

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pavel Dobrev, MD

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Regarding: procedure for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor in professional field 7.1. Medicine, specialty Obstetrics and Gynecology, announced in the State Gazette No. 101/ 29.11.2024, for the needs of Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov Medical University – Varna

to Dr. Simona Anzhel Georgieva, MD

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CAREER PROFILE OF THE CANDIDATE

Dr. Simona Georgieva was born in 1992. She graduated from medicine with honors in 2016 at the Medical University - Varna when she was enrolled as a specialist in obstetrics and gynecology, and in 2021 she acquired a specialty in "Obstetrics and Gynecology". Since 2019 she has been an assistant professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Medical University - Varna, and since 2022 she has held the academic position of "Chief Assistant". In 2021 she acquired the scientific degree "Doctor" with a dissertation on the topic "Ovarian response, embryo quality and ectopic pregnancy". In 2024 she published a monographic work on the topic "Follow-up of pregnancies after assisted reproductive technologies - risks, complications and recommendations for prevention".

Her scientific and professional interests are focused on the field of assisted reproductive technologies, prenatal diagnosis and high-risk pregnancy. She has completed a number of specialized courses in these areas, and actively participates with reports at national and international scientific forums.

II. SCIENTIFIC - RESEARCH ACTIVITY AND SUBMITTED MATERIALS

Total publication activity – 27 scientific papers, of which: dissertation “Ovarian response, embryo quality and ectopic pregnancy” – 1; monographic work “Follow-up of pregnancies after assisted reproductive technologies –

risks, complications and recommendations for prevention” – 1; 24 full-text publications, of which 4 are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), outside the habilitation work and 1 outside the minimum scientific-metric requirements, published in a journal with an impact factor.

Dr. Georgieva is an independent author in 1 of the publications; first author in 4 of the scientific papers and second author in 9 of them.

Information on participation in 42 scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad is presented.

III. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELDS

Dr. Georgieva's research activities are in the following main areas:

1. Assisted reproductive technologies
2. Prenatal medicine
3. High-risk pregnancy
4. Endoscopy, office surgery

In connection with the presented scientific developments, I can highlight the following contributions to scientific and practical activities:

- All aspects of treatment through assisted reproductive technologies are examined with an assessment of the associated risks of complications and proposed recommendations for reducing the frequency of complications. Innovative procedures in embryology are examined, such as artificial aspiration of blastocle in order to increase the success rate of thawed embryo transfer. A large part of the developments are aimed at studying the quality of embryos and the influence on the outcome of the procedure. Attention is drawn to the need for training of staff in INF clinics on approaches to counseling, reporting failure of the procedure performed, and building trust with the couple in order to continue treatment and deal with disappointment and aggression among couples due to repeated failure. For the first time, the influence of embryo quality on pregnancy outcome is studied

- Some of the scientific studies are focused on the problems of modern prenatal diagnosis and the peculiarities of counseling families and monitoring pregnancies with established fetal malformation. The attention of specialists is drawn to the need to improve prenatal care due to the lack of specialized departments of prenatal medicine outside the regional cities and the need to improve the qualifications of personnel outside these departments. Of particular interest is the analysis of early ultrasound markers in the first trimester for prediction of the risk of chromosomal abnormalities and late obstetric complications.

- Part of Dr. Georgieva's publication activity is related to the management of high-risk pregnancies, in particular cases of acute viral infection such as the TORCH group and in particular the increased need for COVID and pregnancy research. The need for a multidisciplinary approach, collaboration between specialists from different fields and updating of protocols for diagnosis and management of pregnancy and concomitant diseases in order to reduce the risk to the mother and fetus is emphasized.

- Modern trends in the treatment of gynecological pathology and infertility are mini-invasive procedures as a reliable, gentle and organ-preserving method of surgical treatment. The main topic of the publications is to establish the place of office endoscopy in the treatment of female infertility. Qualitative diagnostics through this instrumental method, before upcoming APT procedures, increases the chance of subsequent clinical pregnancy. The diagnostic accuracy of three-dimensional ultrasonography and subsequent hysteroscopy is compared, the role of diagnostic office hysteroscopic procedures as a mandatory procedure before IVF treatment is studied. The place of ultrasound diagnostics is confirmed as a reliable and effective method with high diagnostic accuracy regarding intrauterine pathology and congenital anomalies of the uterus. The place of office hysteroscopy is confirmed as an effective method for treating infertility without the need for anesthesia, dilation of the cervical canal and hospital stay.

IV. TEACHING ACTIVITY

The submitted reference for the candidate's academic workload certifies as follows:

2019/2020 - lectures 4 hours ELT, lectures BLT - 14 hours, exercises ELT - 260 hours

2020/2021 - exercises ELT - 118 hours

2021/2022 - lectures 4 hours ELT, exercises ELT - 96 hours

2022/2023 - lectures 8 hours ELT, exercises ELT - 376 hours

2023/2025 - lectures 6 hours ELT, exercises ELT - 342 hours

Dr. Georgieva conducts practical exercises for students of Medicine, Dentistry and Midwifery.

V. CONCLUSION

The submitted materials meet the requirements of the Law on the Academic Development of the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations for its implementation and the relevant Regulations of MU-Varna.

Given the above, I give my positive assessment and recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to support the appointment of Dr. Simona Anzhel Georgieva, MD, PhD, to the academic position of Associate Professor.

21.03.2025

Prepared by:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pavel Dobrev, MD

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