

OPINION STATEMENT

BY PROF. TIHOMIRA ZLATANOVA, MD, DSc

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ECONOMICS AT THE FACULTY OF
PUBLIC HEALTH “PROF. TSEKOMIR VODENICHAROV, MD, DSc”,
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY - SOFIA

Regarding: A contest for the academic position of Professor in Public Health Management (Process Management in Pharmacology), professional field 7.4 Public Health, higher education field 7. Healthcare and Sport for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy, Faculty of Pharmation, Medical University – Varna announced in SG no. 41/03.06.2022 with candidate Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev.

In accordance with Ordinance P -109-318/29.07.2022 from the Rector of Medical University – Varna I have been chosen as an external member of a Scientific Jury.

The documents presented by Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev in accordance with the Bill for Development of Academic Staff and the Regulations of Medical University – Varna for its implementation, have been approved by the Committee for Acceptance to the Contest.

Overview of the candidate:

Kaloyan Georgiev was born in Varna on 15.09.1978. Завършил фармация в МУ-София през 2003 г. He studied Pharmation in Medical University – Sofia until 2003. Starting 2005, he worked as an assistant in the Department of Pharmacology in MU – Varna. In 2011 he became a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular Biology at BAS. Acquired post-master specialties – Pharmacology in 2010, Clinical Pharmacy in 2018. In 2013 he successfully defended a PhD thesis to the Department of Biochemical Pharmacology and Drug Design in the Institute of Molecular Biology at BAS on the “Design, Synthesis and Pharmacological Characterization of Peptide Mimetics of Endomorphine -2, Morphiceptin and RGD with Analgesic and Anti-inflammatory Activity”. He specialized for a year in the German Center for Cancer Research (DKFZ) in Heidelberg with a scholarship by DAAD. In 2014, he was elected as a Chief Assistant Professor for the Department of Preclinical and Clinical Sciences. Since 2015 he’s been habilitated as an Associate Professor for the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy. On 20.03.2020 he was awarded a PhD in Pharmacology (incl. Pharmacokinetics and Chemotherapy) by defending a thesis on “Identification, analysis and evaluation of Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamical drug interactions”.

He knows German, English and Russian.

He is a member of the following organizations: Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union (since 2003), Bulgarian Pharmacological Society (since 2005), the Bulgarian Peptide Society (since 2011) and the European Peptide Society (since 2013).

Scientific research:

Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev presents **the following scientific works**, produced during his tenure as an Associate Professor, for review:

- Monograph – 1 work
- Indicator D7. Publications and reports in scientific publications, referenced and index in the corresponding databases of scientific information (Scopus and/or Web of Science) – 14;
- Indicator D7. Publications and reports published in unreferenced journals with scientific review or published in redacted book collections – 7;
- Indicator D9. A chapter in a collective monograph – 1;
- 17 publications in journals with IF;
- Participation on congresses and conferences – 20 Bulgarian with international participation and 7 abroad.

The leading participation of the candidate in the scientific works is definite proof for a strong authorial presence and competence in the subject area of Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Pharmacotherapy in relation to Public Health.

The topics of the presented scientific works for the academic position of Professor are mostly aimed at the following scientific areas important to public health:

1. Regulatory aspects connected to studies of drug interaction, both in the preclinical and clinical stage of drug development. They summarize all development stages a newly created drug has to go through for its interactions with other drugs to be evaluated in preclinical and clinical development.
2. Isolation, purification and analysis of plant fractions and extracts used in traditional medicine and determining their pharmacokinetics and the risk of drug interactions with conventional medicine, their pharmacodynamics and potential for organ protection.
In this area Associate Professor Georgiev has original contributions that are scientifically applicable and confirmable
3. Retrospective research and analysis on potential drug interactions in patients receiving polypharmacy.
Here Associate Professor Georgiev highlights the importance of well-prepared specialists in drug interaction with the purpose of consulting and monitoring problem patients (elderly, polymorbid, taking polypharmacy). The safe and effective treatment of complex patients with multiple illnesses and prescribed drugs requires the integration of pharmacology with therapy.
4. Description of treatment-oriented clinical cases and reviews
The problems related to T-cell lymphoma are described. The topic of the etiology of those illnesses and the risk that the illness can evolve from a chronic inflammatory to neoplastic are touched on.
5. Retrospective research works on intoxication with drugs, narcotics, pesticides, mushrooms, fish toxins and alcohols.

Acute poisoning with narcotics, benzodiazepines and soporific drugs is researched for the first time in the Varna Province for a 25 year period (1991-2015). Their frequency dynamics, etiological structure, deadliness and demographic characteristics (sex and age) are determined. These are the first retrospective analyses conducted on methanol and ethylene glycol intoxication for a 25-year period in Varna Province.

6. Research on the effects of probiotic strains.
In the chapter, which is a part of the collected monograph published by Elsevier, current observations on the benefits of consuming probiotic foods are summarised, along with the suspected mechanisms at work. The work outlines future perspectives for their application.

I fully accept the scientific contributions from the candidate's publications, which were presented. They're impactful both in scientific terms and in terms of practical application for public health and pharmacy.

Teaching Activity:

The teaching workload of Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev is sufficient for appointment as Professor for the needs of Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy, Faculty of Pharmation, Medical University – Varna. This is evident in his participation in the following disciplines: Pharmacology (pharmacists, assistant pharmacists, X-ray and medical laboratory assistants, nurses and obstetricians, physical therapists), Toxicology (pharmacists, assistant pharmacists), Pharmacotherapy (pharmacists), Basics of Clinical Pharmacy (pharmacists), Biopharmacy and Pharmacokinetics (pharmacists) as follows:

- 2017/2018 – 293 hours;
- 2018/2019 - 225 hours;
- 2019/2020 - 188 hours;
- 2020/2021 – 224 hours.

These data show that the teaching workload of Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev covers and surpasses the 180 hours required for habilitation as Professor.

Associate Professor Dr. Georgiev was the doctoral advisor to two PhD students, who successfully defended their theses and is currently advising six PhD students.

Evidence for fulfillment of the minimal national requirements and the requirements listed in the Rules for the conditions and procedure for acquiring science degrees and holding academic positions in Medical University – Varna for tenure as Professor in Public Health Management (Process Management in Pharmacology) professional field 7.4 Public Health, higher education field 7. Healthcare and Sport.

Group of indicators	Contents	Professor	Points for Associate professor Georgiev
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	---	---
C	Indicator 3 or 4	100 (Habilitation work is included – a monograph or at least 10 articles in publications referenced and indexed in the corresponding scientific databases.)	100
D	Sum total of indicators 5 through 9	200 (≥ 100 for non-clinical specialists from indicator 7)	235,8 (144.14)
E	Sum total of indicators 10 through 12	100	135
F	Sum total of indicators 13 through the end	100 (≥ 80 from indicator 14)	330,86

The documents presented by Associate Professor Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev completely cover and even exceed the minimal requirements of Medical University – Varna for the academic position Professor.

Conclusions

Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev has presented himself in the contest as a well-developed and competent researcher and teacher in the area of Public health and has sufficient teaching activity, experience and publications, which should be positively evaluated by the Scientific Jury. I believe that the scientific research and teaching of Associate Professor Mag. Pharm. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev completely cover the minimal national requirements for tenure as Professor determined by the Regulations of Medical University – Varna.

Taking into account the professional development and scientific work of the candidate, I give my **positive evaluation** for his choice as Professor and I'm confident in recommending that the Scientific Jury appoint Dr. Kaloyan Dobrinov Georgiev for the academic position of Professor in Public Health Management (Process Management in Pharmacology), professional field 7.4 Public Health, higher education field 7. Healthcare and Sport for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy, Faculty of Pharmation, Medical University – Varna.

07.10.2022 г.

Signature:

/Prof. Tihomira Zlatanova, MD, PhD, DSc/