

REVIEW

of Prof. Dr. Dimitrichka Bliznakova, MD
Director of Medical College, Medical University – Varna

Regarding: *Contest for the academic position “Associate Professor”, in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty Pediatrics, for the needs of Medical Faculty, Department of Pediatric, at Medical University – Varna, with applicant Dr. Elena Nikolova Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD.*

With Ordinance of the Rector No. R-109-323/07.10.2019 I have been determined to be a member of the Scientific Jury of the abovementioned contest, published in State Gazette, issue 62 dated 06.08.2019.

With protocol No. 1 from the first meeting of the Scientific Jury it has been determined that I have to prepare a statement.

The statement is based on the Law on the Development of Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of Ministry of Education and Medical University – Varna. I declare that I have no conflicts of interest with the applicant.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT.

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD, was born on 11.01.1958 in Yagodovo, Plovdiv region. She graduated Medicine at Higher Medical Institute “Iv. P. Pavlov” – Plovdiv in 1982.

As regional pediatrician she worked from 1983 until 1985 in City Polyclinic – Blagoevgrad, and from 1985 until 1989 in 28th Polyclinic – Sofia.

In 1990 she obtained specialty “Pediatric diseases”. From 1989 until 2007 she was a staff physician in Pediatric Ward of University Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment “St. Anna” – Sofia.

In 2009 she obtained qualification “Healthcare management” at Southwest University “Neofit Rilski” – Blagoevgrad.

In 2015 she obtained scientific degree “doctor” in specialty “Pediatrics” at Medical University – Sofia.

2015-2017 she was a resident in Pediatric Pulmonology in Pediatric Clinic of Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Pulmonary Diseases “St. Sofia”.

In 2017 she obtained specialty in “Pediatric Pulmonology and Phtisiatics”.

From 2007 until now she has been working as a pediatrician in the Clinic of Pulmonology with Intensive Ward, Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Pediatric Diseases “Prof. Iv. Mitev” – Sofia.

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD, has undergone training courses in Homeopathy, Functional diagnostics in childhood, Conventional ultrasonography – abdominal ultrasonography and superficial structures.

She speaks German, Russian and English.

SCIENTOMETRIC INDICATORS.

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD, applies in the contest for the academic position “Associate Professor”, in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty Pediatrics, for the needs of Medical Faculty, Department of Pediatric, at Medical University – Varna, with the following scientometric indicators:

- Dissertation for obtaining the scientific and educational degree „Doctor” – 1
- Scientific publications in foreign and Bulgarian journals – 31
- Publications in Bulgarian – 21
- Publications in a foreign language – 9 in English and 1 in Russian
- As an independent author – 19
- As a co-author – 12
- Participation in international congresses and events – .
- Reference from the library of Medical University – Varna for quotations or reviews in scientific journals, peer-reviewed and indexed in worldwide databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes – 7
- Reference from the library of Medical University – Varna for quotations or reviews in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review – 5
- Impact factor – 19.88

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD, has defended a dissertation and obtained the scientific and educational degree “Doctor” with a topic “Diagnostic and therapeutic approach to broncho-obstructive syndrome in early childhood”.

The functional (reversible) and the organic (irreversible) manifestations of the broncho-obstructive syndrome have been discussed in detail. Attention has been drawn to the allergic predisposition and atopic background of the children. The role of bacterial and viral

infections has been confirmed, as well as the therapeutic approach to controlling the condition. An analysis has been made of the approach also in bronchial asthma.

The study in the field of the broncho-obstructive syndrome is the first significant investigation in our country of the etiopathological factors for the development of broncho-obstructive syndrome in early childhood, based on age-appropriate diagnostic procedures. The clinical characteristics of the various episodes of bronchial obstruction have been summarized. The role of the persistence of their manifestations till the age of 5 has been proved. The generalized classification of diseases with broncho-obstructive syndrome in early childhood is extremely valuable. The practical focus has allowed to develop a diagnostic algorithm for working with children with BOS. The role of breastfeeding and proper nutrition has been confirmed as protective factors for the development of BOS in early childhood.

In conclusion, there is a need for refinement of antibiotic treatment in the neonatal period and up to 1 year of age in order to limit the obstruction manifestations.

The publications of Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD are diverse. They are in the field of:

- A comparative analysis was performed of the diseases of the respiratory system, as well as of bronchial asthma in 3 municipalities in Sofia District.
- Some of the respiratory system abnormalities have been reviewed:
 - Congenital lobar emphysema,
 - Pulmonary hypoplasia,
 - Bronchiectasis,
- The apnea – one serious problem for preterm, term newborns and children up to the age of 3 years. The problem sleep apnea as a reason for caution.
- The role of vitamin D levels in the broncho-obstructive syndrome.
- Immunology of the respiratory allergy.
- The role of breastfeeding for protection from diseases of the respiratory system.

The in-depth study of the outbreaks and the spread of tuberculosis amongst the pediatric population in Bulgaria is interesting.

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD has participated in 18 national and international congresses and conferences, as she has presented clinical cases from almost all fields of pediatrics: Wegener's granulomatosis, congenital abnormalities of the lungs (lobar emphysema, hypoplasia of the lungs, bronchiectasis), anemia and nutrition in childhood, congenital heart malformation, which was associated with clinical picture of frequent pulmonary infections, shunt nephritis, differential diagnosis of space-occupying processes in the brain. Given her interests in the scientific fields, from 2019 Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD has been included in the editorial team of American journal of pediatrics.

Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD is a mentor of young colleagues in their scientific work and she is a participant in international congresses for students and young doctors. For several consecutive years he has been teaching courses for professional

development of healthcare professionals from the country, which are held in Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Pediatric Diseases "Prof. Ivan Mitev". She works with general practitioners, holds seminars with theoretical as well as with practical focus. She participates in the training of trainees, residents at Clinic of Pulmonology with Intensive Ward, Specialized Hospital for Active Treatment of Pediatric Diseases "Prof. Iv. Mitev" – Sofia.

In 2017 with her active participation the publishing house "Bookmark Publishing" presented a series of 8 books on the proper nutrition in healthy children and the dietary regimens for children with different chronic conditions. She is an author of 4. Book "Nutrition of the child from 3 until 18 years", page 79, 2007.

She translated from German "Family Health Encyclopedia", Publishing house "Emas", 1997; "Guide to Homeopathy", Prof. Matthias Dorci, Publishing house "Emas", 1999; "My child has an allergy", Dr. Petar Fisher, Publishing house "Emas", 1997.

She is a consultant of several books on popular medical topics with the aim to increase the medical erudition of the population: "Diabetes Guide", "What laboratory values tell us?", "Diabetes in children", "What awaits you when you are expecting a child?", "What awaits you in the first year of the child?", "What awaits you in the second and third year of the child?", as well as the TV show on the Bulgarian National Television "Television baby", season 2006-2007.

CONCLUSION.

The analysis of these publications justifies the applicant's long-standing experience in the field of pediatrics. The knowledge of diverse pathology, disease analysis, as well as the practical experience, the presented publications give me a reason to confirm that Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD is an outstanding specialist with extensive theoretical training, big practical experience and scientific interests.

I suggest that the members of the distinguished Scientific Jury vote positively for Dr. Elena Paskaleva-Georgieva, MD, PhD, to obtain the academic position "Associate Professor", in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty Pediatrics, for the needs of Medical Faculty, Department of Pediatric, at Medical University – Varna.

04.11.2019

Varna

Respectfully,

Prof. Dr. D. Bliznakova, MD, PhD

Director of Medical College – Varna

