

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Zhivko Pavlinov Apostolov, MD, PhD

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According to order No. R-109-118/22.03.2024. of the Rector of the Medical University - Varna, on the basis of art. 4, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), art. 57, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Implementing Regulations of ZRASRB, art. 6, para. 1, art. 127, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff in MU-Varna and decision according to protocol No. 18/11.03.2024. of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine and protocol No. 1/04.04.2024. from a meeting of the scientific jury.

Regarding: participation in a competition for the acquisition of the academic position "associate professor" in the specialty "Psychiatry", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", field of higher education 7. "Health care and sports" - one, 0.5 full-time position for the Department of "Psychiatry and Medical psychology", Faculty of Medicine and 1 full-time position for the Second Psychiatric Clinic at UMBAL "St. Marina" EAD-Varna in connection with an advertisement published in State Gazette No. 07 / 23.01.2024.

One candidate submitted documents within the legal deadline: **Ch. assistant Tatyana Ivanova Telbizova, MD, PhD** from the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology, MU-Varna and Third Psychiatric Clinic at UMBAL "St. Marina" EAD-Varna.

Ch. assistant Tatyana Ivanova Telbizova, MD, PhD was born on January 18, 1976. She completed her higher education (Master of Medicine) in 2001 at the Medical University of Varna. Since 2017, she has acquired the specialty of "Forensic Psychiatry," and since 2019, also the specialty of "Psychiatry." In 2021, she obtained a PhD in the scientific specialty of Psychiatry. She served as an Honorary Lecturer at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at MU-Varna during the academic year 2018/2019. She has been an Assistant since 2019. Currently, she is a Chief Assistant at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at MU-Varna and the Third Psychiatric Clinic.

Member of:

- Bulgarian Medical Association
- Bulgarian Psychiatric Association

Fluent in written and spoken English.

She teaches psychiatry and medical psychology to Bulgarian and English-speaking students.

The academic load exceeds the requirements according to the standard.

The candidate has active scientific profiles in:

SCOPUS, ORCID, Google Scholar, Research Gate, etc.

Evaluation of research activity

The candidate submits a report on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the rules of MU-Varna, prepared in the Library of MU-Varna, based on information provided by the candidate and the automated information from international scientific databases. According to the submitted certificate, **Tatyana Ivanova Telbizova, MD, PhD**, meets the scientometric requirements for holding the academic position of "associate professor".

The candidate's overall publication activity comprises 17 scientific works.

Among them, 10 are included as supporting material in the reference for meeting the minimum requirements for the position of Associate Professor, according to the Regulation on the Structure and Activity of the Academic Staff in Bulgarian Higher Education Institutions from 2018. Additionally, 1 publication is presented outside the supporting material for meeting the minimum requirements for the position of Associate Professor.

For participation in the announced competition, the following are submitted:

- Abstract of the dissertation - 1 piece
- Monographic/habilitation work - 1 piece
- Full-text articles - 10 pieces, including Published reports from scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad - 5 pieces.

The main directions of scientific works are:

- Psychiatric Aspects of Pain
- Phenomenological Aspects of Pain
- Relationships between Depression and Chronic Pain
- Exogenous Psychoses

The author's scientific work reflects accumulated experience over the years, both theoretical and practical, with a primary focus on investigating the relationships between mental disorders and pain, the specifics of pain as a symptom, and its treatment in mental disorders. In addition to psychiatric aspects of pain, the author explores the influence of depression on pain at several levels - sensory, experiential, and situational. Another part of their work involves presenting clinical cases that reveal the causal relationships between emerging psychopathological symptoms and somatic diseases, their dynamics, and treatment.

Direction 1: Psychiatric Aspects of Pain (B3)

A critical and systematic analysis of significant and latest data from studies related to pain has been conducted, not only in the field of psychiatry but also from various areas of medicine and clinical psychology.

Direction 2: Phenomenological Aspects of Pain (G_7-5, G_7-6, G_7-7, G_8-1)

The scientific problem regarding the phenomenological aspects of pain is addressed in four of the presented publications, where a concept for a model of studying patients with chronic pain and depression is presented, combining qualitative and quantitative methods.

Direction 3: Relationships between Depression and Chronic Pain (G_7-3, G_7-4, G_8-2)

This group of publications examines the topic of the relationships between depression and chronic pain. The significance of this scientific problem is supported by an analysis of data from studies revealing the frequent underestimation of the influence of affective factors in the process of clinical assessment of patients with chronic pain. An analysis has been conducted revealing the need to monitor the mental state of patients with chronic pain to reduce the risk of self-harm and disability. The role of the psychiatrist in the diagnostic and therapeutic process of patients with chronic pain has been established.

Direction 4: Exogenous Psychoses (G_7-1, G_7-2)

The scientific publications in this direction present clinical cases illustrating the causal relationships between manifested psychopathological symptoms and exogenous causes.

From the presented information about the scientific research activity of Dr. Tatyana Ivanova Telbizova, MD, her scientific interests and profound theoretical knowledge in them are outlined. She works purposefully and actively to enhance her professional qualifications.

Conclusion

Tatyana Ivanova Telbizova, MD, PhD is a responsible teacher, good clinician and researcher. Its indicators for scientific research, teaching and clinical activity meet the requirements of the Recommended criteria of the Regulations for the implementation of the law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the University of Medicine - Varna.

In conclusion, everything stated so far gives me the reason to give a positive opinion and to propose to the honorable members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the awarding of the academic position "**Associate professor**", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", field of higher education 7. "Health care and sport" for the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology, Faculty of Medicine-MU-Varna and the Third Psychiatric Clinic at the St. Marina UMBAL EAD-Varna.

13.05.2024

Varna

Prepared the statement:

/Assoc. Prof. Zhivko Pavlinov Apostolov, MD, PhD/

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