

OPINION

of Associate Professor Dr. Anna Bozhidarova Kircheva, MD

Department of Clinical Medical Sciences, Faculty of Dental Medicine
at Medical University – Varna

Member of scientific Jury for the competition /SG issue 61 23.07.2021/ acquiring an academic position **Associate Professor** in the field of Higher Education 7. Health Care and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine and Scientific specialty Epidemiology, code 03.01.29, for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health, Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the MU – Varna.

With Order No. P – 109-392/20.09.2021 of the Rector of MU-Varna, I was elected a member of the Scientific Jury. I have been selected to prepare an opinion on the procedure for acquiring an Academic Position **Associate Professor**, for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health, Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Educational Sector Epidemiology at MU – Varna, by Protocol No.1 from a meeting of the Scientific Jury.

The procedure of announcing the competition is in compliance with the legal requirements. No procedural violations have been established. Documents for the competition are submitted by a single candidate – **Dr. Eliyana Panayotova Ivanova, MD.**

I. Biographical data of the candidate:

Dr. Eliyana Ivanova was born on February 24th 1966 in the city of Burgas. She graduated medicine at Medical University – Varna in 1992. From 1993 to 1997 Dr. Ivanova is a doctor at the Hygiene and Epidemiological Inspection Service - Burgas. She was a physician-epidemiologist in Regional Health Inspectorate – Varna until 2008. Dr. Ivanova worked as an Epidemiologist at a Medical Center “Sanita” OOD - Varna from 2008 to 2013. Since 2013 she has been appointed for a full-time Assistant at the Educational Sector of Epidemiology at the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Medical University Varna.
Dr. Ivanova's last appointment was after a competition.

In 2006 Dr. Ivanova acquired a specialty in Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases. Enrolled as a doctoral student in self-study on 08.07.2016 by Order № P-109-257 of the Rector of the Medical University of Varna in 2017 Dr. Eliyana Ivanova received an educational and scientific degree **Doctor** with a dissertation on the following topic: **“Epidemiological effectiveness, organization and management of immunization work in the Varna area”**.

She became a senior assistant in the Educational Sector of Epidemiology at the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the Faculty of Public Health in MU–Varna since 2018.

II. Research activity of the candidate - evaluation of quantitative and qualitative indicators

Dr. Eliyana Ivanova has submitted the following scientific papers for review:

1. Monograf – Ivanova E. Epidemiological chronicles of the fight against infectious diseases in Varna region /1878-1944/, 2021, ISBN 978-619-221-336-7;

2. Chapter of a collective monograf – Ivanova E. Development of the bacteriological and anti-rabies station Development of the bacteriological and anti-rabies station 1925-1950. 150 years of “Paraskeva Nikolau” Donation Hospital, 150 years in the service of health care in Varna, Jubilee Book, MU – Varna, 2019, 84 – 95

3. Publications in scientific journals referenced and indexed in a world database with scientific information in full text - 6 pcs

4. Full-text publications in non-referred publications with scientific review -6 copies as evidence, and 3 publications outside the evidence in the reference for fulfillment of the minimum requirements for borrowing AD Associate Professor according to Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria from 2018.

5. Participation in national congresses and conferences with international participation - 9 pcs

6. Participation in national scientific events – 25 pcs

7. Dr. Ivanova is an independent author in 3 publications (18%), first author in 5 pcs (29%), second author in 2 publications and subsequent author in 7 of them.

Citations: The cited scientific works of Dr. Ivanova are seven. Three of them are in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review and 4 are in un referred journals with scientific review.

III. Scientific fields, where the scientific publications are concentrated, in which the candidate has mainly worked:

- Immunoprophylaxis and epidemiology of vaccine-preventable infections;
- Epidemiology of respiratory infections;
- Epidemiology of intestinal infections;
- Epidemiology of blood-borne infections;
- Epidemiology of contractual infection;
- Epidemiology of infections with multiple transmission mechanisms;
- Health promotion and nutrition;
- History of medicine;

IV. Scientific and applied contributions:

Dr. Ivanova's scientific developments are in the field of Immunoprophylaxis and History of Medicine.

- Dr. Ivanova makes a historical-logical study on the formation and development of the system of immunization in the Varna region for the period of Liberation - 1878 to 2015;
- Studies and analyzes the epidemiological effectiveness of immunoprophylaxis and the impact on the dynamics of epidemic processes in vaccine-preventable infections: Tuberculosis, Poliomyelitis, Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Pertussis and Viral Hepatitis type B in Region of Varna for the period 2005 – 2015.
- Performs epidemiological analysis of the immunization coverage of the population in Varna area with mandatory immunizations and re-immunizations and

studies and investigates adverse vaccine reactions and their relevance to immunization practices with the registration and notification algorithm.

- Performs a theoretical and epidemiological analysis of the place and importance of the immunoprophylaxis system in the epidemiological surveillance and control of infectious diseases, forming a Structural model of the epidemiological effectiveness of immunoprophylaxis and developing an Application Program for improving the epidemiological effectiveness of immunization work in region of Varna.

Dr. Ivanova's other contribution to the epidemiological science and practice includes the following studies and analyzes:

- A study and analysis of the spread of Cholera, Typhoid Fever, Enterocolitis and Dysentery in Varna Region is carried out up to 1944 is carried out, studying the factors that led to the outbreak of periodic epidemics and epidemic outbreaks.
- A study was conducted on the incidence of Diphtheria, Viral Hepatitis B, Tetanus, looking for a correlation between mandatory immunoprophylaxis and groups with low immunization coverage, which pose an epidemic risk for the Varna region.
- An epidemiological analysis of the risk of exposure using sharp cutting tools and the transmission of blood-borne pathogens has been carried out in Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment - Varna. A scheme for risk reduction and prevention has been developed.

V. Teaching activity:

Dr. Ivanova conducts Bulgarian language training for students in the following disciplines: Medicine, Dental Medicine, Public Health Protection and Control Master's Degree, Health Care Management educational qualification degree Bachelor and Master, Health Management educational qualification degree Bachelor and Master, Nurses Bachelor's degree, Midwives Bachelor's degree, Inspector of Public Health, Medical Laboratory Assistant, Elective course - Tropical Medicine.

The study load of Dr. Ivanova in the last five years is as follows:

2016/2017 – 359 hours;

2017/2018 – 404 hours;

2018/2019 – 405 hours;
2019/2020 – 385 hours;
2020/2021 – 440 hours.

Dr. Ivanova participates in examination commissions in Epidemiology for fifth-year medical students and sixth-year state exam. Participates in examination commissions in Epidemiology for Dental Medicine students, Public Health Inspector, Dr. Ivanova participates in examination commissions in Epidemiology for fifth-year medical students and sixth-year state exam, Dental Medicine Second-year Nurses and Midwives.

Dr. Ivanova trains trainee doctors during their state internship in Epidemiology.

Dr. Ivanova has been an administrative assistant at the Epidemiology Department since 2019.

Conclusion:

Dr. Eliyana Panayotova Ivanova, MD, is an epidemiologist and lecturer with very good theoretical and practical training. Dr. Ivanova's practical experience as an active epidemiologist helps her in the process of teaching.

Personal impressions: I know Dr. Ivanova and I have closely followed her professional path and development as an epidemiologist. She has professionalism, diligence, ethics and organizational skills.

The scientific publications and study load of Dr. Ivanova fully meet the requirements of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and holding academic positions in MU - Varna.

This gives me a reason to propose to the Esteemed Jury to vote positively for the award of the academic position of **Associate Professor of Dr. Eliyana Panayotova Ivanova, MD**, in the scientific specialty **Epidemiology** for the needs of the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University of Varna.



15 October 2021

Associate Prof. Dr. Anna Bozhidarova Kircheva MD

