected to the academic position of "Associate Professor"** in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports,



professional field 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty "Radiation Therapy" at the Burgas State University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov".

28.11.2025

Prepared the opinion:

Prof. Dr. Atanas Arnaudov