

REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Valentina Hristova Madzhova, MD Department of General Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov" - Varna

Regarding: The competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, in the specialty "General Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine, Department of General Medicine and Rheumatology Clinic at University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna, announced in the State Gazette, issue 45/28.05.2024.

Procedure Details: According to Order No. R-109-227/26.07.2024 of the Rector of MU-Varna and Protocol No. 24/08.07.2024 from the meeting of the Faculty of Medicine, I have been appointed as Chair and member of the Scientific Jury, and to prepare a review regarding the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" at MU-Varna and University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna in the scientific specialty "General Medicine." The competition was announced in the State Gazette, issue 45 of 28.05.2024. It complies with the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its application at MU-Varna. Based on the above-mentioned legal documents, all procedural requirements for announcing the competition, the deadline for submitting documents, and the selection of the Scientific Jury have been met. The only candidate in the competition is Chief Assistant Dr. Svetlana Hristova Hristova, PhD in Medicine.

1. Candidate's Biographical Data: Svetlana Hristova Hristova was born in 1974 in the town of Shumen, where she graduated from the Science and Mathematics High School. In 1998, she graduated as a Master of Medicine from MU-Varna. She subsequently obtained three specialties: Internal Medicine (2007), Rheumatology (2011), and General Medicine (2018). Dr. Svetlana Hristova has progressed through all stages of the medical profession during her career. She began as a general practitioner in the Emergency Medical Center and worked there for 7 years. Since 2005, she has been an Assistant in the Department of General Medicine and Clinical Laboratory. Since 2010, she has also worked as a general practitioner at the Rheumatology Clinic of University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD. Dr. Svetlana Hristova has completed two training courses in good medical practice from the Institute of Clinical Research UK. During the period 2016 - 2019, she was a regular PhD student and in 2019 she defended her thesis "Predictors and Prognostic Indices for Clinical Course and Treatment Effect in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis," earning her a PhD in General Medicine. Dr. Svetlana Hristova has participated in numerous qualification courses, postgraduate trainings, and scientific forums both in Bulgaria and abroad in the fields of General Medicine and Rheumatology. Dr. Hristova is fluent in Russian and English and possesses excellent computer skills and good communication skills with the ability to work in a team. She is a member of EURACT (European Academy of Teachers in Family Medicine), the Association of General Medicine in Bulgaria (SOIBOM), the Bulgarian Society of Rheumatology, the Bulgarian Medical Association, and ...
2. Scientific Activity, Research Activity, and Contributions:

The evaluation of the candidate for the academic position "Associate Professor" – Dr. Svetlana Hristova is comprehensive and includes research, teaching, and practical activities in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at MU-Varna. This can be presented and analyzed as follows:

I. Scientific Activity Related to Her Research Work:

The scientific activity of Svetlana Hristova Hristova is evaluated based on her actual publications. In a scientometric aspect, it can be summarized as follows:

1. Total number of scientific works - 27 Of these, 24 are included as evidence in the report for meeting the minimum requirements for holding the position of "Associate Professor," according to the 2018 Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. One publication is presented outside the evidence material for meeting the minimum requirements for the position of "Associate Professor." The total publication activity of the candidate, which includes 27 scientific papers, can be analyzed as follows: • Dissertation: 1 piece • Monograph: 1 piece; • Full-text articles: 25 pieces, of which: } in scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases: - 6 pieces } in non-referenced journals with scientific review: 19 pieces
2. Total number of citations The academic citation report from MU-Varna indicates that Dr. Svetlana Hristova has 12 citations from both Bulgarian and foreign authors.
3. Impact Factor • No data on impact factor (IF)

Evaluation of Scientific Activity The scientific interests and research carried out by Dr. Svetlana Hristova, published in articles, dissertation, and monograph, have made a significant contribution to the development of general medicine and general medical practice. The importance of her scientific work can be summarized in two aspects: original and applied science. Her dissertation "Predictors and Prognostic Indices for Clinical Course and Treatment Effect in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis" has great practical significance, as it discusses the latest possibilities for diagnosing and monitoring the treatment effects of this important socially significant disease. Her original contributions are particularly important, as this is the first in-depth and comprehensive study conducted in a clinical center in Bulgaria regarding the role of prognostic factors and the identification of those with the greatest importance for determining therapeutic behavior in patients with early RA. She also developed her own methodology for identifying patients with RA with a poor prognosis and expected aggressive disease progression. The selection of such a group of patients with RA is important for the early and aggressive treatment aimed at preventing early disability. Early referral of patients by GPs and the identification of high levels of RF and anti-CCP, along with monitoring markers of inflammatory activity and radiographic changes in RA, provide us with the opportunity to choose a clinical approach and therapeutic strategy individualized for each specific patient. Through prognostic factors, patients with the likelihood of self-limiting or very slow progression of RA can also be identified, in which aggressive treatment with potential toxicity is not necessary. I believe that this methodology has great practical and scientific potential and can be introduced as a standard for early assessment of patients with RA in routine medical practice. In Dr. Svetlana Hristova's scientific work, the role of the Bioptron for influencing pain syndrome is also of significant importance. She has numerous scientific reviews and articles in the field of general medical practice. In her monograph "Competition for the Academic Position of 'Associate Professor'," Dr. Svetlana Hristova discusses an innovative approach to patient diseases that has the potential to change how diseases are diagnosed and treated. Regarding diseases in rheumatology, there are some aspects of personalized medicine, but more research and development are needed to make significant changes in patient therapy. The application of precision personalized medicine in rheumatology can help patients receive better treatment, earlier diagnosis, and greater safety.

In the future, it may lead to better outcomes, reduced costs, and improved quality of life for rheumatology patients.

II. In summary, the scientific activity of Dr. Svetlana Hristova Hristova can be presented in several scientific directions: The presented scientific works and research results are thematically grouped into four main scientific directions:

1. Childhood obesity as a problem in general medical practice - patient-oriented approach
2. Patients with rheumatological diseases in general practice - Diagnostic and therapeutic challenges
2. Health promotion in general practice
3. Communication skills and approach to people with different chronic diseases, ethnicities, disabilities, and palliative care in general practice Dr. Svetlana Hristova has participated in 21 national and international scientific forums.
4. Teaching Activity: Dr. Svetlana Hristova has been an Assistant and lecturer since 2005 with a teaching workload of 230 hours, which exceeds the required criteria. She teaches the discipline "General Medicine" to 4th-year medical students (lectures and exercises) and to general medicine specialists. She has also taught Health Management students for Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Dr. Hristova actively participates in the development of curricula and student tests, as well as in exam sessions. Dr. Svetlana Hristova is an administrative assistant in the Department of General Medicine. She has a teaching workload of 230 hours annually, which exceeds the required standards.
5. Practical Activity: Dr. Svetlana Hristova has 25 years of professional experience and 19 years of teaching experience in general medicine. She possesses high professional competence, a significant number of additional qualifications, and skills. She has three specialties: Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, and General Medicine. In her daily practice, she treats patients with musculoskeletal disorders and works closely with colleagues from various medical specialties such as orthopedists, neurologists, GPs, and others.
6. No violations have been identified in the procedure for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor."

The objectivity of my review is not compromised by the fact that I have personal impressions of Dr. Svetlana Hristova. We have worked together since 2005 until now. The dissertation, monograph, and articles prepared by her are distinguished by their in-depth examination of problems and are characterized by a clearly defined goal, well-formulated tasks, logically correct conclusions, and precise language.

7. Conclusion: Based on the criteria set out in the "Regulations for the Application of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria at MU-Varna," I believe that Dr. Svetlana Hristova Hristova meets the requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor." She has fully fulfilled the indicators regarding research, teaching, and practical work. The 30-year academic activity has led to the development of an integrated, coherent, and multi-layered structure of new scientific achievements.

In conclusion, considering the comprehensive analysis of the presented documents and the achievements of Chief Assistant Dr. Svetlana Hristova, I find that she is a suitable candidate for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "General Medicine" at MU-Varna and University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna. Her academic activity

is systematic and purposeful, and her scientific achievements in the field of general medicine are indisputable. With her qualifications, competence, and dedication to her work, she has earned the respect of her colleagues and students. I strongly recommend Chief Assistant Dr. Svetlana Hristova Hristova, PhD for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at MU-Varna.

31.08.2024
Varna

Prepared by:
Prof. Dr. Valentina Madzhova, MD

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
2016/679