

STATEMENT

**By Assoc. Prof. Kristin Grigorova-Petrova, PhD
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Member of a Scientific Jury, appointed with Ordinance № R-109-177 / 03.06.2020 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna

Regarding: Contest for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the higher education field 7. Health and sports; Professional field 7.4. Public health, for the needs of the Educational Sector "Rehabilitator" in Medical College - Varna, published in State Gazette issue 8, dated 28.01.2020

On the first meeting of the Scientific Jury I was appointed to prepare a Statement.

In the announced contest one candidate has submitted documents - Deputy Director, assistant Nikolai Svetoslavov Nedev, PhD. The candidate submitted a complete set of documents, corresponding to the Law on the Development of Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulation of the Implementation of the LDASRB and the Regulation of the development of academic staff in Medical University - Varna.

Career development, professional and scientific qualification

Nikolay Nedev graduated with a bachelor's degree in Kinesitherapy in 2005. He acquired a master's degree in "Health Management" (2007), "Rehabilitation, Sea Treatment, Wellness and SPA" (2016), "Kinesitherapy" (2018) and in 2018 the PhD Degree on Professional field 7.4. Public health, specialty "Public Health Management" with topic of the dissertation "Rehabilitation care and quality of life in stroke survived patients".

The candidate began his professional career in 2005 in "Medica Ltd." - Ruse, and his academic career began in 2009 as an assistant in Medical College - Varna at Medical University - Varna. His development continued in 2013 as head of the Educational Sector "Rehabilitator" and since 2015 he has been Deputy Director of the Medical College - Varna. The total work experience in the specialty as of 13.02.2020 is 11 years, two months and 24 days. Copies of diplomas, official documents of internship, work experience, citation etc. are properly presented.

Scientific and research activity

- General description of the submitted materials in the contest

A list of 15 scientific papers are presented (of which 1 is not subject to review - dissertation for acquiring PhD degree 50 points) - 1 Monograph (100 points), 1 publication in referenced and indexed scientific journal (10 points) and 12 publications in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review (200 points). Of these, 1 publication is in English, 2 are in Russian, in 4 he was the only author and 9 in co-authorship, of which in 3 the candidate is the

first author. There is also an official document for 10 citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review (50 points), but there is no list of publications in which the citation was made, it is difficult to comment on the quality of publications as well as the presence or absence of self-citation. The papers submitted for participation in the contest were published between 2014 - 2018. Abstracts of participation in 10 scientific events are presented.

The presented materials in the contest meet the scientific-metric data and the requirements of the LDASRB, the Regulation of its Implementation and the Regulation of the development of academic staff in MU - Varna.

- Scientific contributions

The topics of the presented materials are in the field of the announced contest and can be summarized in the following directions:

- Respiratory rehabilitation,
- Rehabilitation for more common chronic diseases, rehabilitation of stroke survivors and
- Improving student training at the Medical College - Varna.

The monograph (146 pages) is devoted to respiratory health, especially in chronic respiratory diseases and the basic principles of pulmonary rehabilitation. Emphasis on the activities of the physiotherapist to restore the functional activity of the patient and improve his quality of life is placed. Special attention is paid to the need of the independence and autonomy regulation of the physiotherapist profession in order to increase the effectiveness of health models. In this sense, the work is extremely relevant, both in theoretical and practical aspect.

The publications with shared personal therapeutic experience, aimed at the rehabilitation of chronic diseases, including kidney disease, musculoskeletal dysfunction, osteochondrosis and lumbar pain (8 publications) are as an extension of the topic of chronic respiratory diseases.

Publications related to physiotherapy and rehabilitation of stroke survivors, monitor the opinions and attitudes of patients. The quality of life and the degree of functional ability of patients with and without physiotherapy (2 publications) were assessed.

The research also focuses on opportunities for improvement of student training, including interactive e-learning methods. Attention is paid to the correlation between the applied teaching methods and student competence (3 publications).

I accept the scientific contributions indicated in the candidate's reference, which are grouped by areas with a specified connection to the scientific papers.

Educational and Teaching activities

The teaching activity is presented with training in the following compulsory subjects: "Manual muscle testing", "Kinesitherapy", "Therapeutic massage", "Kinesiology" and "Pathokinesiology". The total teaching experience of the candidate is 10 years, 11 months and 24 days as of 13.02.2020. The candidate has an average of 7 hours of lectures for the five-year period, and the average workload is high - 289 hours with a norm of 180 hours. Probably due

to the non-holding of the academic position of “chief assistant”, the candidate's lecture experience is to be developed.

Conclusion

The candidate assistant Nikolay Nedev meets the requirements of LDASRB, the Regulation of its Implementation and the Regulation of the development of academic staff in Medical University - Varna. The content of the publications are in compliance with the topic of the announced contest. There are no signals for plagiarism and no signs of plagiarism have been found.

Based on the above, I give my positive vote, supporting the candidacy of Nikolay Svetoslavov Nedev for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the higher education field 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.4. Public health, for the needs of the Educational Sector “Rehabilitator” in Medical College – Varna.

16.07.2020



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/Assoc. Prof. Kristin Grigorova-Petrova, PhD/