

OPINION

By Assoc. Prof. Silvia Gancheva Marinova, MD, PhD

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regarding

a competition for an academic position „**Associate Professor**” in **Pharmacology (incl. Pharmacokinetics and Chemotherapy)** in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, announced in SG, issue 7 /23.01.2024 for the needs of Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of Varna

Information about the competition

I present the current opinion on the basis of an Order № P-109-99/22.03.2024 of the Rector of Medical University of Varna and a decision of the Scientific Jury (Protocol №1/04.04.2024).

A candidate in the competition is **Antoaneta Borisova Georgieva, MD, PhD**. The submitted materials for the competition meet the requirements of the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations on Academic Staff Development at Medical University Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov - Varna.

Biographical data and career profile of the candidate

Antoaneta Georgieva, MD, PhD was born in 1985 in the city of Ruse. She obtained her medical master degree in 2010 at the Medical University of Varna. In 2012, she was appointed to the position of “Assistant Professor” in the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of Varna. Since 2017, she has held the position of “Chief Assistant Professor”. Dr. Georgieva hosts the disciplines “Pharmacology” and “Clinical Pharmacology” in the Bulgarian and English language programs. She is a co-author of 4 manuals on pharmacology for students of various specialties. In 2016, Dr. Georgieva acquired an educational and scientific degree “Doctor” in Pharmacology (incl. Pharmacokinetics and Chemotherapy) after a successful defense of a doctoral thesis entitled “Psychopharmacological Effects of Phenolic Acids in Experimental Pharmacological Studies” with a scientific supervisor Prof. Stefka Vasileva Valcheva-Kuzmanova, MD, PhD, DSc. Dr. Georgieva has been a scientific specialist in "Pharmacology" since 2021 and has completed an additional qualification course for work with experimental animals. Dr. Georgieva is an author of 1 monograph and a co-author of 34 scientific publications. She has participated in 44 national and international scientific forums. The research publications of Dr. Georgieva have been cited 68 times. She has taken part in 5 scientific projects. Dr. Georgieva speaks English and Russian.

Evaluation of teaching activity

The experience of Dr. Georgieva as a university teacher in the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics is more than 12 years. Dr. Georgieva is a host of seminars in "Pharmacology" for medical and dental students and "Clinical Pharmacology" for medical students. She is actively engaged in the English language course. Her average teaching activity from the last 5 academic years was 495 academic hours excluding the academic year 2018/2019 when she was on maternity leave. The academic experience and teaching activity of Dr. Georgieva are more than sufficient for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor" according to Regulations on Academic Staff Development at Medical University Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov - Varna.

Evaluation of scientific activity

Dr. Georgieva participates in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" with 1 habilitation thesis – a monograph (100 points for indicator 3, group C), 16 publications and reports published in scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information (129.6 points for indicator 7, group D) and 5 publications published in non-referenced journals with scientific review (72.5 points for indicator 8, group D). For the competition, Dr. Georgieva has also submitted 3 full-text publications in scientific journals above the minimum scientometric requirements (additional 12.48 points for indicator 8, group D). Dr. Georgieva is a first author of 9 and a second or third author of 9 of the presented for the competition publications.

Dr. Georgieva participates in the competition with a list of 7 citations of her research articles in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information (105 points for indicator 10, group E), and 3 additional citations above the minimum requirements for holding the academic position "Associate Professor".

The monograph submitted for participation in the competition as a main habilitation thesis is entitled „The traditional Bulgarian herbs lovage, savory, fenugreek – potential health benefits in relation to their high polyphenolic content“. It is dedicated to those classic spices used in traditional Bulgarian cuisine, which have not yet gained popularity as medicinal plants. In the monograph, the author has characterized the three herbs/spices from a botanical point of view and described in detail the content of biologically active substances with a special emphasis on the polyphenols. Dr. Georgieva has described the beneficial effects of the herbs' extracts and of the individual polyphenolic compounds they contain, as well as the intracellular mechanisms for their implementation. The monograph has an important scientific and practical value, as it reveals a potential for confirming the considered traditional Bulgarian spices as medicinal plants with a valuable role in the prevention and additional therapy of diseases of high medical, social and economic importance, such as disorders of energy metabolism, neurodegenerative, cardiovascular, malignant and many other diseases.

The high activity of Dr. Georgieva as a scientist is also visible from the submitted list of participations in scientific forums. She has participated in 44 conferences and congresses, 24 of which are international. The quality of her research work is evident from the submitted Supplement for impact factor of the journals in which her articles and reports have been published. The total

impact factor of Dr. Georgieva's publications amounts to 42.159, which shows that she is an established specialist in our scientific field. The h-index of Dr. Georgieva is equal to 3 according to SCOPUS and 4 according to Google Scholar.

Over the years, Dr. Georgieva's scientific research activity has been mainly devoted to conduction of experimental studies aimed at clarifying the pharmacological effects of plants and isolated polyphenolic compounds, both in healthy experimental animals and in models of acute and chronic diseases. Her scientific researches in the field of experimental pharmacology are original in their character and have a high scientific and scientific-applied contribution.

General assessment of the candidate's scientometric indicators in relation to the minimum national and specific intra-university requirements according to the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on Academic Staff Development at Medical University Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov - Varna.

Table 1 presents the comparative indicators of Dr. Antoaneta Georgieva to the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine in Medical University of Varna. Dr. Georgieva has 469.6 points in scientometric indicators and completely fulfills the minimum requirements.

Table 1. Scientometric indicators

Group of indicators	Content	Points required for academic position "Associate Professor"	Points of Antoaneta Georgieva, MD, PhD
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-
C	Indicator 3 or 4	100	100
D	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	200 (> 80 from indicator 7)	214.6 (129.6 from indicator 7)
E	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	50	105 + 3 additional citations
	Total:	400	469.6

Conclusion

Antoaneta Borisova Georgieva, MD, PhD is an established teacher and specialist in the field of pharmacology. The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition show that **Antoaneta Georgieva, MD, PhD** completely **meets** the mandatory and specific requirements and scientometric criteria specified in the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations on Academic Staff Development at Medical University Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov - Varna for occupation of academic position "Associate Professor".

In view of the above, I confidently give my **positive assessment** to Antoaneta Georgieva, MD, PhD in the competition and I offer the esteemed Members of the Scientific Jury to award Antoaneta

Georgieva, MD, PhD the academic position of “**Associate Professor**” in “Pharmacology (incl. Pharmacokinetics and Chemotherapy)” in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine.

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