

OPINION

on participation in a competition for an academic position "Associate Professor"
in the professional field 7.1 Medicine,
scientific specialty 'Hygiene (including occupational, communal, school, radiation, etc.)',
declared in State Gazette No 85/08.10.2024.
for the needs of the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology,
Faculty of Public Health
Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna

There is one candidate in the competition:
Dr. Albena Borisova Toneva, MD, PhD

Prepared: **Prof. Teodora Todorova Dimitrova, MD, PhD**
Dean of the Faculty of Public Health
Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna
Member of the Scientific Jury pursuant to Order No R-109-443/05.12.2024 of the Rector of
the Medical University of Varna

The necessary documents prepared by the applicant comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Rules for its Application and the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at MU-Varna. The deadline for submitting the documents has been observed.

Biographical data and career development of Dr. Albena Borisova Toneva, MD:

Year of birth: 27 August 1964

Education:

Master's Degree in Medicine - Medical University - Varna (1982 - 1989).

Professional route:

Physician resident, Head of the Current Sanitary Control Sector, Head of the Municipal Hygiene and Catering Department and Director of the Health Control Directorate of the Regional Health Inspectorate of Varna, successively from 1989 to 2011.

Head of Food Control Department Varna Regional Food Safety Directorate from 2011 to 2014
Physician at Immunohaematology Laboratory Regional Center of Transfusion Haematology 2014-2021

Doctor at the Military Epidemiology and Hygiene Research Centre of the Military Medical Academy since 2021

Assistant (2015) and Chief Assistant (2020) at the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Medical University Varna;

Specialty: Nutrition and Dietetics from 2022.

Member of the HAI Committee of the Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment in Varna since 2021.

Scientific degree: Protected scientific and educational degree "Doctor" on the topic:

"Food status of children with neuropsychiatric diseases and its relation to the quality of life of parents and caregivers" (2019)

Assessment of quantitative and qualitative scientific indicators:

The assessment of the candidate for the academic position of Associate Professor, Dr Albena Toneva, is complex and includes research, teaching and practical activities in accordance with the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at the Medical University of Varna. It can be presented and analysed as follows:

1) Total number of scientific developments

The total publication activity of the candidate contains 43 scientific papers.

Of these, Dr Toneva is presented in the current competition for AD „Associate Professor“. ZRASRB with:

- ✓ Dissertation: 1 'Food status of children with neuropsychiatric diseases and its relationship to the quality of life of parents and caregivers', 2019;
- ✓ Habilitation work: 1 'Food aspects of the silent pandemic – autism and childhood cerebral palsy' 2024;
- ✓ Full-text articles: 17 scientific papers and five abstracts, of which:
 1. Full-text publications in scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information – 4.
c: Nursing (1), Journal of IMAB (2), and Bulgarian Journal of Public Health (1), ;
 2. Abstracts in conference proceedings, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information – 5
c: Folia medica (1), EAPS Virtual Congress (2), Annual meeting of ESPGHAN (2);
 3. Full-text publications in Bulgarian editions with scientific reference – 11
c: Biomedical Reviews (1), Varna Medical Forum (1), Field Crops Studies XIV (1), Scripta Scientifica Medica (1), Scripta Scientifica Salutis Publicae (1), International Journal of Biomedical and Advance Research (1), Preventive Medicine (1), International Electronic Scientific and Practical Journal "WayScience" (4);
 4. Full-text publications in collections of scientific conferences – 2
c: Proceedings of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria Section Medicine and Ecology (1) and Proceedings of the Scientific Conference 'Sustainable Science for Safe Food' EFSA(1);

Out of the 2 publications thus presented, the evidence of compliance with the minimum loan requirements for Docent AD is out of the question.

The total number of points from the indicators (G5-9) is 215.57, which cover the mandatory minimum of 200 points according to the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at the Medical University of Varna

2) Authorship:

From the actual publications in magazines, collections and monographs of the competition for Academic Position "Associate Professor", Dr Toneva is the first or sole author in 3 /13,6% / of articles, second author in 13 /59.1%/of articles and third and consecutive author in 27.3%.

3) Citation:

According to a reference from NACID, Dr. Toneva's scientific works have been cited 4 times in foreign publications and 1 time by a Bulgarian author.

Dr. Toneva presents evidence of 61 participations in scientific congresses and conferences in the form of reports or posters.

Dr. Albena Toneva participates in 4 scientific projects and has active scientific profiles in: Google Scholar, Research Gate, ORCID and Scopus.

4) Teaching activities:

Dr. Albena Borisova Toneva is Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology since 2020. She leads lectures, practical exercises, and seminars with medicine, dentistry and pharmacy students and trainee doctors.

In the presented certificate for a realized academic workload of the applicant at MU - Varna for the period of the last **five** consecutive years shows the following:

2019/2020 - audience occupancy - 261 hours;

2020/2021 - auditory occupancy - 359 hours;

2021/2022 - auditory occupancy - 337 hours;

2022/2023 - auditory occupancy - 435 hours;

2023/2024 - auditory occupancy - 425 hours;

i.e. for the last 5 years her average annual academic workload amounts to 363,4 hours and is fully sufficient for her participation in this competition. By order of the Rector of MU-Varna from October 2022, Dr. Toneva was elected as course leader of 2nd year students in Public Health Protection and Control.

CONCLUSION

Prof. Dr. Albena Borisova Toneva, MD, presents evidence of scientific and educational achievements in the field of hygiene and occupational medicine. Its scientific output and the documents submitted meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at MU-Varna.

On the basis of the above, I allow myself to give **my positive** assessment and recommend to the honourable scientific jury to also support the awarding of **Chief Assistant Dr. Albena Borisova Toneva, PhD, to the** academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Hygiene (including occupational, communal, school, radiation, etc.)" for the needs of the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology at the Medical University of Varna.

24/02/2025

Varna

Prepared:

(Prof. Teodora Todorova Dimitrova, MD, PhD)

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