

STATEMENT

from prof. Dr Rumen Petrov Konstantinov, PhD

Sector Epidemiology of Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Faculty of Public Health,
Medical University "Prof. Dr Paraskev Srtoyanov" - Varna

Member of the scientific jury assigned by Order No P-109-300 / 07.08.2020 of prof. Dr Svetoslav Georgiev, PhD, – Vice-Rector "Career Development" of Medical University "prof. Dr Paraskev Srtoyanov" - Varna, according to an order for replacement No P-100-395/31.07.2020.

Concerning: Announcement of the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Informatics, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences, scientific speciality "Parasitology and helminthology." for the needs of the Department of Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenereology, Sector of Infectious Diseases and Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University – Varna, published in State Gazette No 53/12.06.2020.

In this competition are submitted documents for participation by one candidate - chief assistant Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova, PhD. The candidate has presented a complete set of documents corresponding to the qualitative and quantitative criteria of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of MU-Varna.

Brief biographical data and career development

Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova was born on March 27, 1976, in the city of Varna. She acquired higher medical education in 2001, graduating with full honours from the Medical University "Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. Her professional path started as an assistant GP at "AIP-PMH Dr Boyka Tuncheva", and in December 2001 she was appointed as a resident in parasitology at MU-Varna. After a competition, in March 2002, she acquired the academic position of "assistant" at the Department of Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenereology of MU-Varna, where she works till present. In 2006 she obtained a speciality in "Medical Parasitology", and in 2017 a scientific and educational degree "Doctor" in "Parasitology and

Helminthology" at the National Center for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases - Sofia. After a contest in June 2018, she acquired the academic position of "Chief Assistant" at Department of Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenereology, MU-Varna.

In addition to her research and teaching activities, Dr Stoyanova also carries out administrative positions at MU-Varna and DIDPDV as a course leader of fifth-year medical students, quality manager and administrative assistant of the Department.

Dr Stoyanova performs medical and diagnostic activities in her capacity as head of two consecutive specialized parasitological laboratories at SMDL "Exactlabor 2002" (2006-2009) and SMDL "Status" (from 2009 to the present).

Since 2018, Dr Stoyanova is a member of the Control Commission of the Bulgarian Association of Medical Parasitologists. Since 2019 she has been appointed as a member of the expert council in the medical speciality "Medical Parasitology" at the Ministry of Health.

Over the years, she improves her education by attending postgraduate courses in the country and abroad. She speaks excellent English and spoken Russian.

Characteristics of the scientific and applied research activities of the candidate

Materials presented for the competition

In this competition, Ch. Assistant Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova participates with 13 scientific publications covering the minimum national requirements for the academic degree "Associate Professor" and additional 24 titles that are not included in that reference list. A total of 37 scientific publications are subject to review and evaluation in this competition.

The distribution in the scientometric aspect of the indicated positions is as follows:

- **Habilitation thesis (monograph):**
 - K. Stoyanova. Cryptosporidiosis - current aspects of taxonomy, clinical presentation, diagnosis, and treatment. Medical University Varna Press, Varna, 2020, 187 pp. ISBN 978-619-221-234-6.
- **Monographs that are not presented as a main habilitation work:**
 - K. Stoyanova. Cryptosporidiosis - epidemiology of a hidden parasitosis. Medical University Varna Press, Varna, 2020, 194 pp. ISBN 978-619-221-243-8.
 - K. Stoyanova. Enterobiasis and giardiasis – current problems. Medical University Varna Press, Varna, 2020, 174 pp. ISBN 978-619-221-215-5.
- Scientific publications in papers, referenced and indexed in world-renown databases (Web of Science and Scopus) - 8 titles.
- Published chapters from a book or a collective monograph - 2 titles.

- Full-text publications that are not included as a part of the minimum scientometric requirements - 24 titles.
- Scientific reports at national and international scientific forums - 32 participations.

The scientific works of Dr K. Stoyanova have been published in authoritative and peer-reviewed scientific journals - *Environmental Research*, *Helminthologia (Poland)*, *Biomedical Reviews*, *Journal of IMAB*, etc., as well as in renowned Bulgarian scientific papers. Dr Kalina Stoyanova is the primary and leading author in most of the presented papers (59.4%) - monographs, articles, and reports. The overall IF according to the Thomson Reuters system is 3.287. The academic reference for the citations of her scientific work (in 59 referenced issues), completely covers and exceeds the required number for acquiring of the academic position "Associate Professor". The candidate has scientific profiles in Google Scholar, ResearchGate, ORCID, Researcher ID and Academia.

The presented monograph "Cryptosporidiosis - modern aspects of taxonomy, clinic, diagnosis and treatment" is an in-depth, large-scale, and practically applicable scientific work with a contribution to a rarely described parasitic disease. It reflects the author's research on the whole spectrum from diagnosis to treatment of the disease. The presented publications impress with the three monographic works and the numerous scientific articles, which reflect the deep scientific interests and research of Dr K. Stoyanova in the vast spectre of medical parasitology.

Research contributions

The contributions from the research activity of the candidate are presented thematically and cover studies of epidemiology, aetiology, diagnosis, clinic, treatment, and control of parasitoses - intestinal and opportunistic, as well as some zoonoses, malaria and other imported diseases. The scientific activity of Dr Stoyanova includes several multidisciplinary works in partnership with research teams from different specialities - infectious diseases, epidemiology, hygiene, social medicine, and others. The studies in this area focus on the social factors that determine the distribution of infectious diseases, the problems of spread and anti-epidemic control of some zoonoses (brucellosis, anthrax) and nosocomial infections.

These impressive scientometric indicators are evidence of the importance and scientific value of the extensive and in-depth research and publication activities of Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova.

Assessment of the teaching activity of the candidate

Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova is a qualified university educator with over 18 years of experience, as an assistant, senior assistant, chief assistant at MU-Varna. The high professional qualification in her speciality and the broad scientific interests are combined with excellent pedagogical skills for teaching the complicated and specific matter in the field of medical parasitology. She educates medical students in Bulgarian and English language programmes, nurses, midwives, medical laboratory assistants, public health inspectors from the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Public Health and the Medical College - Varna, as well as postgraduates with an average workload in recent years of 310 hours. In the implementation of the educational process in medical parasitology, Dr K. Pavlova is an erudite university lecturer, skilfully applying the modern methodology in teaching.

She develops new curricula for lectures, practical exercises and tests for medical students, nurses, medical laboratory technicians, public health inspectors and others. Creates, develops and maintains the courses for auxiliary e-learning in medical parasitology for all listed specialities in the electronic system Blackboard Learn+ of MU-Varna, the affiliates in Sliven, Shumen and Veliko Tarnovo, and Medical College - Varna, including the necessary teaching and examination materials in all the above disciplines. Dr Stoyanova has participated as a guest lecturer in several medical and pharmaceutical trainings. Her fluency in English allows her to carry out efficient specialized academic teaching with international students and scientific communication. She is continuously improving her professional, scientific, and teaching qualification, as evidenced by the information provided for her participation in numerous courses and trainings. As a leading highly qualified specialist in medical parasitology, she performs medical-diagnostic activities and consults on problems of parasitosis.

Critical notes

I have no critical remarks about the candidate.

Personal impressions

As a result of our collaborative work, I can certify that Dr K. Pavlova is distinguished by high professionalism, deep scientific interests and potentialities and enviable teaching skills. In both scientific and teaching collectives, she shows organizational, collegial and innovative skills.

Conclusion

Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova is a respected member of the academic community of the

Medical University "Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov "- Varna. She is a well-known specialist, a favoured lecturer, and a genuine researcher. Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova is a nationally recognized expert, with a sufficient number of publications and international recognition, a worthy representative of MU-Varna, with a real contribution to the development of the medical parasitology in Bulgaria.

Based on the above, I find that the scientific, practical, and educational activities of Dr Kalina Stoyanova Pavlova fully meet the requirements of LDASRB and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of MU-Varna. As a member of the Scientific Jury, I strongly support her candidacy for the academic position of Associate Professor in Parasitology and Helminthology at the Department of Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenereology, Sector of Infectious Diseases and Parasitology at the Faculty of Medicine, Medical University–Varna and I express my positive vote.

Member of the Scientific Jury:



(Prof. Dr Rumen Konstantinov, PhD)

Varna

05.10.2020