

REVIEW

About the procedure of promotion to the academic position "Associate Professor" in Pediatric dentistry in MU-Varna, FDM, in connection with an order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. 109-519/30.11.2023 and Protocol No. 1 of 12.12.2023 from a meeting of a scientific jury

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Presentation of the candidate Dr. Sirma Angelova, MD

Dr. Angelova was born on 14.12.1980 in Dobrich. In 1999 she graduated from the secondary language school "Geo Milev" in a specialized class in English and German. In 2005, she graduated from the University of Economics in the city of Varna, majoring in International Finance. I think that this fact inevitably has a beneficial effect on the general educational qualifications of Dr. Angelova, who in 2011 also graduated from Varna Medical University, Faculty of Dental Medicine. In 2015, she acquired a specialty in Pediatric Dentistry. Only two years later, Dr. Angelova defended her dissertation on "Assessment and prevention of caries risk in children suffering from certain kidney diseases" and acquired the educational and scientific degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

All the facts point to the upward professional development of the candidate and the aspiration to upgrade knowledge and skills in the field of pediatric dentistry.

Assessment of teaching and learning activities

Dr. Sirma Angelova has 12 years of teaching experience. According to the submitted study load report for the last 5 years, Dr. Angelova's employment significantly exceeds the required minimum of 360 academic hours./ ranges between 438 and 602 hours/. Leads classes in Bulgarian and English in the disciplines of Propedeutics of pediatric dentistry, Dental prophylaxis, and Clinic of pediatric dentistry.

Evaluation of research activity

The following scientific publications are submitted for participation in the competition:

- Dissertation work for the acquisition of the Ph Doctor - "Evaluation and prevention of the risk of caries in children suffering from certain kidney diseases"
- 1 Habilitation thesis-monograph "Epigenetic and genetic aspects of oral health in children with pyelonephritis"
- 8 Full-text publications in refereed and indexed databases of world-renowned scientific information, 4 of which are in journals with an impact factor and a total of 9,891.
- 32 Publications in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals

The total number of points of the candidate according to indicator G5-9 is 1005.14 with a minimum of 200 points. The citations for indicators D 10-12 are 43, which are calculated correctly and amount to 335 points with a required minimum of 50 points.

Dr. Sirma Angelova participated in two scientific projects in 2018 under the supervision of Prof. Diana Ivanova, and in 2019 under the supervision of Prof. Bistra Galunska, Pharm.D. Dr. Sirma Angelova's scientific and creative achievements are primarily in the field of pediatric dentistry but are also directly related to some specific kidney diseases in children.

In her monograph, Dr. Angelova emphasizes the relationship between pyelonephritis and oral health in childhood. Regularity has been established in the presence of environmental factors, heterogeneous behavioral patterns, and their influence on the progression of oral diseases. The author conducts a multifactorial analysis of oral health that is consistent with the concept of personalized medicine. Emphasis is placed on the fact that the pathological processes affecting hard tooth structures and gingival tissue are primarily unlocked at the molecular level, and accordingly, early diagnosis can and should be directed to molecular diagnosis. One of the significant conclusions in the monographic work is that genes predetermine the clinical manifestation of oral diseases, but environmental characteristics prevail. Dr. Angelova directs our attention to the need for effective management of parameters of a social, economic, educational, and behavioral nature in order to guarantee the achievement of optimal oral health of children.

For the period from 2018 to 2023. Dr. Angelova took part in 56 national and international scientific events with oral presentations and posters, which is an indisputable fact for the dissemination and application of the candidate's scientific and practical achievements. In a large part of these scientific participations, Dr. Angelova is in a multidisciplinary team -

nephrologists, pediatricians, etc., which speaks of foresight and the search for an optimal diagnostic and treatment approach to the patient.

Comprehensive assessment

Based on the presented facts about the educational and research activities, it is clear that Dr. Sirma Angelova, DM. Dr. Angelova's scientific production exceeds in volume several times the requirements for holding the academic position of Associate Professor according to the rules of the VARNA MU. Quality parameters are also met.

Recommendations

My two recommendations to Dr. Angelova are:

1. As soon as possible, think about implementing a scientific project under her leadership.
2. More extended research on topics close to her interests as supervisor of a PhD student.

Conclusion

I believe that Dr. Sirma Angelova meets the mandatory and specific conditions and criteria for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the specialty of Pediatric Dentistry, and I vote with conviction "Yes" for the awarding of this academic title as well.

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