

OPINION

From: **Prof. Dr. Tanya Timeva, PhD**

Head of Assisted Reproduction Sector

at the "DR. SHTEREV" SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL IN OBSTETRICS, GYNECOLOGY AND
NEONATOLOGY FOR ACTIVE TREATMENT (SHOGNAT) EOOD, Sofia,
Lecturer at the University of Rousse "Angel Kanchev",
Faculty of Public Health and Health Care, Department of Health Care

Subject: Competition for taking the academic position of "**Associate Professor**", in the *Obstetrics and Gynecology* specialty, Professional Field 7.1. - Medicine, Higher Education Area 7. - Health and Sports for the Needs of the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Gynecology Ward at the "Prof. Dr. D. Stamatov" SHOGNAT, Varna announced in the State Gazette (issue 62/06.08.2019)

I hereby submit this Opinion, in accordance with the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act (ASDRBA), the Rules for its implementation, the Rules for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University - Varna as a member of the Scientific Jury for this competition, in accordance with **Order No. P-109-316 / 07.10.2019** of the Rector of the "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Medical University, Varna.

Dr. Stefan Vasilev Kisiov, PhD applies for the announced academic position

I. Summary of the applicant's creative biography

Dr. Stefan Kisiov graduated in medicine in 2002 and since 2011 has been an assistant at the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, and since 2015 until now he has been an intern physician in the Gynecology Ward at the "Prof. Dr. D. Stamatov" SHOGNAT, Varna. He acquired a specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2014 and three years later defended his doctorate with the subject: "*The Place of Reproductive Surgery in Complex Treatment of Sterility*" acquiring the Doctor educational and scientific degree (2017). For one year, Dr. Kisiov has been holding the Chief Assistant position at the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department (2018).

His interest in the field of reproductive surgery and in particular the application of endoscopic methods is clearly demonstrated by both his dissertation work and his completed postgraduate courses and additional specialization. In the last year alone, Dr. Kisiov has attended the most respected courses in Europe, conducted by leading specialists in the field of reproductive surgery (Specialized course in

hysteroscopy and laparoscopy in Leuven, Belgium, 2019 and Specialized course in laparoscopy (deep pelvic imaging)) IRCAD - Strasbourg, France, 2019).

II. Information on the quantitative indicators of the scientific output submitted and the qualitative criteria regarding the research and teaching activity and contributions of the applicant

Dr. Stefan Kisyov submitted as a document for participation in the competition an academic report in tabular form, listing **16** publications in refereed and indexed editions and another 6 in non-refereed editions. **Five** of the publications are in foreign editions in English, and **8** describe interesting clinical cases of rare pathology containing valuable for the daily practice gynecologic approaches. Dr. Kisyov also submitted a citation reference - a total of 11 in the Scopus and Web of Science databases. A Google scholar report indicates that the author's publishing activity and references to his scholarly work began in 2011 and continued steadily over the years. In addition to these documents, additional 6 publications in the Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Health magazines have been submitted beyond the reference covering the minimum criteria.

The applicant submitted a list of **8** papers presented at scientific conferences and congresses with international participation, with main topics related to mini-invasive gynecological surgery and therapeutic approaches in patients with infertility. Also submitted was a **monograph** on the topic: "Office Hysteroscopy and its Place in Contemporary Gynecology", published in 2019 with a bibliography containing 174 authors. In this rehabilitation work, Dr. Kisyov considers the benefits of performing diagnostic and surgical hysteroscopy as an office procedure, avoiding the disadvantages of general anesthesia. With the refinement of endoscopic equipment, the diagnostic hysteroscopy displaces conventional hysteroscopy and becomes a method of choice in the study of female infertility in successive unsuccessful attempts at assisted reproduction. This office hysteroscopy provides valuable information in the presence of chronic endometritis, congenital anomalies (uterine septum), polyps, submucosal myoma nodes, synechiae (Asherman syndrome), which allows visualization and extraction of intrauterine pessaries, as well as performing targeted endometrial biopsies in suspected neoplastic processes.

The applicant has submitted **scientific works** in which he has original scientific and applied **contributions** which have received a positive evaluation by the College. Dr. Kisyov's research is primarily related to the various types of endoscopic surgery techniques in gynecology, and especially in reproductive medicine. Through them, the author works hard to promote reproductive surgery as an integral modern part of the treatment of infertility. Combining different therapeutic approaches, namely the sequential administration of mini-invasive surgery with a subsequent IVF-ET procedure, increases the chance of a successful pregnancy many times over. Diagnosis or rejection of some pathological findings in the uterine cavity by office hysteroscopy are of great importance for the diagnosis of female

infertility as well as for the ultimate success of the applied assisted reproductive technology (ART) approaches.

Other areas of scientific interest of the applicant:

- current trends in the pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of genital chlamydiosis in infertile patients;
- ART problems associated with gestational surrogacy;
- healing algorithm for life-threatening bleeding during Caesarean section or after giving natural birth;
- - current methods for the diagnosis of preterm birth (fetal fibronectin), etc.

The submitted required documentation for the participation in the competition also includes a certificate for approximately 17 years of work experience at the SHOGNAT, Varna. Dr. Kisyov also submitted a certificate of teaching experience of 7 years and 11 months, of which more than 1 year as Chief Assistant at the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at the "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Medical University, Varna. The certificate for the curriculum load shows a total of between 351 and 410 hours annually, from the beginning of the 2014/2015 academic year up to now, exceeding the required minimum many times. The applicant conducts practical exercises in the disciplines of Obstetrics and Gynecology of students in the specialty "Medicine", "Dental Medicine" and "Midwife".

III. Conclusion

The documents and materials presented by **Dr. Stefan Vasilev Kisyov, PhD** meet the **requirements** of the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act (ASDRBA), the Rules for its implementation and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of the MU - Varna.

On the basis of all the above, I give my positive assessment and recommend to the Scientific Jury to choose **Dr. Stefan Vasilev Kisyov, PhD** for taking the academic position "**Associate Professor**" at the "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Medical University, Varna in the **scientific specialty of Obstetrics and Gynecology**.

Date:
10.11.2019

The Opinion is given by: *[Signature illegible]*
(Prof. Dr. Tanya Timeva, PhD)