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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. Nadezhda Stefanova Todorova, 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. Nadezhda Stefanova was born on 10.12.1986 in the town of Pavlikeni and graduated from secondary education at Bacho Kiro Secondary School -

natural sciences and mathematics, with intensive study of English in her hometown. In 2011 he obtained a Master's degree in Medicine from the Medical University of Varna with excellent results. After graduation, she began working as a doctor in the Clinic of Pathology at the University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD - Varna, and in 2012 she was selected through a competition for assistant professor at the Medical University - Varna, and in the same year she began specialization in "General and Clinical Pathology".

In 2018. Dr. Stefanova successfully defended her dissertation on "Expression of markers for autophagy and necroptosis in colon carcinoma", and subsequently after a competition she held the position of Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Pathology at the Medical University - Varna.

He acquired a specialty in Pathological Anatomy and Cytopathology in 2019. In the period 2014-2020, she worked on eight scientific projects.

Dr. Stefanova makes efforts to follow the novelties in the specialty and regularly participates in various events to maintain qualification - diagnostic seminars, mastering new methodologies and diagnostic algorithms.

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": Expression of markers for autophagy and necroptosis in colon carcinoma (Indicator group A 1)

Habilitation work - monograph: Myeloproliferative neoplasias. Past, present and future. MU Publishing House - Varna, 2023, ISBN: 978-619-221-471-5 (Indicator Group B 3)

11 articles published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (G7 indicators)

11 publications in non-refereed journals with scientific peer review and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Indicator Group G8)

Reference for citations (Indicator group D 10)

The dissertation examines the mechanisms of occurrence of alternative types of cell death - autophagy and necroptosis in colon cancer. The immunohistochemical expression of markers for necroptosis was compared with clinical and morphological parameters. The importance of autophagy and necroptosis for the overall survival of patients, their potential prognostic value is discussed, and a profile of patients with an increased risk of death from colon carcinoma is determined. The dissertation is evaluated at 50 points, which covers the requirements of Indicator A1.

The monograph presented as a habilitation work is an in-depth literature review and analysis of myeloproliferative neoplasias. The emphasis is on the morphological changes in the bone marrow in individual myeloproliferative processes and the differential diagnosis of bone marrow trepanobiopsies. The monograph is evaluated at 100 points, which meets the requirements of Indicator B 3.

To cover Indicator Group D, Dr. Stefanova has submitted for review 11 articles published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information and another 11 articles in non-refereed journals. Thematically, these articles present individual elements of the doctoral thesis and monograph, as well as cases from the practice of the pathologist. The total sum of points from this scientific production is 203.02. This meets the minimum requirements of Indicator Group D, which meets them.

An academic transcript from the library of MU Varna on the publications and citations of Dr. Stefanova certifies that four citations have been found that correspond to 60 points. This meets the requirements of Indicator Group E and indicates a reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in the periodical literature.

III. Teaching and learning activity

Medical University Varna - Study medicine in Bulgaria has issued a Report on the workload of Dr. Stefanova for the last five years, which shows that she has more than 12 years of teaching experience and has conducted over 250 hours of classes in all disciplines taught at the Department with students of medicine and dental medicine, Bulgarian and English-language training, including individual lectures from the lecture course.

She also performed administrative activities, such as – course supervisor of the fourth year "Medicine" in the English-language program in the period 2016-2023.

The habilitation work and some scientific publications contribute to the clarification of the mechanisms of occurrence of myeloproliferative neoplasms and establish additional morphological changes in the bone marrow.

A significant part of Dr. Stefanova's scientific activity is occupied by descriptions of casuistic cases from the practice of the pathologist.

IV. Therapeutic and diagnostic activity

Dr. Stefanova is proficient in the basic methods of diagnostic pathology and makes efforts to follow the novelties in the specialty by participating in various events to maintain qualification - diagnostic seminars, pedagogical courses, mastering methodologies and diagnostic algorithms.

V. CONCLUSION

The documentation submitted for the Competition is in full volume and meets the procedural requirements in the regulatory documents. The candidate's scientific production corresponds to the necessary criteria. I am impressed by the personal and professional qualities of the candidate and I believe that she fully meets the conditions for holding the position. Based on the acquaintance with the presented scientific works, their significance, the scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to propose Dr. Nadezhda Stefanova to occupy the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 7.1. Medicine, area 7. Health and sports and I vote positively for this with full conviction.

23.02.2025 г.
Varna

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

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
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