

To
Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
Determined by Order № P-109-264 / 30/07/2026
Of the Rector of MU – Varna

Concerning Protocol №1 / 10/08/2026

Applied I present: Statement

on the competition for the academic position of “Associate Professor” in Periodontology and Diseases of the Oral Mucosa, in the field of the higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.2. Dentistry, published in the Government Newspaper (issue 50 / 02/06/2026) and on an approved proposal by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Dental Medicine (protocol №3/ 25/06/2026), for the needs of the Department of Periodontology and Dental Implantology at FDM, MU – Varna.

Statement prepared by: Assoc. Prof. Miglena Ilieva Balcheva-Eneva, DMD, PhD

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Dr. Tsvetalina Ivanova Gerova-Vatsova, DMD, PhD is the only candidate participating in the competition. According to the regulation, materials are submitted on paper and electronic media, including all necessary documents following the requirements of LDASRB, the Regulations for its implementation, and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at MU – Varna (Art.126).

I. Analysis of the career profile of the candidate

1. Education and qualification

It is established from the documentation, that the candidate, Dr. Tsvetalina Ivanova Gerova-Vatsova, meets the requirements of the competition: she has obtained a master's

degree in Dentistry at Medical University of Varna in 2017 (diploma № 0004647), has also acquired specialty in Periodontology and Diseases of the Oral Mucosa in 2023 (diploma № 4975), and obtained PhD degree in the scientific specialty Therapeutic Dentistry in 2023 (diploma № 633).

2. Work experience

Dr. Gerova-Vatsova has a total professional experience (working and teaching) as of 08/06/2026 – 08 years 10 months 20 days, of which 06 years 07 months 09 days as an assistant professor and 02 years 00 months 24 days as a chief assistant professor.

3. Academic workload and teaching activity

The academic workload report shows that Dr. Gerova-Vatsova's teaching workload and activity meet the requirements.

4. Administrative-academic activity

Since 2017, Dr. Gerova-Vatsova has been working as an assistant professor, and since 2024 as a chief assistant professor, in the Department of Periodontology and Dental Implantology at FDM, MU – Varna, taking part in the educational course of the subject Periodontology and Diseases of the Oral Mucosa. From 2019 to 2023, she was a full-time doctoral student on the topic: "Studying the results of the application of autogenous, platelet-rich plasma at regenerative therapy of vertical bone defects". From 2023 to 2024, she served as the administrative coordinator for the same department.

II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

The submitted documents are complete and well-organized in a logical sequence according to the requirements of the competition.

III. Evaluation of the scientific work of the candidate for her overall academic development

Dr. Gerova-Vatsova submitted for this competition a total of 20 scientific full-text publications that are not related to the dissertation work. The scientific production includes: 1 dissertation, 1 monograph, 9 publications in refereed and indexed journals (Scopus/Web of Science), 7 publications in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals and 3 additional publications.

Her dissertation work on "Studying the results of the application of autogenous, platelet-rich plasma at regenerative therapy of vertical bone defects " was evaluated by a

Scientific Jury. Criterion A of the minimum requirements for obtaining the academic position of "associate professor", according to the LDASRB, is fulfilled.

In her individually published monograph "Regenerative periodontal therapy" (Varna, 2025, ISBN 978-619-221-542-2), Dr. Gerova-Vatsova presents the principles of periodontal regeneration, as well as the key regenerative methods, surgical techniques, and biomaterials, applied in regenerative periodontal therapy across 190 pages. The monograph includes 459 bibliographic sources and is illustrated with 19 tables and 58 figures. Reviews are written by Prof. Dr. St. Peev and Assoc. Prof. Dr. M. Miteva-Hristova. The topics of the monograph and the dissertation do not overlap, but complement each other wonderfully. **Criterion C of the minimum requirements for obtaining the academic position of "associate professor", according to the LDASRB, is fulfilled.**

I accept all publications in lists D7 and D8, presented by Dr. Gerova-Vatsova. Their total score is 464 points (402 points from refereed and indexed journals, and 62 points from peer reviewed journals), with which **criterion D of the minimum requirements for obtaining the academic position of "associate professor", according to LDASRB is fulfilled.** I do not think that the additional articles are necessary. The topics of the publications are in several areas: regenerative periodontal therapy, periodontitis, post-extraction ridge resorption, furcation defects, etc. Dr. Gerova-Vatsova is single author in 6 of her articles, and first author in 5 of the others. The total impact factor of the journals in which the candidate has published is 15.2.

IV. Evaluation of the contributions of the scientific work

The reference of the contributions of the scientific work of Dr. Tsvetalina Gerova-Vatsova related to her participation in the competition for Associate Professor testify about her interests in the following scientific fields:

- Regenerative periodontal therapy – A1; C3; D7.1, D7.2, D7.3, D7.4, D7.5, D7.6, D7.7;
- Periodontitis – D7.8; D8.1, D8.2, D8.6, D8.7;
- Treatment of orofacial communications – D7.9;
- Post-extraction ridge resorption– D8.3, D8.4, D8.5.

I believe that original, cognitive, scientific-applied and confirmatory contributions can be defined in these fields.

V. Reflection (citation) of the candidate's publications in national and foreign literature (publication image)

Dr. Gerova-Vatsova presents 12 citations (150 points): 9 citations in refereed and indexed journal and 3 citations in non-refereed peer reviewed journals. Thus, **criterion E of the minimum requirements for obtaining the academic position of “associate professor”**, according to LDASRB is fulfilled.

VI. Comprehensive assessment of the quality of methodological and teaching activities

Dr. Gerova-Vatsova has demonstrated very good professional, scientific and teaching qualities during her work experience.

VII. Critical remarks and recommendations

I do not fully accept the formulation regarding the scientific fields of the submitted work – they do not cover all the publications.

VIII. General evaluation of the candidate's compliance with the mandatory requirements and quantitative scientometric criteria

Dr. Gerova-Vatsova meets the general requirements of the competition for obtained master's degree in Dentistry, acquired medical specialty, obtained PhD degree in the scientific specialty Therapeutic Dentistry, as well as the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria required for AP "Associate Professor".

IX. Conclusion

Materials and data, presented by Dr. Tsvetalina Ivanova Gerova-Vatsova, DMD, PhD at the competition, give me the reason to believe that according to the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for implementation of LDASRB, and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at MU – Varna, the candidate fulfills the requirements for academic position “Associate Professor” of Periodontology and Diseases of the Oral Mucosa. I recommend to the esteemed Scientific Jury to award Dr. Tsvetalina Ivanova Gerova-Vatsova, DMD, PhD the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional field 7.2. Dentistry for the needs of the Department of Periodontology and Dental Implantology at the Faculty of Dental Medicine of MU – Varna.

Varna

Prepared by:

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(Assoc. Prof. Miglena Ilieva Balcheva-Eneva, DMD, PhD)