

STATEMENT

Of Prof. Dr. Teodora Dimitrova, MD, PhD

Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology,

Faculty of Public Health

Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna,

Member of the Scientific Jury pursuant to Order No. R-109-178 / June 03, 2020 of the Rector of Medical University - Varna

Subject: Contest for the occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education "7. Health and Sport", Professional Degree" 7.1. "Medicine", in the specialty "Hygiene" (incl. occupational health, communal hygiene, school hygiene, radiation hygiene etc.) for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health, Department "Hygiene and Epidemiology" of Medical University – Varna and University Hospital "St. Marina" -Varna, published in State Gazette No.8 of 28.01.2020.

One candidate participated in the announced competition - Assistant Doctor Lili Slavcheva Trifonova.

The applicant has submitted precisely all the necessary documents for participation in the competition, which are in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Medical University - Varna.

With Order No. P-109-178 / June 03, 2020 of the Rector of Medical University - Varna I am determined to make a statement.

Short details of the applicant's career development

Doctor Lili Slavcheva Trifonova obtained her Master's Degree in Medicine at the Medical University of Varna in 1987. She started working as a district doctor at the Municipal Hospital of Targovishte after that she became a resident in the III internal ward of the same hospital. From 01.10.1990 she is a clinical resident in Internal Medicine at the Presidium of the Medical Academy with training base - Medical University – Varna. From November 1992 after winning a competition she is a nutritionist at the University Hospital "St. Marina" – Varna. From 2015 she works as a guest lecturer at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine and from 2017 as an assistant at the Second Internal Department, Management Board "Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition" of MU-Varna. In 1996 she acquired the specialty "Internal Medicine", and in 2006 - the specialty "Nutrition and Dietetics". In 2018 the candidate successfully defended her dissertation in the field of Gastroenterology on the topic "Optimization of the clinical approach and diet treatment in gluten enteropathy" and obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in medicine.

The candidate has an additional qualification: specialist in health management and takes part as a nutrition expert with the preparation of opinions on nutrition in SOC "Kamchia", "Solvay Sodi" and others.

Dr. Trifonova is a member of scientific and professional organizations, including the Scientific Society of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Scientific Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria and the BMA.

Dr. Trifonova uses Russian and English in her professional and research activities.

General characteristics of the applicant's research and applied activities

The publications and references attached to the competition prove the high scientific productivity of the candidate. A total of 28 publications have been submitted to participate in this competition - the result of her overall research activities, broken down by type as follows:

- Dissertation submitted with abstract - 1 issue;
- Monograph / habilitation work - 1 item;
- Monographs - 1 total;
- Full-text scientific publications - a total of 28 issues, of which:
 - 18 - in periodicals (5 of them in international);
 - 10 - in compilations of reports (4 of which in international ones);
- Textbooks and teaching aids - a total of 2 pieces.

There are also 21 titles of unpublished reports from participation in scientific congresses and conferences. There is no impact factor verification. Dr. Lili Trifonova, MD, PhD according to a reference in the library of Medical University of Varna has 6 quotations in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review.

According to the scientometric indicators for the academic position „Associate Professor”, Dr. Lili Trifonova, MD, PhD meets the requirements. (Table 1.)

Table 1. Minimal required points by group indicators for the academic position Associate Professor

Group of indicators	Associate Professor	Dr. Lili Trifonova, MD, PhD
A PhD Dissertation	50	50
B	-	-
C Habilitation work / Monograph	100	100
D Publications	200	470
E Цитирания	50	60
F	-	-

Scientific research covers scientific issues aimed at a wide range of highly relevant and significant problems in the field of scientific speciality of the announced competition. The main thematic guidelines in research and in the scientific contributions of Dr. Trifonova can be distinguished in the following directions:

- Modern guidelines in gluten related disorders and gluten free diet,
- Gluten enteropathy and concomitant diseases,
- Antioxidants, diet, prevention.
- Enteral nutrition, functional foods, problems of dietary nutrition in some hospitals in Varna
- Healthy eating as an alternative to modern life
- Varia.

The candidate's works have been published in various scientific publications abroad and in Bulgaria, such as: Journal of IMAB - Annual Proceedings; Follia medica; Nephrology, dialysis and transplantation; Medical Script; and other.

The scientific contributions are of original and confirmatory nature, of theoretical and practical relevance to the region and country.

I accept the scientific contributions indicated in the applicant's report. They are delimited by thematic areas and well-justified in the applied scientific papers and documents.

As a summarizing feature of the scientific works, I emphasize the broad scope, the relevance of the topic under consideration, the original character as well as the potential for practical applicability of the results, at regional and national level.

Evidence of the quality of the publications and their reflection in the Bulgarian scientific literature is presented. The report contains a total of 9 positive quotations from Bulgarian authors, which is indicative of the relevance of the topic under consideration and the recognition of the candidate from the Bulgarian scientific community. No reference was made to the quotations from foreign authors and candidate articles published in Impact Factor magazine.

Dr. Trifonova takes an active part in national and international scientific forums and in the field of the announced competition, including as an organizer and lecturer of scientific events.

Assessment of the applicant's educational activities

Dr. Trifonova is a lecturer with communication skills in the field of the announced competition at the Medical University - Varna. In October 2015 she started working as a guest lecturer in the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine with third-year medical students. The average annual teaching load of 260 teaching hours is above the accepted norm of 220 teaching hours.

The candidate actively participates in the teaching of students in different specialties with the Bachelor's, Bachelor's and Master's Degree programs, taking lectures in the following disciplines: "Gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition at the second department of internal medicine with 5th year students - Medicine.", "Bromatology" of assistant pharmacists. Second year bachelor, "Medical nutrition" - distance training of nurses and midwives at the Medical University - Varna, branches in Shumen, Veliko Tarnovo and Sliven, lecture course for doctors specializing in "Gastroenterology and Hepatology"

The candidate is the author of 2 textbooks and teaching aids for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students.

Practical activity

According to certificate №564 / 07.02.2020 as of the date of the competition, the candidate has 32 years, 2 months and 13 days of work experience. Dr. Lili Trifonova, MD is a doctor with many years of practice and significant scientific and practical results in the field of nutrition and dietetics, gastroenterology and hepatology, actively participates in the treatment-diagnostic and consulting activities of the Clinic of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition since 1992. She is the first doctor dealing with clinical dietetics in the city of Varna for more than 28 years.


She has participated as a co-researcher in 4 clinical trials of drugs for the treatment of hepatitis B and follow-up of patients with cirrhotic liver reconstruction, treatment of pancreatic insufficiency with enzyme preparations, pancreatolytic enzymes in the treatment of children with cystic fibrosis.

Conclusion

The candidate for participation in this competition fully meets the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Medical University - Varna for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor". An up-to-date and original, sufficient scientific output with a broad thematic scope and significant theoretical and practical contribution is provided.

The overall assessment of professional development, teaching and teaching activity, scientific appearances and contributions, the credibility built up, the organizational and expert experience of the candidate give me reason to give a positive opinion and to suggest the members of the Scientific Jury to choose Lili Trifonova, MD, PhD, for the academic degree "Associate Professor" in Higher Education 7. Health and Sports, Professional Degree 7.1. "Medicine", in the specialty "Hygiene" (incl. occupational health, communal hygiene, school hygiene, radiation hygiene etc.) for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health, Department "Hygiene and Epidemiology" of Medical University – Varna and University Hospital "St. Marina" Varna.

Varna,
23.07.2020


Prof. Teodora Dimitrova, MD, PhD