## STATEMENT

from

## Prof. Dr. Darina Naydenova Hristova, MD, PhD Head of the Department of Hygiene at the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Faculty of Public Health Varna Medical University "Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna

**About:** The competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, speciality "Epidemiology" - one, for the needs of the Academic Sector "Epidemiology", Department of "Hygiene and Epidemiology", Faculty of "Public Health", according to an announced in the State Gazette No. 59/26.07.2022

By order No. R-109-382/26.09.22 of the Rector of the University of Varna, I was elected as a member of the Scientific Jury, and according to Protocol No. 1 of the first meeting of the Faculty of Medicine, I was appointed to prepare the present statement on the hiring procedure in the academic position of "associate professor" in the specialty "Epidemiology". The only candidate in the competition is ch. assistant Miglena Asenova Kolarova- Dimitrova, MD, PhD. The competition procedure has been followed and the applicant's documents are in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna and the criteria laid down in it for occupying the academic position of "associate professor".

**Professional qualification:** Chief Assistant Miglena Asenova Kolarova-Dimitrova was born in 1972 in the city of Varna. She completed her medical education in 1996 at the Medical University - Varna. After graduating, he worked successively at United Regional Hospital Complex(URHC) IW in Shumen, Military Medical Academy and UMHAT "St. Marina" Varna, Medical Center "Dr Emilova" and RHI – Varna. Since 2015 is an assistant at the University of Varna, Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov. In 2019 successfully defended a dissertation on the topic "State and prospects of the epidemiological surveillance and control of HIV/AIDS in the Varna region" And in 2020 won a competition for the main assistantship in the Department of "Hygiene and Epidemiology". From 2020 holds the position of hospital epidemiologist at Specialized obstetrics and gynecology hospital for active treatment (SOGHAT) - Varna "Prof. Dr. Dimitar Stamatov". She acquired two medical specialities - "Internal Diseases" in 2003 and "Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases" in 2012.

**Characteristics of the competition materials:** The list of scientific works includes 5 publications in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information; publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes – 5 items; 1 dissertation on the topic "State and prospects of the epidemiological surveillance and control of HIV/AIDS in the Varna region", 1 monograph and 2 publications beyond the minimum scientometric requirements.

Brief description of scientific research activity: the publication activity of Dr. Kolarova currently includes 55 scientific papers. 14 scientific works have been submitted for participation in the current competition, of which - 1 monograph and 12 full-text publications (4 in Bulgarian, 7 - in English and 1 - in Russian). Five of the publications are in journals, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information. The candidate is an independent author in 3 of the publications and first author in 6 of the presented articles.

Dr. Kolarova participated in 23 international and national scientific forums with 49 scientific announcements in various areas of the candidate's scientific interests.

Assessment of scientific contributions: The creative pursuits of ch. assistant professor Miglena Asenova Kolarova-Dimitrova are aimed at solving important for practice issues of public health:

1. HIV/AIDS

A\_1; B\_7-5; D\_8 -1, D\_8-2

One of the most significant educational contributions in this direction is the development and approval of the "Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS" freely chosen discipline for students of Bulgarian- and English-language training from the specialties "Medicine" and "Nursing" with the aim of improving the system for epidemiological supervision and control for prevention and risk management in the Varna region.

2. ZOONOSES. RAGE. B\_3; D\_7-4; D\_8-5

## 3. EPIDEMIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A\_1; B\_3; D\_8-2; D\_8-4

## 4. HAIs. OCCUPATIONAL RISK

The publications of ch. as. prof. Miglena Asenova Kolarova-Dimitrova are in different spheres of biological risks and epidemiology. Her interests include, in addition to issues related to AIDS, also various zoonoses, viral hepatitis and nosocomial infections, incl. in the conditions of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Educational and teaching activity: Dr. Kolarova has nearly 7 years of teaching experience at the MU - Varna with a regular teaching load of over 400 hours for the last 5 years. She trains students, interns and specialists from the Faculty of Public Health, the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry and the specialties of the Medical College - Varna. The average academic load in recent years is 384 students. h. with a norm of 360 academic hours. h. Teaches in various disciplines and specialties: Epidemiology of doctors and dentists, Bulgarian- and English-language training, Protection and control of public health - Educational qualification degree (EQD) "master", Health management - EQD "bachelor" and "master", Nursing - EQD "Bachelor", Medical Laboratory Technician - EQD "Bachelor", Midwife - EQD "Bachelor", Healthcare Management - EQD "Bachelor", Public Health Inspector - EQD "Bachelor" and Kinesitherapy - EQD "Bachelor".

She is a member of Bulgarian Medical Association, the Bulgarian Scientific Society for Epidemiology of Infectious and Non-Infectious Diseases, the Bulgarian Scientific Society for Public Health.

**Conclusion:** Based on the materials provided to me on the competition and my personal impressions from my long-term work with Dr. Kolarova, I am convinced that she fully meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Application and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna and the criteria laid down in it for occupying the academic position of "associate professor". That is why I give my positive assessment for the choice of ch. assistant professor Miglena Asenova Kolarova-Dimitrova for Associate Professor and I recommend the respected members of the Scientific Jury to also vote positively for her election.

Varna, 22.11.2022

(Prof. Dr. Darina Naydenova Hristova, MD, PhD)