

**To the Chair of the Scientific Jury
appointed by Order No. R-109-132/16.03.2026
of the Rector of the Medical University – Varna**

REVIEW

prepared by

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Subject: Competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional area 7.2. Dental Medicine, specialty “Oral Surgery,” at the Department of Oral Surgery, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University – Varna, announced in the State Gazette, issue No. 6 of January 16, 2026.

I hereby submit my review in my capacity as a member of the scientific jury (pursuant to Order No. 109-132/16.03.2026 issued by the Rector of the Medical University – Varna) regarding the competition for the appointment to the academic position of Associate Professor in the scientific specialty “Oral Surgery,” announced for the needs of the Department of Oral Surgery at the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University – Varna. The review has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), its Implementing Regulations, as well as the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring academic degrees and holding academic positions at the Medical University – Varna.

A single candidate has applied for the announced competition - Chief Assistant Prof. Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, DMD, PhD. She has submitted all documents required under the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring academic degrees and holding academic positions at the Medical University – Varna.

1. Career Profile of the Candidate – Biographical Data

Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, PhD, was born on September 29, 1981, in Varna.

In 2006, she graduated in Dental Medicine from the Faculty of Dental Medicine at MU–Plovdiv.

In 2012, she acquired a specialty in “Oral Surgery”.

From 2009 to 2010, she served as a **part-time Assistant Professor** in “Oral Surgery” at the Department of Oral Surgery, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

From 2010 to 2020, she held a **full-time position as Assistant Professor** in “Oral Surgery,” and since 2020 to the present, she has been serving as Chief Assistant Professor at the same department.

From 2016 to 2018, she was a **PhD student in independent training** at the Department of Oral Surgery, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

In 2018, she successfully defended her dissertation titled: **“Components of Oral Health in Patients with End-Stage Chronic Kidney Disease Undergoing Hemodialysis Treatment.”**

Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva conducts teaching activities in Oral Surgery for dental students in their 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th years, in both Bulgarian and English educational programs at the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

She has provided official documentation certifying a total teaching experience of 15 years, 10 months, and 1 day, with an average teaching workload of 410 hours as an Assistant over the past five years.

Her most recent attestation evaluation is “Very Good.”

Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva is a member of the Bulgarian Dental Association and the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Dental Medicine.

She is proficient in English, both written and spoken.

2. Research Activity

For the purposes of the announced competition, Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, PhD, has submitted a total of 27 scientific publications reflecting her research activity over the period 2017–2025, as follows:

Scientific Publications	Points
Publications in refereed and indexed scientific journals	18
Publications in non- refereed journals	9
Monographs	1
Dissertations	1

Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, PhD, has submitted a monograph entitled: **“Influence of Age and Certain Comorbidities on Individual Oral Health”**.

The work constitutes an independent, comprehensive study with both theoretical relevance and practical applicability. Its timeliness is determined by the ongoing advancement of medical and dental science and practice, in which the quality of dental care provided is of paramount importance.

The monograph serves as a valuable resource for dental practitioners as well as for physicians from various medical specialties.

According to the submitted documentation, the candidate has authored a total of **27** full-text articles published in national and international journals, **18** of which are in peer-reviewed and indexed editions, including **2** publications with an impact factor.

The submitted scientific publications demonstrate effective teamwork, with the candidate participating both as author and co-author, as follows:

First author – 8 publications

Second author – 10 publications

Third author – 6 publications

Co-author – 3 publications

Publications in peer-reviewed and indexed scientific journals – 18 in various reputable editions:

- Giornale Italiano di Nefrologia
- Acta Medica Bulgarica
- Journal of IMAB
- Nursing
- CEMA (Communications, Electromagnetic and Medical Applications)
- Bulgarian medical journal
- Folia Medica
- Cureus
- Children (MDPI)

Publications in non-indexed journals – 9

- Varna Medical Forum
- Journal of the Union of Scientists – Varna. Medicine and Ecology Series
- Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference of Medical and Health Sciences, 2021, Bingöl, Turkey. ISBN: 978-625-7720-70-0.

– Proceedings of the 8th International Congress on Innovative Scientific Approaches, 23–24 November 2022, Samsun, Türkiye. ISBN: 978-625-6380-89-9.

– Proceedings of the UMTEB – XIII International Scientific Research Congress, June 2023, Paris, France. ISBN: 978-625-8254-22-8.

According to the impact factor report, Dr. Nenova has a cumulative impact factor **(IF) of 2,1**.

Group A – Indicator 1: 50 points (out of a required 50)

Group B – Indicator 3: 100 points (out of a required 100)

The scientometric indicators for **Groups A and B** are fully met.

Group G – Indicators 5–9:

Dr. Nenova has accumulated a total of **402.5** points (out of the required 200), distributed as follows:

– G.7: 302.5 points

– G.8: 100 points

Indicator D – 10 –26 citations **300 points**

Indicator E - total of **40 points**

Indicator J - **1042 points**

Total: 1934.5 points

Total point without indicator J- 892,5 points

According to the submitted citation report, Dr. Nenova’s scientific works have been cited a total of **26** times, demonstrating good international visibility.

Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva has participated in **19 scientific events, both nationally and internationally**.

The report on her research activity, as reflected in her publications, outlines contributions in the field of Oral Surgery that are of an original, scientifically applied, and confirmatory nature. The candidate’s **scientific output and research interests** cover a broad range of areas within Oral Surgery.

In Direction 1 – “The Significance of Oral Pathological Changes in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease Undergoing Hemodialysis Treatment” – a total of 6 publications are presented (G.7.1, G.7.2, G.7.5, G.7.7, G.8.1, G.8.2).

This topic addresses a globally relevant health issue, given the increasing prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD). Oral manifestations are observed in approximately 90% of

patients with renal disease and are particularly associated with the end stage of CKD. The publications are primarily practice-oriented and support dental practitioners and oral surgeons in the accurate diagnosis and appropriate management of these conditions within an interdisciplinary framework.

In Direction 2 – “Anatomical and Morphological Characteristics of Edentulous Jaws. Pre-prosthetic Specialized Preparation of the Oral Cavity” – three scientific publications are presented (G.7.9, G.7.12, G.8.7).

These publications examine the anatomical landmarks of the prosthetic field, the degree and type of bone atrophy, and their impact on the stability and functional efficiency of complete denture constructions. The contributions emphasize the importance of pre-prosthetic surgical preparation of the prosthetic field as part of a comprehensive therapeutic approach in patients with unfavorable anatomical conditions of both bone and soft tissues, with the aim of improving functional outcomes and the prognosis of prosthetic treatment.

In Direction 3 – “Surgical Treatment of Third Molars. Concepts for Functional Assessment. Functional Evaluation of the Masticatory Apparatus after Surgical and Prosthetic Treatment” – a total of 4 publications are presented (G.7.3, G.7.10, G.7.11, G.8.6).

The contributions related to the topic of impacted mandibular third molars focus on clarifying the position of retained wisdom teeth within the jawbone and the functional disturbances associated with their development. The studies also identify potential complications following their extraction, which should be taken into consideration during surgical intervention. Notably, this is the first study conducted in Bulgaria assessing masticatory function in patients with impacted mandibular third molars.

With regard to the topic “Functional Evaluation of the Masticatory Apparatus after Surgical and Prosthetic Treatment,” two publications are presented (G.7.3, G.8.6).

The scientific contributions in this area are of an applied nature and are focused on assessing the condition and efficiency of the masticatory apparatus in patients who have undergone surgical and prosthetic treatment. Changes in the main characteristics of masticatory function have been identified, and their dynamics following surgical intervention have been monitored.

In Direction 4 – “Oral Implantology as Part of Comprehensive Functional and Aesthetic Oral Rehabilitation” – two scientific publications are presented (G.7.8, G.8.3).

The contributions of these publications focus on the analysis and substantiation of the application of oral implantology as an integral component of comprehensive functional and aesthetic oral rehabilitation in patients with partial or complete edentulism, including those with unfavorable anatomical conditions. Clinical and imaging criteria for implant treatment planning are discussed, along with the possibilities for full oral rehabilitation in

the presence of bone and soft tissue deficiencies. Various approaches to bone augmentation using different grafting materials are also presented.

These contributions are aimed at defining the role of oral implantology within comprehensive oral rehabilitation and at achieving optimal long-term functional and aesthetic outcomes through an interdisciplinary approach.

In Direction 5 – Description of Clinical Case Reports (G.7.17) – one publication is presented.

The contributions of this publication are related to the presentation and analysis of a rare clinical case of a benign pigmented lesion of the oral mucosa, which poses diagnostic challenges and requires differential diagnosis with malignant conditions.

The contributions are predominantly of a scientifically applied nature and are focused on outlining the diagnostic approach to benign pigmented lesions of the oral mucosa, as well as reinforcing the role of surgical treatment and histological examination in the diagnostic process when malignancy is suspected.

In Direction 6 – “Oral Pathology in Children with Neuropsychiatric Disorders” – two scientific publications are presented (G.7.6, G.7.18).

The scientific contributions in this area are of an applied nature and focus on the investigation of oral health, occlusal relationships, and functional disorders in children with neuropsychiatric conditions, with particular emphasis on their impact on masticatory function, nutritional status, and quality of life. The importance of early diagnosis and a comprehensive therapeutic approach is highlighted.

Publication (G.7.18) systematizes and summarizes contemporary literature data on oral health in children with autism spectrum disorders. It presents the prevalence and characteristics of the main oral diseases, as well as the specific challenges associated with maintaining effective oral hygiene. Emphasis is placed on the importance of an individualized, prevention-oriented, and interdisciplinary approach as a basis for optimizing dental care and improving oral health in this patient group.

In Direction 7 – “Intraoral Pharmacological Management of Oral Lesions in Patients after Dental Treatment” – three scientific publications are presented (G.7.4, G.7.14, G.7.15). The scientific contributions in this area are also of an applied nature and are focused on the assessment of oral hygiene habits, adaptive processes, and the healing of mucosal lesions in patients with removable prosthetic constructions.

The research output is structured across several thematic areas, with the contributions broadly grouped into three main categories:

Theoretical contributions

- Expansion of knowledge regarding oral manifestations of chronic systemic diseases.
- Systematization of anatomical and morphological characteristics.

Methodological contributions

- Introduction of objective methods for the assessment of masticatory function.
- Development of approaches for functional analysis following surgical treatment.

Practical contributions

- Improvement of diagnostic approaches in oral lesions.
- Optimization of surgical and prosthetic treatment.
- Demonstration of the effectiveness of pharmacological agents.

The contributions are clearly defined and demonstrate a **high level of clinical applicability**.

3. Academic workload and teaching activities

The academic workload of Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, PhD is primarily associated with conducting practical training in Oral Surgery for dental students in their 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th years. According to the submitted documentation, her academic workload over the past two academic years meets the requirements for appointment to the academic position of **Associate Professor**, amounting to a total of **884 hours: 458 hours for the 2024–2025 academic year and 426 hours for the 2023–2024 academic year**.

Indicator J: 1042 points

– Academic workload: 442 points

– Academic position: 600 points

Total score across all indicators: 1934.5 points

Total point without indicator J- 892,5 points

Conclusion:

Dr. Anna Nenova-Nogalcheva is an established academic and clinician in the field of Oral Surgery, demonstrating strong commitment and sustained contributions to teaching. The candidate **meets and exceeds** the national scientometric criteria and has successfully progressed through all stages of her academic career. The materials submitted for the present competition reflect commendable personal qualities, effective teamwork, responsibility, organization, and a high level of professional competence.

Based on the above, I provide a **positive assessment** of her professional, research, and teaching activities, as well as of her scientific interests and contributions.

Following a thorough analysis of the submitted documentation in accordance with the established criteria, and considering the evidence of Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva's overall academic performance, together with my personal impressions of her professional qualities and competence, I conclude that she fully meets the national requirements set forth in the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring academic degrees and holding academic positions at the Medical University – Varna. This provides sufficient grounds for me to cast a **confident vote in favor** of her appointment to the academic position of **Associate Professor** in the professional field of Dental Medicine, scientific specialty "Oral Surgery," for the needs of the Department of Oral Surgery at the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University – Varna.

Sofia
01.05.26

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
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Reviewer :
(Prof. Dr. Elitsa Deliverska-Aleksandrova, DMD, PhD)