

STATEMENT

by

Prof. Dr. Mariana Yordanova Dimova – Gabrovska, PhD, DSc,

Internal member of the scientific jury, determined with order of the Rector of MU – Varna,
№ P-109-591/18.12.2020

Subject:

Procedure for holding the academic position "**Associate Professor**" Degree in the "Paediatric dentistry" specialty, in the University Education Area 7. Healthcare and Sport, in the professional direction 7.2. Dental medicine and Scientific specialty of "Paediatric Dental Medicine" (State Gazette, issue 86 / 06.10.2020) and on the grounds of Art. 139, paragraph 1, paragraph 2, paragraph 3, paragraph 4 and paragraph 5 of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at MU-Varna.

Candidate:

Chief Assistant Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD - Department of Paediatric Dentistry, FDM, MU - Varna

Dr. Dobrinka Damyanova, PhD is the only candidate participating in the competition. According to the regulation, the candidate has submitted on electronic media a complete set of materials, including all necessary documents in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, the Regulations for the development of the academic staff in MU-Varna and the Minimum scientific requirements of MU-Varna.

I. Candidate's career profile brief data

Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD was born on February 15, 1973 in the city of Vidin. In 1997 she graduated with a master's degree in dentistry. In 2003 she acquired the "General dentistry" specialty and in 2014 the "Paediatric Dentistry" specialty. From 2015 to 2017 she was a full-time PhD student at the Department of Paediatric dental medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine, MU-Varna. In 2017, after successful defending a dissertation on topic: " Prevention and treatment of initial dental caries with fluoride varnishes in children from 3 to 6 years" Dr. Damyanova acquired the educational and scientific degree "PhD" in "Paediatric Dentistry" at the Medical University - Varna. In the period 2008-2016 she was a full-time assistant at the Department of Paediatric dental medicine at the FDM – Varna, and since 2016 she has been a Chief assistant at the same department.

II. Scientific research activity

Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD has submitted an academic report reflecting the minimum scientific requirements of the Medical University - Varna for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in accordance with the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Medical University - Varna.

Dr. Dobrinka Damyanova presented the following evidence for the fulfillment of the criteria for the individual groups of indicators:

Group A: dissertation for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" titled "Prevention and treatment of initial dental caries with fluoride varnishes in children from 3 to 6 years" - **50 points**.

Group B: Habilitation work - monograph titled "Invasive treatment of irreversible pulpitis of primary teeth", 2020, ISBN 978-619-221-255-1; - **100 points**.

Group D: A total of 13 publications have been presented, of which:

Indicator 7: Publications and reports published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information / Scopus and Web of Science / - **6 - 270 p.**

Indicator 8: Publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific peer-review or published in edited collective volumes - **7 – 135 p.**

In 6 of all publications Dr. D. Damyanova is an independent author, of the remaining 7 she has been the first author.

Total number of points in Group D: 405 p.

Group E:

Indicator 10: Citations or reviews in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes - **3 – 45 p.**

Indicator 12: Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals with scientific review - **9 - 45 p.**

Total number of points in Group E: 90 p.

Dr. D. Damyanova has had scientific profiles in five databases: Google Scholar, Research Gate, ORCID, ResearcherID, eLibrary.

A list of 10 participations in national and international scientific forums is attached - 6 of the participations are abroad, 4 in Bulgaria.

The main thematic areas in the scientific works cover the following areas:

- Invasive treatment of irreversible pulpitis of primary teeth;
- Cariesology - diagnosis and treatment of cavitated carious lesions;
- Prevention and non-invasive treatment of non-cavitated carious lesions;

III. Evaluation of the scientific works contributions

The contributions presented by Dr. D. Damyanova are described clearly and precisely. They are divided into three main areas covered in her research activity. The contributions are of original, scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature.

Invasive treatment of irreversible pulpitis of primary teeth

1. The current clinical cases examined illustrate the most common diagnoses and the steps involved in preparing a treatment plan.

2. The separate chapters present case studies as a basis for discussing various treatment options, including preventive and non-operative treatment of initial caries, operative treatment of cavitated lesions and choice of endodontic therapy for the treatment of irreversible open and closed pulpitis.

3. The methodological approach supports the trend in case-based and problem-based training, comprehensively covering the full range of endodontic treatment for pulp inflammation of primary teeth.

4. Provides final reference work on the methods of endodontic treatment of primary teeth.

5. Clinical cases in endodontics are an ideal source of information for students who are preparing for clinical examinations and studying the latest treatment protocols based on real evidence.

6. To describe the proposed concepts, more than 100 instructive illustrations, tables, graphs and photos have been produced.

Cariesology – diagnosis and treatment of cavitated carious lesions

1. Methodologies and techniques for various non-operative, minimally invasive and operative procedures are proposed.

2. For the first time an in vitro study was performed of the processes of de- and remineralization with formation and growth of crystals occurring on the enamel surface of primary teeth.

3. It has been proven for the first time that the acid forms deep irregularities on the enamel surface, in which the globules of calcium fluoride are well protected.

4. For the first time the efficiency of mineralizing fluoride varnish CV (CLINPRO White Varnish with TCP 3M TM) was studied in order to be applied for non-invasive treatment and remineralization of the initial dental lesions of primary teeth.

5. The conducted instrumental study with DIAGNOdent Pen in clinical conditions improves the diagnosis and the need for early treatment of carious lesions d I and d2 in the primary dentition.

Prevention and non-invasive treatment of uncavitated carious lesions

1. The works include contributions from clinically innovative methods in the field of preventive and non-operative treatment of the initial caries with mineralizing and fluoride varnishes.

2. Criteria for remineralization of carious lesions dI and d2 have been developed.

3. A protocol for the clinical methodology of application of CV varnish (CLINPRO White Varnish with TCP 3M TM) has been created.

4. The in vivo study conducted of the remineralization processes occurring on the enamel surface by means of mineralizing varnish for 1 year shows the favorable results of the non-invasive treatment with the varnish for the primary teeth in the studied group of children.

IV. Teaching activities evaluation

The average training load of Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD reflected in the academic reference for the study employment, shows many times higher workload, compared to the norm of 360 hours: 2015/2016 – 384 hours, 2016/2017 – 446 hours; 2017/2018 – 508 hours; 2018/2019 – 380; 2019/2020 – 406. Total number – 2124 hours. She participates in both Bulgarian and English language training of students.

V. Personal impressions

My personal impressions of Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD are for a consistent and Excellent researcher. Dr. Damyanova is distinguished by tolerance, ability to work in a team and willingness to cooperate in various fields of dental medicine.

VI. Critical notes

I don't have any.

VII. Conclusion

Chief Assistant Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD covers the minimum requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" with a total of 645 points, exceeding the required 400 points.

According to the Law for Development of the Academic staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for application of Law for Development of the Academic staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for development of the Academic Staff of MU-Varna, the candidate Dr. Dobrinka Mitkova Damyanova, PhD meets the requirements for holding the academic position of "associate professor".

All this gives me reason to convincingly vote in favor of the awarding of the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 7.2. Dental medicine and scientific specialty "Paediatric dentistry" for the needs of the Department of Paediatric dental medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine at MU - Varna.

10.02.2021
Sofia

Statement by::
Prof. Dr. Mariana Dimova – Gabrovska, PhD, DSSc

