

# **R E V I E W**

**BY**

**Prof. Dr. Elena Dimitrova Dimitrakova, M.D., Ph.D.**

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External member of the Scientific Jury, appointed by the Order of the Rector of Medical University - Varna No.R-109-108/ 29.01.2025 on the basis of the Decision of the AC - Protocol No. 33 of 20.01.2025.

Concerning: procedure for acquiring the academic position of "Assoc. Professor" in Obstetrics and Gynecology, field of higher education 7.Health and Sport, professional field 7.1 Medicine in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Faculty of Medicine at MU - Varna, announced in State Gazette No. 101 / 29.11.2024.

Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Simona A. Georgieva, M.D., Ph. D. is the only applicant.

## **I. CAREER PROFILE OF THE CANDIDATE:**

Dr. Simona Georgieva, M.D., Ph. D. was born in 1992. She graduated with a Master's Doctoral Degree at the Medical University - Varna with excellent grades in 2016. She obtained her specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2021, and during the period 2017-2021 she was a full-time Ph.D. student at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

She successfully defended her dissertation on: "Ovarian Response, Embryo Quality and Ectopic Pregnancy" in 2021, thus obtaining her Ph.D. degree. Since 2019 she has been an assistant

professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of Varna, and since 2022 and currently - a senior assistant professor.

The candidate attests numerous additional qualification training courses: Ultrasound Diagnostics in Obstetrics and Gynecology Practice, Theoretical and Practical Training in Fetal Morphology, Certified Clinical Embryologist at ESHRE, Diagnostic Laparoscopy in Gynecology, Diagnostic and Office Hysteroscopy, FMF Certificate of Competence and license on "11-13 weeks scan", "Preeclampsia screening", "Cervical assessment", etc.

She has presented papers in numerous scientific forums and in a project for the Science Fund of Medical University of Varna on "Correlation between ultrasound diagnostics and immunohistochemistry in early and late miscarriages".

She is fluent in English.

Member of the Bulgarian Medical Association and the Bulgarian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

## **II. RESEARCH ACTIVITY:**

Dr. Georgieva, M.D., Ph. D. participated in the current competition with a total of 27 scientific papers covering the period 2015-2024: 25 publications, 1 dissertation and 1 monograph. Four of the papers are referenced and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science journals, 18- in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. In 1 of the above mentioned publications the candidate is an independent author, in 4 - first author, in 9 - second author, etc.

The IF of the journals in which the candidate has publications in the period 2022-2024 is 5.464..

The submitted evidences contain the following research papers:

Dissertation for the award of Ph. D. degree on "Ovarian response, embryo quality and ectopic pregnancy".

Indicator A1 (50 points).

Habilitation thesis in the form of a monograph: "Follow-up of pregnancies after assisted reproductive technologies- risks, complications and recommendations for prevention":

Indicator B3=100 pts.

Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information (Scopus and Web of Science only)

Indicator G7= 126 pts.

Total points in Category G5-9 = 218 points.

Citations and/or reviews in scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases (Scopus and Web of Science only):

Total points Indicator D10-12 = 75 points.

The candidate's research activity is devoted to several main areas:

#### **- Assisted reproductive technologies**

Potential complications and their possible association with high-risk pregnancies are addressed, as well as prevention options and recommendations for timely therapy. Ovarian response as a major component of treatment success and the possibilities of influencing it by individualizing treatment protocols are explored. Emphasis is placed on Chlamydia infection as the main "culprit" for pelvic inflammatory disease and subsequent infertility. Current methods of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of complications are proposed.

The tubal factor and the role of reconstructive tubal surgery is discussed.

The current application of thawed embryo transfer in ART programs in recent years is analyzed.

The role of psychic prophylaxis and empathy as part of the treatment of infertile couples is pointed out.

#### **- Prenatal medicine**

Some of the publications in this field are devoted to the peculiarities of consulting affected families and follow-up of pregnancies with established fetal malformations. A thorough analysis of ultrasound markers in the first trimester with the aim of early diagnosis and avoidance of complicated cases with subsequent need for interventions late in pregnancy in case of

termination for medical reasons is performed. The place of non-invasive tests in modern prenatal medicine is also discussed.

#### **- High-risk pregnancy**

Current trends to delay the timing of achieving first pregnancy require increased care and prophylaxis because of women's advanced age and possible expected comorbidity. In this sense, publications in this field are dedicated to the follow-up and complications of high-risk pregnancies. Management protocols have been proposed for conditions concomitant to pregnancy with a focus on certain infections- TORCH, COVID-19 , UTIs, etc.

#### **- Endoscopy and office surgery**

The role of office hysteroscopy as an effective method in the context of assisted reproductive techniques is well established.

### **III. TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES:**

Dr. Georgieva, M.D., Ph. D. participates in the education of students in Bulgarian and English languages. Her teaching load is certified by reference No. 112-4/10.01.2025, which shows that it, amounts to:

2019-2020 - 278 teaching hours

2020-2021 - 118 teaching hours

2021-2022- 100 teaching hours

2022-2023 - 384 teaching hours

2023-2024 - 348 teaching hours

#### **IV. CONCLUSION:**

The materials submitted in this application illustrate in an excellent manner the upward career development of the candidate. The active research activity deserves admiration. There is full compliance with the national requirements in the ADASRB(Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria) and its implementation at the Medical University - Varna.

In view of the above, I support and recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the appointment of Senior Assistant ProfessorDr. Simona A.I Georgieva, Ph.D., M.D. as Assoc. Professor.

22.03.2025

Plovdiv

Review by:

/Prof. Dr. Elena Dimitrakova, M.D., Ph.D./