

## STATEMENT OF OPINION

from

**Prof. Dr. Dimitar Temelkov Kostadinov, MD**

**The Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Sofia Head of the Department of Lung Diseases at**

Member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order № P-109-397/20.09.2021 of  
The Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov"- Varna

**Regarding procedure for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports"; professional field 7.1. "Medicine", for the needs of the First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna, in the clinical base of the Clinic of Pneumology and Phthisiatry at the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD – Varna.**

The current contest for the academic position of "Associate Professor" has been announced in state newspaper, issue 61 of 23.07.2021 and one candidate was admitted to it **Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva, PhD**, Chief Assistant at the "First Department of Internal Medicine", Board of Pulmonary Diseases and Allergology at the Faculty of Medicine of MU-Varna.

As a member of the Scientific Jury (according to order № P-109-397 / 20.07.2021 of the Rector of MU - Varna), after a meeting (Minutes №1 of 05.10.2021), I am appointed to prepare an opinion under the procedure for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

### **I. Description of the submitted materials for the contest**

The preparation of the opinion on the materials submitted for the competition is based on the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff in MU-Varna 2020. All the necessary documents for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in accordance with the criteria of the Law on the development of the academic staff in Bulgaria and MU-Varna (Art. 125 and Art. 126) are included.

### **II. Brief biographical data of the candidate:**

Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva graduated the Medical University - Varna, specialty specialty in Medicine with a professional qualification "Doctor" in 2001. She has a PhD in "Lung Diseases" since 2019 on the topic "Prognostic markers for clinical and laboratory assessment of patients with sepsis". Dr. P. Peneva has two specialties: "Internal Medicine" from 2010 and "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" from 2014.

She is a member of Bulgarian Medical Society, the Bulgarian Respiratory Society and the European Respiratory Society. She speaks English and Russian.

### **III. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of teaching and research activities.**

**1. Teaching and pedagogical activity** – Dr. Pavlina Peneva presents an academic report on the workload of the Medical University of Varna (issue 112-393 / 26.08.2021), as she has a major role in the teaching of medical students (exercises and lectures in Bulgarian and English), the **average annual and study load for the last 5 years is 177.2 hours.**

**2. Research activity** - The academic report presented by MU-Varna (627 / 17.09.2021) for the scientific production of **Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva** includes:

2.1. **Indicator A - dissertation** for the award of PhD in the scientific specialty "Lung Diseases": **A1 - 50 points.**

2.2. **Indicator B. The monograph** of Dr. P. Peneva, "Sepsis - known and dangerously unknown", 2020, 186 pages and ISBN: 978-619-221-269-8 has practical value and possibility for application in clinical practice: **B3 – 100 points.**

2.3. **Indicator G** (required minimum 200 points from indicators G5-9 with a minimum of 60 points for clinical specialties from indicator 7) - a total of **348.3 points:**

2.3.1. **Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information (Scopus / WOS)** - two. In both of them, Dr. Peneva is the first author: **G7 - 80 points**

2.3.2. **Publications and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes** - twelve. In ten of the publications Dr. Peneva is the first author, and in one last: **G8 - 208.3 points.**

2.3.3. **published chapters of a collective monograph:** these are 23 separate pages of Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva in three separate sections of the monograph "Kidney Diseases and Diet Therapy - Modern Strategies", published by "Geo-Print" - Varna, 2000: **G9 - 60 t.**

Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva has 4 participations in scientific congresses, conferences and symposiums in Bulgaria and abroad.

**3. Influence of the candidate's scientific publications in the national and foreign literature (citations) - eight citations** according to the academic reference: indicator **D10-12 - 70 points:**

3.1. Cited in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - **six (D11 of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor") - 60 points.**

3.2. Citations or reviews in unrefereed journals with scientific review - **two (D12 of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor") - 10 points.**

#### **4. Assessment of the personal contribution and qualities of the candidate.**

**Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva** is a lecturer with pedagogical experience since 2016, when she was appointed assistant physician in the specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" at the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD.

The main directions in scientific and works are:

1. Early diagnosis, treatment and prevention of lung infections - bacterial and viral, septic problems.

The monograph "Sepsis - known and dangerously unknown" is a logical continuation of the dissertation of Dr. Peneva and is a larger and expanded summary of sepsis. There are few scientific developments for sepsis in the last 20 years in our country, and after 2016, the developments are single. The monograph reflects the most modern definition, diagnosis and treatment of sepsis and septic shock. The location and indications of artificial lung ventilation and haemodialysis are discussed in detail, basic recommendations for the nutrition of patients are given. Very little is found in the literature on resuscitation, post-resuscitation, and sepsis, but they are realities, not casuistry. It manifests with various mental, cognitive and physical disorders. It is directly related to the survival and quality of life of patients treated in the intensive care unit. The book devotes a significant part to these problems and ways to deal with them. The information is based on the latest scientific research and has a purely practical value, which makes this scientific development valuable. The monograph

summarizes the current knowledge of this severe clinical syndrome called "sepsis" and can be a guide for all clinical specialists - doctors, residents, students.

2. Guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable lung diseases.

In this area, the focus is on important non-infectious lung diseases, such as bronchial asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and systemic diseases involving the lungs. The interest is accompanied by difficult diagnosis, ineffective treatment in certain patients, the discovery of new pathogenetic mechanisms and related guidelines for therapy. International recommendations are published annually, the novelties of which reach a wider range of specialists, through explanations and publications of individual authors. In this way, through the various readings, the details are emphasized and accentuated, so that adequate and timely treatment can be defended.

3. Difficulties in the diagnosis and treatment of chronic kidney disease and diet therapy in kidney patients.

Patients with kidney problems are given a part of Dr. Peneva's scientific production. The articles discuss important pathogenetic mechanisms in glomerulonephritis, conditions in renal pathology that are extremely difficult to treat and often diagnose. Dr. Peneva's interest in kidney problems is expressed in the collective monograph "Nutrition in the most common kidney diseases - modern strategies", which is a long work, complementing the literature in the field of modern nutrition in Bulgarian patients, along with the scientific works of nephrologists and nutritionists in the field of diet therapy.

4. Other areas of publications are related to the general health of the individual and important issues related to public health

Four scientific publications focus on the general health of the individual and important issues related to public health. The focus is on nutrition and supplementation of various elements and vitamins related to human health and some health problems related to their deficiency, as well as the health of the human population in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Extremely important emphasis is placed on people with cancer, who in a pandemic are delayed in their treatment for various reasons, and this has an important impact on the overall health of the population.

From the presented materials, I believe that Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva is an experienced scientist, lecturer and clinician. The presented publications are original, with personal contribution of the candidate. I have not found plagiarism.

Dr. P. Peneva has active scientific profiles in Google Scholar, ORCID and Research Gate (RG).

#### **IV. Critical notes.**

Dr. Peneva has sufficient professional experience and in the future, I recommend her to realize her creative ideas by publishing more in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information, and report them to international congresses. In this way, she will present more convincingly his author's concepts and views in his scientific works.

In the list of publications from the submitted documents for the procedure (p.18), under numbers 1, 3, 4 and 5, are given scientific developments presented for the procedure for PhD and according to item 8 of the Notes in Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff in MU-Varna should not be taken into account in this procedure.


#### **V. Conclusion.**

The materials presented by **Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva, PhD** for the procedure meet in scientometrically terms the minimum of National Requirements and those of MU - Varna.

According to quantitative indicators of the criteria for awarding the academic position "Associate Professor" of Appendix 1, the **total number of points of Dr. P. Peneva is 568.3 points with minimum requirements for groups of indicators for the academic position "Associate Professor" at MU-Varna - total 400 points.**

**Based on the presented data and their analysis, I give a positive vote and strongly recommend the members of the esteemed scientific jury to award the academic position of "Associate Professor" in "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" to Dr. Pavlina Angelova Peneva, PhD, in the procedure for the needs of First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna, in clinical base Clinic of Pneumology and Phthisiatry of the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD - Varna.**

Sofia,  
07.12.2021

  
(Prof. Dimitar Kostadinov, MD PhD)