

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: Procedure for the competition for the academic position of **Associate Professor** in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional field 7.2. Dental Medicine, specialty “Oral Surgery” at the Department of Oral Surgery, Faculty of Dental Medicine – Varna, announced in State Newspaper, issue 6/16.01.2026

Pursuant to Order No. R-109-132/16.03.2026 of the Rector of the Medical University – Varna, I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury with the task of preparing a review.

The competition is attended by Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, MD, PhD – the sole candidate. She is currently a Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Oral Surgery, Faculty of Dental Medicine, MU–Varna.

The competition materials were provided within the legally established timeframe. The documentation set is arranged in accordance with the regulations of MU–Varna and complies with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria.

I. Biographical Data

Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, MD, PhD, was born on 29.09.1981 in Varna.

In 2006, she graduated in Dental Medicine from the Faculty of Dental Medicine at MU–Plovdiv. In 2012, she obtained a specialty in Oral Surgery.

From 2016 to 2018, she was a PhD student in independent training at the Department of Oral Surgery at the 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.”

Since 2009, Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva has been working as an assistant at the Department of Oral Surgery, FDM – MU Varna.

From 2009 to 2010 – part-time assistant.

From 2010 to 2020 – full-time assistant.

From 2020 to present – Chief Assistant Professor.

She conducts practical training in Oral Surgery for dental students (3rd–6th year, Bulgarian and English programs).

She has documented 15 years, 10 months, and 1 day of teaching experience and an average teaching load of 410 hours over the past 5 years.

Her latest evaluation is “Very Good.”

Member of the Bulgarian Dental Association.

Fluent in French and English.

II. Research Activity

Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva participates in the competition for the academic position of **Associate Professor** with 29 scientific works (2017–2025):

- Dissertation – 1
- Monograph – 1
- Publications – 27

Monograph:

“Influence of Age and Certain Comorbidities on Oral Health” (2022), ISBN 978-619-221-391-6, 131 pages.

This is an independent comprehensive study with theoretical and practical relevance. It is valuable for both dental and medical professionals.

Language distribution:

- Published in Bulgarian – 7
- Published in English – 20

Distribution of scientific works according to the author's position in the creative team:

- First author – 8
- Second author – 10
- Third author – 6
- Fourth or later – 3

Distribution of scientific papers published in refereed and indexed journals:

Publications in refereed and indexed scientific publications – 18

Published in the following journals:

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

Publications in non-refereed journals – 9

Published in the following journals:

- 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.

The presented scientific papers and the results of Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva's research work are divided thematically and are presented in a table as follows:

№	Scientific Areas	Publication Numbers from academic reference	Scientific Contributions
1.	<i>Oral pathological changes. Their significance in patients with chronic kidney disease undergoing hemodialysis (six articles)</i>	(G 7.1, G 7.2, G 7.5, G 7.7, G 8.1, G 8.2)	The topic addresses a significant global health problem due to the increasing incidence of chronic kidney disease (CKD). Oral symptoms are observed in 90% of patients with kidney disease and are associated with the terminal stage of CKD. The publications are mainly practice-oriented and assist general practitioners in recognizing typical oral manifestations in this patient group.
2.	<i>Anatomical and morphological characteristics of edentulous jaws. Pre-</i>	(G 7.9, G 7.12, G 8.7)	The publications examine the anatomical landmarks of the prosthetic field, the degree and type of bone atrophy, as well as their impact on the stability and functional efficiency of total prosthetic

	<i>prosthetic specialized preparation of the oral cavity (three publications)</i>		constructions. The contributions of the publications are related to the systematization of the anatomical-morphological features of the edentulous jaws and to the confirmation of the importance of preprosthetic surgical preparation as part of the complex therapeutic approach in patients with unfavorable anatomical conditions, in order to improve the functional outcome and prognosis of prosthetic treatment.
3.	<i>Surgical treatment of third molars. Concepts for functional assessment (three articles)</i>	(G 7.3, G 7.10, G 7.11)	The contributions of the publications on the topic of "impacted mandibular wisdom teeth" are related to clarifying the position of impacted wisdom teeth in the jawbone and the functional disorders that occur as a consequence of their growth and extraction and which should be taken into account when conducting dental treatment. For the first time in our country, a study was conducted to assess chewing in patients with difficult eruption of a mandibular wisdom tooth
4.	<i>Dental implantology as part of comprehensive functional and aesthetic oral rehabilitation (two publications)</i>	(G 7.8, G 8.3)	<p>The contributions of the publications are related to the analysis and justification of the application of dental implantology as an integral part of the complex functional and aesthetic oral rehabilitation in patients with partial and complete edentulism, including in the presence of unfavorable anatomical conditions. The clinical and imaging criteria for planning implantological treatment are considered, as well as the possibilities for oral rehabilitation in the presence of bone deficiency.</p> <p>The contributions are predominantly of a scientific-applied nature and are aimed at substantiating the place of dental implantology in the complex oral rehabilitation, as well as at achieving long-term functional and aesthetic results through an interdisciplinary approach.</p>
5.	<i>Benign diseases in the maxillofacial region (one publication)</i>	(G 7.17)	The contributions of the publication are related to the presentation and analysis of a rare clinical case of a pigmented lesion of the oral mucosa of a benign nature, creating diagnostic difficulties and requiring differential diagnosis with malignant diseases. The clinical, imaging and pathoanatomical criteria have been reviewed, which are of essential importance for the correct diagnosis and therapeutic

			<p>behavior of pigmented lesions in the maxillofacial region. The contributions are predominantly of a scientific-applied nature and are aimed at presenting the diagnostic approach to benign pigmented lesions of the oral mucosa, as well as at confirming the role of surgical treatment and histological examination in the diagnostic process in cases of suspected malignant disease.</p>
6.	<p><i>Functional assessment of the masticatory apparatus after surgical and prosthetic treatment (two publications)</i></p>	<p>(G 7.3, G 8.6)</p>	<p>Scientific contributions in this area are of a scientific-applied nature and are aimed at assessing the condition and efficiency of the masticatory apparatus in patients who have undergone surgical and prosthetic treatment.</p> <p>In a publication (G 7.3), the influence of surgical extraction of a partially impacted mandibular third molar on masticatory efficiency in the early postoperative period was studied by applying objective and subjective methods of analysis. Changes in the main characteristics of masticatory function were established and their dynamics were monitored after the surgical intervention.</p> <p>The second publication (G 8.6) presents a clinical case related to complications after endodontic and prosthetic treatment, emphasizing the importance of assessing the functional condition of the masticatory apparatus when planning subsequent therapeutic behavior.</p>
7.	<p><i>Oral pathology in children with neuropsychiatric disorders (two publications)</i></p>	<p>(G 7.6, G 7.18)</p>	<p>Scientific contributions in this area have a scientific-applied nature and are aimed at studying oral health, occlusal relationships and functional disorders in children with neuropsychiatric disorders, with an emphasis on their impact on masticatory function, nutritional status and quality of life.</p> <p>Publication (G 7.6) analyzes the relationship between the type of bite and nutritional status in children with neuropsychiatric disorders. It was found that non-physiological occlusal relationships are associated with impaired masticatory function and an increased risk of compromised nutritional status, emphasizing the role of early diagnosis and a</p>

			<p>comprehensive therapeutic approach.</p> <p>Publication (G 7.18) systematizes and summarizes contemporary literature data on oral health in children with autism spectrum disorders. The frequency and characteristics of the main oral diseases are presented, as well as the specific difficulties in maintaining effective oral hygiene. The emphasis is on the importance of an individualized, preventively focused and interdisciplinary approach as the basis for optimizing dental care and improving oral health in this patient group.</p>
8.	<i>Intraoral pharmacological management of oral lesions after dental treatment (three publications)</i>	(G 7.4, G 7.14, G 7.15)	<p>In publication (G 7.4) a comparative study of the frequency of oral hygiene in patients with prosthetic structures and healthy controls was conducted. It was found that patients with prosthetically restored chewing apparatus maintain a significantly lower frequency of effective oral hygiene compared to healthy individuals, and age and behavioral factors influencing these habits were analyzed, which emphasizes the need for targeted prevention.</p> <p>In publications (G 7.14, G 7.15) the beneficial effect of 0.20% chlorhexidine gel on the healing of traumatic lesions of the oral mucosa in the adaptation period after prosthetic treatment was proven, and faster recovery was found in lesions of smaller size and with prolonged use.</p> <p>Scientific contributions in this area are of a scientific-applied nature and are aimed at assessing oral hygiene habits, adaptation processes and healing of mucosal lesions in patients with removable prosthetic structures.</p>

The mandatory report on citation and impact factor of Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva's publications, prepared by the Library of the Medical University - Varna, shows the following distribution:

Of Dr. Nenova's scientific works, **18** have been published in journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information.

The scientometric indicators of groups A and B have been met.

In group of indicators **G 5 - 9**, Dr. Nenova collects a total of **402.5** points out of the required 200.

According to the prepared report on the citations of Dr. Nenova's scientific works, it is evident that they have been cited a total of **26** times.

The impact factor report shows that Dr. Nenova has a total IF of **2.1**.

Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva has participated in 19 scientific events in Bulgaria and abroad.

From everything presented so far, it follows: Dr. Anna Nenova-Nogalcheva meets the mandatory scientometric criteria set out in the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna for holding the position of Associate Professor.

III. The contributions of Dr. Nenova-Nogalcheva's scientific production are in the following areas:

1. Oral pathological changes. Their significance in patients with chronic kidney disease on chronic dialysis treatment.
2. Anatomical and morphological features of edentulous jaws. Preprosthetic specialized preparation of the oral cavity.
3. Surgical treatment of third molars. Concepts for functional examination.
4. Dental implantology as part of complex functional and aesthetic oral rehabilitation.
5. Benign diseases in the maxillofacial region.
6. Functional assessment of the masticatory apparatus after surgical and prosthetic treatment.
7. Oral pathology in children with neuropsychiatric diseases.
8. Intraoral pharmacological influence on oral lesions in patients after dental treatment.

IV. Academic workload and teaching activities

The academic workload of Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, MD is related to conducting practical exercises in Oral Surgery for students of 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th year. According to the submitted report, the academic workload exceeds 410 hours per year for the last 5 years and is sufficient to hold the academic position of "**Associate Professor**".

V. Conclusion

The materials provided to me for participation in the competition for the position of Associate Professor in the specialty "Oral Surgery" at the Department of "Oral Surgery" at the Medical

University - Varna are in accordance with the Regulations and Rules of the University. The documents have been prepared without omissions.

Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, MD, meets the mandatory requirements for the position of "**Associate Professor**", according to the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna. The candidate has submitted a monographic work, summaries in Bulgarian and English of the publications in their entire development, a reference for the contributions, a self-assessment according to the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria required by the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna.

Based on everything stated so far, I confidently give my **positive assessment** and recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for awarding "**Associate Professor**" in the field of higher education: 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.2. Dental Medicine, specialty "Oral Surgery" at the Department of "Oral Surgery" of **Dr. Anna Kirilova Nenova-Nogalcheva, MD.**

17.04.2026
Sofia

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