

## **A REVIEW OF AN ACADEMIC POSITION**

Author: Prof. Dr. Dimitar Konstantinov Gospodinov, MD, PhD, DSc  
Head of the Department of “Dermatology, venereology and allergy”  
Faculty of Medicine, Medical University – Pleven

Re: The announced competition for academic position “Associate Professor” in scientific specialty “Dermatology and venereology”, higher education category 7.0 “Healthcare and sport”, professional area 7.1 “Medicine” for the purpose of Educational sector of Dermato-venereology, Medical Faculty, Medical University of Varna, promulgated in State Gazzete 17/19.04.2021

According to Order P-109-177 / 23.04.2021 of the Rector of the Medical University of Varna, I was appointed to be a member of scientific jury to conduct a competition for academic position “associate professor” of Dermatology and venereology. I was approved to be a reviewer of the first proceeding of the scientific jury. The only candidate, submitted documents is Dr. Filka Georgieva Georgieva, MD, PhD. The documents, provided by the candidate are prepared under the current Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria Act (DASRB) and the Rules for Development of Academic Staff of the Medical University of Varna.

### **I. Short biography data of the candidate**

Dr. Filka Georgieva was born on February 16, 1968 in Varna. In 1993 she was graduated from Medical University of Varna. She started a specialization in skin and venereology diseases in the University Department of Dermatology and Venereology and achieved diploma in 2001. Under the mentorship of Assoc. Prof. S. Racheva she successfully defended a PhD thesis entitled “Condition of the autonomic nervous system, changes in the indicators of the skin barrier and psycho-emotional aspects in patients with Lichen simplex chronicus” in the scientific specialty “Dermatology and venereology” was assigned (2016).

At time of the competition, Dr. F. Georgieva has more than 20-year clinical practice in the specialty and worked as a dermatologist and director of Medical Center “Medea” in the city of Varna During that period of time, she went through the stages of academic carrier “assistant professor” and “chief assistant professor”.

In connection with her qualification she has conducted educational and qualification courses, holds a diploma № 3294 / 24.01.1994. for Management and Business from the University of Economics - Varna, as well as diploma № 8183 / 17.12.2003 for Health Management from the same university.

She is a member of Bulgarian Clinicians Society and Bulgarian Dermatological Society. She speaks and writes fluently English and Russian languages.

## **II. Scientific activity of the candidate**

The assessment of the scientific activity of Dr. F. Georgieva was performed according to the current requirements for minimal scientific statistic data to certify the academic position "Associate Professor" without iteration of the provided activity required to obtain a PhD-degree. The estimation is reflecting the criteria and indicators of Supplement 1 of the Regulation for Academic Development in Medical University of Varna.

Scientific and research activity of the candidate extends to 65 scientific productions:

- **37 manuscripts.** 7 of which are presented for this competition (under №№ 11,13,14,15,16,19, and 20 of the attached list), 3 articles which are to the dissertation, (under №№ 22,24 and 25 of the attached list and are not reviewed)
- **1 personal monography**, reviewed and printed with ISBN 978-619-221-072-4 (MU-Varna, 2016)
- **1 scientific book**, reviewed and printed with ISBN 978978-3-330-07407-1 (Lambert Academic Publishing, 2017)
- **2 co-authorships in a textbook in dermatology and venereology** for students of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy:
  - In Bulgarian - ISBN: 978-619-221-233-9, MU - Varna, 2020
  - English - ISBN 978-619-221-194-3, Medical University Varna, 2018
- 18 participations in the national and international scientific forums (8 of which are international and 10 are national) **with overall 24 reports and posters** (14 of which in abroad)

Data from the attached academic reference for the publications, citations and scientific profiles of Dr. Georgieva (№ 80 / 16.03.2021 of MU-Varna, Library):

## 1. Scientific metric criteria:

- 2 publications and reports in the scientific editions, referent and indexed in Scopus and Web of science (according to the year of publication);
- 5 publications and reports in the scientific editions, referent and indexed (upon year of publication) in national and world secondary literature databases.
- 1 author's monography published in Bulgarian, 2016
- 1 author's scientific book in the international press, 2017

The only author is in 7 publications, as in both books.

The presented **scientific activity** provides the opportunity to identify the following strands of scientific and professional interests of Dr. F. Georgieva:

- ✓ **Continuing research on Lichen Simplex Chronicus** - monograph, scientific book, publication № 19 in Scopus and publications №№18,20,21 in secondary editions with scientific review;
- ✓ **Studies on Sensitive Skin Syndrome** - publications №№ 1,3,4,5;
- ✓ **Psychosomatic dermatology and changes in quality of life** - publication №16 in Scopus and publications №№ 6,10,11,14,15,17,23;
- ✓ **Epidemiology, risk factors and diagnosis of Malignant melanoma** - publications №№ 26,30,31,33,34,35;
- ✓ **Description of rarely observed clinical cases** - publications №№ 2,8,12,28,29,32;
- ✓ **Varia** (onychomycosis, urticaria, psoriasis...) - publications №№ 7,9,13,27,36,37.

## 2. References for citations:

The applied academic reference (№ 80 / 16.03.2021 (Library of MU-Varna) states for 9 citations/quotations of the 6 of her scientific production:

- 1 citation in the Scopus/WOS databases;
- 2 citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review4 quotations in the non-referred journals with scientific reviewing.
- 6 citations in unreferred journals with scientific review

The article № 21 in the attached list - *Georgieva F, Bakardzhiev I. The Skin Barrier in Patients with Lichen Simplex Chronicus. Clinical Research in Dermatology: Open Access, 2016, 3 (3): 1-4.* has a citation in Scopus/WOS.

### **3. Scientific activity:**

A list of 24 participations in national (10 in number) and international (14 in number) congresses and conferences is attached. Two of the abstracts are published in an impact factor journal (Journal of EADV, 2003 and 2004).

Dr. F. Georgieva is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Union and the Bulgarian Dermatological Society.

### **4. Reference of contributions:**

I agree with the applied inquiry of contributions of Dr. F. Georgieva and state most important of the following:

- For the first time in Bulgaria an extensive literary analysis is made, as well as a systematic study on Lichen Simplex Chronicus. The influence of the autonomic nervous system, the violation of the indicators of the skin barrier and the role of stress on the pathogenesis of dermatosis is clarified
- Epidemiological studies in patients with sensitive skin syndrome and malignant melanoma in the Varna region.
- The analysis of the impact of some chronic dermatological diseases on the quality of life of patients. For the first time in Bulgaria, the change in the quality of life is assessed by comparing the condition before and after treatment in patients with facial dermatoses.
- The description of the rare complication of nails in children up to 3 years of age - distal subungual onychomycosis, after summer flu caused by Coxsackie virus.

### **III. Study and teaching activity of Dr. Filka Georgieva**

According to the attached reference for study load with Ref. № 112-59 / 17.03.2021 of MU-Varna, Dr. F. Georgieva started her teaching activity in 2012. For the last 5 academic years (2015/16 - 2019/20) her classroom employment is 1373 hours. (at a norm of 220 hours per year) Participates in the theoretical and practical training in the specialty in the master's program in "medicine" in the Bulgarian and English language courses. He is a co-author of two textbooks in dermatology and venereology for students of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy, one of which is in English (published by MU-Varna).

#### **IV. Diagnostic and therapeutic activity**

Certificate with No 099-886 / 19.03.2021 of MU-Varna shows that Dr. F. Georgieva is an active practicing dermatologist with over 25 years of experience in the specialty, she acquired a specialty in skin and venereal diseases in 2001. For the period 1993-2011 she was an intern at the Dermatology Clinic in Varna, and in 2012 she was an assistant, currently holding the academic position of "chief assistant". She was a medical manager at the Medea Medical Center in the city. These facts show that the candidate is well theoretically prepared and with rich practical skills.

#### **Conclusion:**

Dr. Filka Georgieva, has the necessary teaching, research and medical-diagnostic qualities. It covers all the criteria and indicators for habilitation required in MU-Varna. As a product of Varna Medical University, her professional development is entirely related to higher education - from medical student to the present, which is a natural upgrade of the traditions of career and scientific development of Varna Dermatological School. I am convinced with a positive vote for the award of the academic position of "Associate Professor" to Dr. Filka Georgieva Georgieva, MD, PhD.

29 Jun 2021



Prof. Dr. Dimitar Gospodinov, MD, PhD, DSc.