

STATEMENT

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Member of the Scientific Jury pursuant to Order No. P-109-271 from 25.05.2023
of the Rector of Medical University - Varna

Regarding: Competition for acquiring an academic position „**Associate Professor**” in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional direction 7.4 Public Health, of specialty Public Health Management (medicinal use and pharmacoconomics in Healthcare), for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University „Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov“, Varna, published in the State Gazette, issue 28/28.03.2023.

I. Resume of the candidate's career development

Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD graduated from Sofia Medical University professional qualification in Pharmacy in 2004. After successfully defending her dissertation on the topic “ Pharmacological research of the effect of Aronia melanocarpa fruit juice in behavioral models in rats” and acquired the educational and scientific degree "PhD" in the scientific specialty “ Pharmacology (incl. pharmacokinetics and chemotherapy)” at the Medical University „Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov“, Varna (2015). At present, there are completed modules of specialization in “Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy“ (2020).

The candidate's professional development and experience of Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, began in 2004 as a “master pharmacist” in a pharmacy.

Academic development, started in 2008 as an assistant, and later as chief assistant (2017- until today) at Varna Medical University.

II. General description of the submitted materials

The candidate has submitted all the necessary documents for the competition for acquiring an academic position „Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional direction 7.4 Public Health, of specialty Public Health

Management (medicinal use and pharmacoeconomics in Healthcare), are in compliance with requirements for holding an academic position of “Associate Professor” according to the Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria (DASRBA), the Rules for its implementation and the Rules and acquirement of scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

The documents submitted by the candidate include: CV; copies of diplomas for the respective specialties and the doctoral degree; summaries of scientific works for the competition; a list of publications and a copy of them; list and copy of the required number of citations; reference from the University Library of a Varna Medical University for the publications and citations meeting the minimum national requirements, full-text publications and citations, outside the minimum requirements for scientometric indicators and the additional requirements defined in these regulations (accompanied by evidence) and other documents certifying the indicators, according to the regulation for acquiring an academic position „Associate Professor” at the Varna Medical University.

I find no omissions in the submitted documentation.

III. Evaluation of the scientific works of the candidates for the entire academic development

Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD participated in this competition, presented scientific papers proving the fulfillment of the minimum requirements for occupation of the academic position of „Associate Professor ” distributed scientometric aspect as follows:

- abstract of a dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" – 1;
- habilitation thesis – 10 scientific publications in a subgroup G7;
- 54 scientific publications in journals with/without SJR and/or IF;
- 63 participation in scientific forums;
- 4 study aids.

The scientific and applied contributions of Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD are focused in areas:

- food and nutrition - 24 publications (№ in the attached list: G.7.1; G.7.2; G.7.3; G.7.4; G.7.5; G.7.6; G.7.7; G.7.8; G.7.9; G.7.10; G.8.1; G.8.2; G.8.3; G.8.4; G.8.5; G.8.6; G.8.7; G.8.8; G.8.9; G.8.10; G.8.11; G.8.12; №1; №2);
- prevention, management of diseases and health systems - 3 publications (№ in the attached list: G.8.13; G.8.14; G.8.15).

In the presented reference original scientific contributions cover scientific issues, purposed for current and significant problems in the field of the announced competition.

The contributions of Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD, reflected in his research papers, are presented and summarized by subject in priority areas for MU-Varna:

1. Food and nutrition

- 1.1. Role of food in prevention at all levels and in the treatment and rehabilitation of various diseases with emphasis on those with a high disease burden on society.

2. Prevention, disease management and health systems

- 2.1. Pharmacoeconomic analyses and medicinal use

- 2.2. Analyses in occupational medicine (including the impact of COVID-19).

A thorough and extensive study was conducted on regulatory aspects in drug interaction studies in the preclinical and clinical stage in the creation of new medicines. In-depth and comprehensive research has been conducted on the impact of food in the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of diseases, with a focus on those with a high disease burden on society. New, beneficial effects of biologically active substances of natural origin in the prevention and treatment of many socially significant diseases have been identified.

Studies and analyses have been conducted on the effectiveness of Aronia melanocarpa fruit juice (AMFJ), Chaenomeles maulei, aqueous and alcoholic infusions of Cotinus coggygria, Kochia scoparia in experimental disease models in rats. The effects of AMFJ on behavior and cerebral oxidative stress in rats exposed to circadian rhythm disruption (DCR) were determined.

A complex evaluation of lipid metabolism, inflammation and bone turnover in a rat model of ovariectomy-induced postmenopausal bone loss was performed using anthropometric and biochemical indices.

Information in various web-based databases - Google Scholar, Pub Med, etc. regarding drug-induced hyperglycemia was analyzed.

The impact of COVID-19 on morbidity and temporary disability in a construction company for the period 2019-2021 was studied. A marginal impact was found in the indicators of incidence and work loss from all diseases, but at the same time, a significant share was reported among infectious

The scientific publications of Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD are published in world-renowned and recognized publications which is confirmed with the presented reference and Impact Factor.

The scientometric citation reference, issued by the Medical University of Varna, reveals 8 citations, 6 of which are refereed and indexed in the world databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes.

Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD has participated in 5 research projects, which are financed by the "Science" fund on significant topics related to process management in pharmacology. Participations in a number of conferences and scientific sessions on important topics related to public health have been presented.

IV. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of the teaching-methodological and teaching activities

Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD has long teaching experience in Varna Medical University.

The candidate takes part in the teaching of basic disciplines – „Pharmacology“ and „Pharmacology and Pharmacoeconomics“ to students of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Health Management. In the reference provided has a high average annual academic load, which exceeds the requirements.

V. Conclusion

Based on the positive assessment and the analysis of the whole scientific and pedagogical work, along with the criteria of the Act for the Development of Academic Staff in Bulgaria and the Rules of the Varna Medical University, Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD shows that complies with the scientometric requirements for acquiring an academic position „Associate Professor “.


He has a well-formed research profile, there are theoretical-cognitive and practical-applied contributions from his work, active work with students as a teacher and methodological leader of their research activities. He is a member of prestigious Bulgarian and international scientific organizations, a thorough researcher and a respected lecturer. The candidate provides up-to-date, original scientific production of high quality, global significance, international recognition and significant potential for practical applicability.

After getting acquainted in detail with the documentation provided to me and making a comprehensive assessment of the research and teaching activities of the participant in the competition for the academic position of „**Associate Professor " in specialty „Public Health Management (medicinal use and pharmacoeconomics in Healthcare)**“, I think that he fully meets all requirements.

All this gives me the reason to propose **Chief Assist. Prof. Miroslav Eftimov, PhD** to take the academic position of „Associate Professor " in specialty „Public Health Management (medicinal use and pharmacoeconomics in Healthcare)“ in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional direction 7.4 Public Health, for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University „Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov“, Varna.

10.08.2023

Varna

Statement written by:.....

/ Prof. Silviya Borisova, PhD, DSc /