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REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Deyan Lyudmilov Dzhenkov, MD

Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology,
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REGARDING: Competition for "Assoc. professor" in the field of higher education

7. Healthcare and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, specialty "General and Clinical Pathology", at the Faculty of Medicine, Department of "General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology", MU-Varna and Clinic "Clinical Pathology" at UMBAL "Sveta Marina" EAD - Varna, according to an announcement in State Gazette, no. 85/08.10.2024. By order of the Rector of the MU - Varna No. P-109-437/05.12.2024, I was elected as an internal member of the Scientific Jury, and on the basis of Protocol No. 1 of a meeting of the Scientific Jury, I am assigned to prepare a review. Documents for the competition were submitted by - Dr. Martina Georgieva Stoeva, MD, chief assistant at the Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology, at the Medical University - Varna.

I. Analysis of the candidate's career development

Dr. Martina Stoeva was born on February 22, 1988. in Blagoevgrad. He graduated with honors from the "Dr. Petar Beron" Mathematical High School, Varna in 2006.

He obtained a master's degree in medicine with excellent results at the Medical University - Varna in 2012. After graduating in 2013 begins specialization in the "General and Clinical Pathology" Clinic at the "St. Marina" EAD - Varna.

In 2015 is a part-time assistant at the Department of General and Clinical Pathology at the Medical University - Varna, and in 2017 through a competition, she was selected as a full-time assistant at the department. As an assistant, Dr. Stoeva conducts practical classes in all taught disciplines with medical and dental students in the Bulgarian and English language training program.

Dr. Stoeva participated in the diagnostic process of the clinic in General and Clinical Pathology and acquired a specialty in "Pathology and Cytopathology" in 2018. with a diploma with reg. No. 021479/20.02.2018

Dr. Stoeva successfully defended her dissertation on the topic: "Immunohistochemical expression of the necroptosis marker RIPK3 in breast carcinoma" in 2022. and in the same year, through a competition, she was selected as the main assistant in the Department of General and Clinical Pathology at the Medical University - Varna.

The management of the UMBAL "Sveta Marina - Varna" has issued Dr. Stoeva a certificate for more than 7 years of work experience in the specialty.

II. Scientific indicators

For this competition, the candidate has submitted for review a total of 24 publications in scientific journals, distributed as follows:

- abstract of a dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "doctor": Immunohistochemical expression of the necroptosis marker RIPK3 in breast carcinoma (Group of indicators A 1)
- habilitation work - monograph: Pathomorphology of prostate carcinoma Publishing House of MU - Varna, ISBN: 978-619-221-469-2 (Group of indicators B 3)
- 10 articles published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Group of indicators G7)

- 6 publications in peer-reviewed journals and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (Group of indicators D8)
- Reference for citations (Group of indicators D10)

The dissertation studies the alternative form of cell death (necroptosis) in breast carcinoma and in particular - the expression of the necroptotic marker RIPK3 compared to the expression of the proliferative marker Ki67, the receptor status, in relation to clinical indicators, such as age, stage and progression-free survival of patients. The mechanisms of occurrence and the role of in breast carcinoma are examined. The immunohistochemical expression of appropriately selected markers for both processes are compared with clinico-morphological parameters using several assessment scales. The importance of autophagy and necroptosis for the overall survival of patients, their potential prognostic value and a profile of patients with an increased risk of death from breast cancer are discussed. It is established that low expression of RIPK3 is associated with aggressive biological behavior, while high expression of RIPK3 is associated with better survival, with the necroptosis marker being an independent prognostic factor. The dissertation is assessed at 50 points, which meets the requirements of Indicator A1.

The monograph presented as a habilitation thesis is also in the field of oncopathology. It represents an in-depth review of the normal anatomy and histology of the prostate gland and the tumor processes that arise in it. The emphasis falls on prostate cancer - etiology, modern classification, staging, determination of Gleason score and ISUP Grade groups, benign lesions, imaging diagnostics, including magnetic resonance imaging. The monograph is evaluated at 100 points, which meets the requirements of Indicator B 3.

To cover Group D indicators, Dr. Stoeva has provided for review 10 articles published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information, another six articles in non-refereed journals and one article beyond the minimum requirements for "Associate Professor".

The first group includes:

- two articles on experimental models of the role of vitamin K in metabolic syndrome and its influence on calcium metabolism in conditions of deficiency. Both publications are joint with pharmacologist colleagues
- three large demographic studies on head and neck tumors, glial and intracranial tumors
- four case reports
- one study on the diagnostic significance of cytokeratin as an epithelial marker in the differential diagnosis of glioblastomas

The articles from the second group thematically present separate elements of the monograph, pathology of adipose tissue, salivary gland tumors and one literature review on the topic of Tetraspanin 151 and carcinogenesis.

Part of the works are in collaboration with various clinicians - they include description and morphological assessment of biopsy and experimental materials. The total score of this scientific production is 224.31 with a required minimum of 200 points. Thus, the minimum requirements of Group of indicators G are met.

The Library of the Medical University of Varna has issued an Academic Report on the publications and citations of Dr. Stoeva, which certifies that four citations have been found, corresponding to 60 points. This meets the requirements of Group of indicators D and testifies for the reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in the periodical literature.

The publishing activity of Dr. Stoeva, thematically covers almost all spheres, with a large part of the scientific developments being the work of authors from different medical specialties, which testifies to the ability to work in a team.

III. Teaching and learning activity

Medical University of Varna issues a Report on Dr. Stoeva's academic workload for the last five years (Exh. No. 112-476/24.10.2024), from which it

can be seen that she has about 7 years of teaching experience as an assistant and chief assistant, having conducted an average of 250-300 hours of classes per year, including English language training, in addition to the two-year period before that as a part-time assistant, the total teaching and experience is about 9 years .

IV. Therapeutic and diagnostic activity

Dr. Stoeva masters the basic methods of diagnostic pathology and makes efforts to follow the innovations in the specialty by participating in various events to maintain the qualification - diagnostic seminars and learning of new methods and diagnostic algorithms.

V. CONCLUSION

The documentation submitted for the Competition is in full and meets the procedural requirements in the normative documents for associate professor. The candidate's scientific output corresponds to the required criteria. Based on familiarization with the presented scientific works, their significance, the scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained in them, I vote positively for Dr. Martina Stoeva to occupy the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 7.1. Medicine, area 7. Health care and sports.

23.02.2025 г.
Varna

signature:
(Assoc. Dr. Deyan Dzhenkov, MD, PHD)

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