

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Eliyana Panayotova Ivanova, MD, PhD

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Regarding: announced competition for acquiring of the academic position "**Associate Professor**" of "**Infectious diseases**" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine – one, 0.5 full-time position for the ES "Infectious Diseases and Parasitology", Department of "Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenerology", Faculty of "Medicine" and 1 full-time position for the First Clinic of Infectious Diseases at University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD - Varna, promulgated in State Gazette №7/23.01.2024.

In accordance with the Order №R-109-87/21.03.2024 of the Rector of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna, Prof. Dimitar Raykov, MD, PhD, DSc and the decision of the first meeting of the Scientific Jury (Protocol №1/03.04.2024), I am determined to prepare a Statement.

In the current competition, documents for participation were submitted by one candidate - **Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov Todorov, MD, PhD**. The candidate has submitted the required documents in accordance with the Regulations for the Application of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Varna, meeting their qualitative and quantitative criteria.

Short biography and career development data

Iliyan Todorov Todorov, MD, PhD was born on 19.10.1987 in the town of Gabrovo. He obtained his higher medical education in 2012 at Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. Since 2013 his professional path began as a physician in the First Clinic for Infectious Diseases at University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD, the city of Varna and as an assistant in the Department of "Infectious diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenerology", Medical University of Varna, where he works until now.

In 2017 he became a specialist of "Infectious Diseases" and in 2020 he acquired an educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the specialty "infectious diseases". After a competition in 2021 he acquired the academic position of "Chief Assistant" at the Department of "Infectious diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenerology", Medical University of Varna.

In addition to scientific and teaching activities, Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD also performs

administrative activities at MU-Varna, in the “Department of Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenereology” as an administrative assistant of the Department.

He speaks English and Russian.

Characteristic of the candidate's scientific research activity

Submitted materials for the competition: In the present competition, Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov Todorov, MD, PhD participates with a total of 17 scientific publications, which covers the minimum criteria for acquiring the Academic position “Associate Professor”.

The distribution of the scientific production is as follows:

- **Criterion A1. PhD dissertation** "Changes in the serum amyloid A protein levels in the course of some infectious diseases with viral etiology", 2020, 110 p., Varna – *50 points*
- **Criterion B3. Monograph:** Clinical course, severity and prognosis of COVID-19 in patients with comorbidity, First edition, 2022, 232 p., MU-Varna, ISBN 978-619-221-419-7 – *100 points*
- **Criterion G7. Publications and reports published in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in world databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus)** - 3 publications – *60 points*.
- **Criterion G8. Publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes** - 12 publications – *140 points*
- **Criterion D10. Citations or reviews in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in world databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes** - 2 issues – *30 points*
- **Criterion D12. Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals** - 4 issues – *20 points*

Outside of the mentioned above, one full-text publication in a Bulgarian scientific publication with ISSN is presented – 15 points.

Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD is an independent author of the implemented monography and first author in 46.7% (total of 7) of the presented scientific publications. In the remaining 8 scientific articles he is a second (6 of them) or subsequent (2 of them) co-author.

He has active scientific profiles in Google Scholar and Research Gate. The author's individual h-index is 4 according to Google Scholar.

Scientific research contributions

The contributions of the candidate's research activity are presented thematically and cover studies in the field of clinic, diagnosis and treatment of socially significant and current infectious diseases.

The research activity of Ch. Assist. I. Todorov, MD, PhD is organized in the following directions:

1. **Clinical course, laboratory diagnosis and prognosis of some infectious diseases with viral etiology.** For the first time in Bulgaria, a clinical study was conducted on the changes in the serum concentrations of SAA in patients suffering from acute infectious diseases of viral etiology, and the need to include SAA as part of the mandatory laboratory minimum in patients with acute infectious diseases was proven (A1).

In the monographic work "**Clinical course, severity and prognosis of COVID-19 in patients with comorbidity**" (B3), the author presents the results of his own observations during the examination of patients with COVID-19 and comorbidity, taking into account the negative influence of the number of chronic, pre-existing diseases on clinical course, outcome and prognosis of COVID-19.

2. **Characteristic of the clinical course of mixed infections.** In several publications (No.G7/3, G8/3, G8/4) Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD presents clinical cases in patients with mixed infections – combination of several etiological agents in the same patient, emphasizing the increased probability of clinical and biochemical relapse during the clinical course and higher risk for development of complications.
3. **Development of complications in the course of some infectious diseases, involving various organs and systems** with an emphasis on complications from the urinary tract and central nervous system (No. G7/1, G8/1, G8/2, G8/6, G8/ 7, D8/8, D8/9).
4. **Heterogeneous problems related to infectious pathology**, their socio-economic and health aspects, as well as the importance of infectious diseases among transplanted persons (No. G7/2, G8/10, G8/12).

The presented evidentiary material and contributions from Iliyan Todorov's scientific production warrants the significance, relevance and practical orientation of his works in the field of infectious diseases. Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD participated in 11 international and national scientific forums, where the results of his research activities were presented.

Assessment of the candidate's educational and teaching activities

Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD is an experienced University teacher with more than 10 years of work experience as a physician, assistant and chief assistant at the Medical University of Varna. His average study load in the last 5 academic years is 372 hours (Reference on the study load № 112-28/24.01.2024), which exceeds the required minimum of 220 hours

according to the established norm of the Academic Council of the Medical University of Varna (Protocol №30/11.04.2011).

The high professional qualification of Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD is combined with his excellent pedagogical skills in teaching the discipline of infectious diseases in the education of students from Medicine (Bulgarian and English educational program), Dental Medicine (Bulgarian and English educational program), Public Health Inspector, Midwifery, Nurse and Medical laboratory assistant. It is important to note that the fluency in English language allows to carry out full-fledged academic teaching to foreign students.

Critical notes

I have no critical remarks about the candidate.

Conclusion

Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD is an established teacher with good theoretical and practical training. His professional development in the field of infectious diseases supports the successful application of the accumulated practical knowledge and skills in the educational process. In our joint work, Ch. Assist. I. Todorov, MD, PhD is distinguished by his high professionalism, diligence, ethics and organizational skills.

The scientific production and academic workload of Ch. Assist. Iliyan Todorov, MD, PhD fully cover the mandatory scientometric criteria for acquiring the Academic Position **"ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR"**, according to the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna.

Based on the mentioned above, I propose to the members of the Scientific Jury, determined by Order №R-109-87/21.03.2024 of the Rector of the MU - Varna, **Chief Assistant Iliyan Todorov Todorov, MD, PhD to be elected as an "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Infectious Diseases" for the needs of the Educational Sector "Infectious Diseases and Parasitology", Department of "Infectious Diseases, Parasitology and Dermatovenerology", Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Varna and for the First Clinic of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital "St. Marina", Varna.**

Prepared by:

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