

**To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
Appointed by Order № R-109-69/28.01.2026
of the Rector of Medical University – Varna**

STATEMENT

By Prof. Dr. Stanislav Slavchev, DSC

Department of Healthcare, Sliven Affiliate, Medical University of Varna

Regarding: The procedure for holding the academic position of **Associate Professor** in the field of higher education **7. Healthcare and Sports**, professional area **7.1. Medicine**, scientific speciality **Obstetrics and Gynaecology**, open for the needs of the Department of Healthcare, Shumen Affiliate, MU-Varna, announced by MU-Varna in the State Gazette No. 102 of 28.11.2025.

One candidate has been admitted to the procedure for Associate Professor – **Yonka Ivanova Kornovska, MD, PhD**, Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Healthcare – Shumen Affiliate, Medical University "Prof. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna. The procedure complies with regulations of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (19/07/2022) and with the Regulations for Academic Staff Development at MU-Varna (27/05/2025). The candidate has submitted all documentation required.

Biographical Data

Dr. Yonka Ivanova Kornovska, PhD, completed her higher education at the Higher Medical Institute in Pleven in 1999 with honours. In 2005, she obtained her Certificate of Completion of Special Training (CCST) in Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Medicine. She has practised in the speciality during the periods 2004–2005 and from 2015 to present at: Maichin Dom Medical Complex – Varna, the Women's Health Centre "Prof. Yavor Kornovski", and the Gynaecology Clinic at St. Anna Hospital – Varna. Since 2020, she has been teaching at MU-Varna, the Department of Healthcare, Shumen Affiliate, as a part-time assistant professor. In 2020 – 2021, she became a full-time assistant professor. Since 2023, she has held the position of Chief Assistant Professor at the same academic unit. In 2021 to 2022, the candidate conducted training and research under a doctoral program at the Department of Midwifery at MU-Pleven, in the speciality of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. In 2022, she defended a doctoral thesis on: *Treatment of Cervical Precancerous Lesions by Large Loop Excision (LLETZ) in an Outpatient Setting*, for which she received her PhD. She has an excellent command in English.

I. Analysis and Evaluation of Research and Scientific Output

Yonka Ivanova Kornovska, MD, PhD, has an impressive publication record, with 81 written scientific works and 63 presentations at national scientific forums. For this procedure, the candidate has submitted 38 full-text publications and participations in scientific forums. Dr.

Yonka Kornovska is a co-author of 21 full-text papers, which substitute for cumulative habilitation. These are published in impact-factor journals, referenced and indexed in the international databases WOS and SCOPUS. In addition, the candidate is a co-author of 11 other full-text papers and a participant in scientific forums (10 in section D of the minimum scientometric requirements and 1 beyond the minimum scientometric requirements), also published in impact-factor journals, referenced and indexed in WOS and SCOPUS. Sixteen research papers are published full-text in national non-refereed journals. In most papers, Dr. Kornovska is the second or a subsequent author. She is the first author of 2 publications. The candidate's research addresses important issues in obstetric and gynaecological practice: cervical cancer – precancerous lesions, prognostic markers, and reproductive problems; hereditary syndromes in gynaecologic oncology; anatomical structures and surgical techniques in gynaecologic oncology; the application of the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) program; and rare clinical cases. They can be grouped into 4 main areas: 1) Anatomical considerations and surgical techniques in operative gynaecology; 2) ERAS and prehabilitation; 3) Erbium lasers in gynaecology; 4) Gynaecologic oncology.

The candidate's scientific achievements and contributions span original, applied, and methodological in nature. Three original contributions address the surgical treatment of locally advanced vulvar carcinoma, enhanced recovery after surgery, and laser treatment of genitourinary syndrome in menopause. She has 9 practical contributions related to: surgical treatment of gynaecologic oncology diseases in women of reproductive age and during pregnancy; the application of erbium laser in gynaecological practice; specific components of the ERAS program; investigation of the vascular anatomy of the anterior abdominal wall to support laparoscopic surgery; and rare clinical cases. Regarding complex surgical techniques in gynaecology (Hudson's procedure, retroperitoneal access, hypogastric artery ligation in cases of massive pelvic bleeding). Dr. Kornovska provides guidance on their execution in her scientific papers. Her publications also provide methodological guidance on specific components of the ERAS program and on the treatment of urinary incontinence. The submitted research output meets the scientometric requirements for the position of Associate Professor.

According to Google Scholar, the candidate's scientific works have accumulated 281 citations in the international literature (as of 03/03/2026). The total impact factor is 112.3. The candidate's Hirsch index is 10. The academic reference for this procedure presents a list of 10 citations that meet the minimum scientometric requirements.

II. Teaching and Academic Activity

Dr. Yonka Kornovska joined the teaching staff of the Department of Healthcare, Shumen Affiliate at MU-Varna in 2020. Initially, she was a part-time assistant professor for one academic year, and subsequently, as a full-time assistant professor. Since August 2023, she has been appointed as Chief Assistant Professor at the same department. Her total teaching experience exceeds 5 years. Over the past five years, the candidate's teaching workload has averaged 216 hours per year, including practical exercises and examinations.

III. Assessment of Diagnostic and Treatment Activity

The total number of surgical interventions performed by Dr Yonka Ivanova Kornovska over three years is 259, including various surgical gynaecological procedures. In order to master and improve various surgical techniques and skills, Dr. Yonka Ivanova Kornovska has completed

qualification courses in colposcopy levels I and II, hysteroscopy levels I and II, laparoscopy levels I and II, and ultrasound in obstetrics and gynaecology.

In conclusion, Dr. Yonka Ivanova Kornovska is an accomplished obstetrician-gynaecologist with extensive clinical experience and additional qualifications. The candidate's research output and teaching experience meet the requirements of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for Academic Staff Development at MU-Varna. I confidently encourage the respected Scientific Jury to vote in favour of awarding Dr Yonka Ivanova Kornovska the academic position of Associate Professor in the scientific speciality of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, for the needs of the Department of Healthcare, Shumen Affiliate, Medical University of Varna.

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
2016/679

03/03/2026

.....
Prof. Stanislav Slavchev, MD, DSC