

EXPERT OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Maria Petrova Kukleva-Todorova, DMD, PhD, DSc

a Member of the Scientific Jury based on

Ordinance № R-109-519/30.11.2023

Issued by the Rector of Medical University-Varna

Regarding: a procedure for holding of the Academic Position “Associate Professor” at the specialty of “Pediatric Dentistry”, field of higher education 7. “Healthcare and Sports”, professional direction 7.2. Dental Medicine, one full-time position for the Department of "Pediatric Dentistry", Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Varna in accordance with the announcement in State Gazette No. 83/03.10.2023.

One candidate participates in the competition- **Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova, DMD, PhD**, a Chief Assistant at the Department of “Pediatric Dentistry”, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Varna.

General presentation of the procedure

The full set of materials is in time provided to me in paper and electronic format and is in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Terms and Conditions for Acquirement of Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions in Medical University -Varna, Ordinance No. R-109-519/30.11.2023 by the Rector of Medical University – Varna. The documents are precisely arranged, which considerably facilitates the work of the Scientific Jury. At the first meeting (Protocol No. 1/12.12.2023) I was assigned to prepare an opinion as an external member of the Scientific Jury.

Biographical data and professional development of the candidate

Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova was born on 14.12.1980 in the town of Dobrich. In 1999 she graduated from the Foreign Languages High School "Geo Milev" in Dobrich with an English language and a German language profiles. In 2005 Sirma Angelova graduated from the University of Economics-Varna with the speciality of International Finance. In 2011 she graduated from Medical University – Varna as a Doctor of Dental Medicine. Since the year 2015 Dr. Angelova has had a specialty at “Pediatric Dentistry”. In 2017 Sirma Todorova Angelova acquired the educational-scientific degree of "Doctor" after a successful public defence of a dissertation on the topic: “Assessment and Prevention of Caries Risk in Children with Some Kidney Diseases”. Dr. Angelova has participated in a definite number of trainings for development of her linguistic and pedagogical skills.

Evaluation of the teaching activity

Since 2011 Dr. Sirma Angelova has been an Assistant at the Department of “Pediatric Dentistry” at the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Varna. In 2018 Dr. Angelova became a Chief Assistant at the Department of “Pediatric Dentistry” after successfully completed competition. The work experience of Dr. Angelova at her specialty equals to 12 years. She participates in the training of students in the Bulgarian language and English

language program of education. The study workload report shows that in the period 2018/2019 - 2022/2023 Dr. Angelova has had a much higher workload than the mandatory norm of 360 academic hours, determined by a decision of the Academic Council of Medical University-Varna, noted in Protocol No. 30/11.04. 2011.

| <u>Academic Year</u> | <u>Workload</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2018/2019 | 526 academic hours |
| 2019/2020 | 438 academic hours |
| 2020/2021 | 602 academic hours |
| 2021/2022 | 538 academic hours |
| 2022/2023 | 558 academic hours |

The assessment of the data on the professional development and teaching activity of Dr. Sirma Angelova shows improvement of knowledge and consistency in career growth, which is a prerequisite for success in her future activity as a habilitated, qualified teacher.

Assessment of the scientific research activity

The academic reference of the publications, citations and academic profiles of Chief Assistant Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova, DMD, PhD was issued by the Library of Medical University-Varna, based on the information received by the candidate and international electronic database (№ 889/02.11.2023). The reference covers the mandatory national requirements for holding of the Academic position of "Associate Professor".

According to the presented academic reference, Dr. Angelova participates in the competition for acquirement of the academic position of "Associate Professor" with: **an Author abstract** of a dissertation on the topic: "Assessment and Prevention of Caries Risk in Children with Some Kidney Diseases" (Indicator A1- 50 points); **1 monograph** entitled: "Epigenetic and genetic aspects of oral health in children with pyelonephritis" ISBN 978-619-221-201-8 (Index B3-100 points); **8 papers** published in scientific issues referenced in the world-widespread renowned databases of scientific information of Web of Science and Scopus (Indicator G7- 249.14 points); **32 papers and reports** published in non-referenced peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes (Indicator G8-711 points). The citations concerning the scientific activity of the candidate amount to a total number of **43**, of which **12 citations** are in papers referenced in global databases or monographs and **31 citations** are in non-refereed papers with scientific review (Indicator D- 335 points). Attached is a list of the citations covering the minimum requirements for acquirement of the academic position of "Associate Professor". The scientific activity of Dr. Angelova is her personal work or with significant personal participation. Besides the monograph which is an independent work composed by Sirma Todorova Angelova, in **6** out of a total number of **8** papers included in the section G7, and in **27** out of a total number of **32** articles included in the section G8, all involved in the academic reference, Dr. Angelova is the leading author. The impact factor application reports a total Impact Factor (IF) of the journals in which Dr. Angelova has published papers equal to 9.871. In her creative biography Dr. Angelova applies a list of her participation in national and international scientific forums, as well as papers after obtaining the academic position of a Chief Assistant, which are not included in the academic reference that demonstrates a considerable in its volume scientific work. There has been applied also an

evidence-based material that proves the participation by Dr. Angelova in Editorial Boards of scientific journals, editorial and review activity, participation as a member of organizational teams of scientific forums.

Dr. Sirma Angelova has active scientific profiles in Google Scholar, Research Gate, ORCID, Researcher ID, eLibrary.

The contributions in scientific research of Dr. Angelova can be defined as scientific and applicable science-related, which concern mainly studies in the scope of oral health research in children with kidney diseases based on the conception of personalized medicine.

Dr. Sirma Angelova is a member of the following professional and scientific organizations:

- Bulgarian Dental Union - BDU
- National Association of Pediatric Dental Medicine Doctors- NAPDMD
- Bulgarian Scientific Society of Dental Medicine- BSSDM
- Union of Scientists in Bulgaria – USB- Regional Colleagues’ Association- Varna
- European Academy of Pediatric Dentistry – EAPD
- International Association of Pediatric Dentistry – IAPD
- NUGO membership
- Excellence in Pediatrics community membership.

The assessment of the provided information about the scientific research activity shows that Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova covers the mandatory criteria and scientometric indicators for acquiring the academic position of “Associate Professor” at Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Varna.

Conclusion

Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova is an approved teacher, researcher and clinician, a member of prestigious scientific organizations. Her candidacy covers all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Application of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the Regulations of Medical University-Varna for the acquirement of the Academic position of “Associate Professor”. Dr. Angelova presents herself in the competition with a convincing in terms of quantity and quality scientific production, with clearly defined scientific and scientifically applicable contributions in the scope of Pediatric Dentistry. The teaching activity, scientific research activity and systemic growth and professional development are a prerequisite for successful development after holding the Academic position of “Associate Professor”. The analysis of the provided documentation gives me the reason to give a **positive opinion** and to propose to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for conferring the Academic position “Associate Professor” in the specialty of “Pediatric Dentistry”, field of higher education 7. “Healthcare and sports”, professional direction 7.2. Dental Medicine, to Dr. Sirma Todorova Angelova, DMD, PhD, Chief Assistant at the Department of “Pediatric Dentistry”, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Varna.

01.02. 2024
Plovdiv

Expert opinion:
/prepared by Prof. Dr. Maria Kukleva, DMD, PhD, DSc/

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