

## REVIEW

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Subject: Competition for the academic position "**Professor**" in the field of higher education  
7. Health and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialty "**Nephrology**"  
for the needs of "II Department of Internal Medicine" Scientific sector: nephrology, dialysis and  
toxicology in the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of Varna,  
announced in the State Newspaper No. 8 / 28.01.2020

### **1. General presentation of the procedure**

According to the Order of the Rector of Medical University of Varna № R-109-193 /  
03.06.2020 and Protocol № 20/16.03.2020 of the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of  
Varna I have been appointed to participate in the Scientific Jury.

According to a decision of the first distant (online) meeting on 15.06.2020 I was elected  
Chairman of the Scientific Jury and reviewer of the competition for the academic position  
"Professor" in the scientific specialty "Nephrology" for the needs of the "II Department of Internal  
Medicine" Scientific sector: nephrology, dialysis and toxicology in the Faculty of Medicine at  
Medical University of Varna.

For the announced competition for the academic position of 0.5 "Professor" in Nephrology  
at the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of Varna in the State Newspaper No 8 / 28.01.2020  
there was an application from one candidate - Assoc. Prof. Svetla Vasileva Staykova, DSci.

The set of materials on paper/electronically (USB), which I received on time, fully met the  
requirements of the announced competition for academic position "Professor" in Nephrology from  
Medical University of Varna.

Upon my detailed acquaintance with them, I did not find any violations of the procedure for  
participation in the competition for academic position "Professor".

### **2. Brief biographical data**

Svetla Staykova graduated from high school in Bourgas and the Medical University - Varna (1987).  
She went through all stages of the medical profession - from a doctor head of the rural health practice in  
the village of Lyulyakovo, Ruen municipality, through an intern in a hemodialysis center - Varna, and since

1993 parallel with to her practical activity as a doctor she began her scientific carrier in Medical University of Varna.

Since 2015, Svetla Staykova has been elected associate professor at the Medical University of Varna, and since 2018 she has been the Head of the Clinic of Nephrology and Dialysis at the University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD.

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova has acquired 2 specialties: internal medicine (1993) and nephrology (1996).

She did 2 dissertations: in 2001 for scientific degree "Doctor" and in 2018 for "Doctor of Science".

### **3. Research and teaching activities**

The research and teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Staykova can be summarized as follows:

#### *1. Scientometric criteria*

In my assessment of the scientific activity of Assoc. Prof. Staykova I have reviewed 57 titles after taking the academic position "Associate Professor" and they can be summarized as follows:

- ✓ Dissertation for scientific degree "Doctor of Science" - 1
- ✓ Co-authorship in writing textbooks, books and teaching materials - 4
- ✓ Full-text publications in scientific journals and papers - 29, out of which:
  - 7 abroad
  - 22 in our country, 3 of which are under printing
- ✓ Abstracts published in journals and papers - 27

From the real publications in journals and papers, Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova is:

- First and independent author in 16
- Second author in 8
- Third and consecutive author in 9

From the published abstracts in scientific papers, its distribution as an author is as follows:

- The first and independent author in 11
- Second author in 10
- Third and consecutive author in 6

### *Citations:*

The reference prepared in the library of MU - Varna (Cited reference №74 / 20.02.2020) states that the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova are cited a total of 13 times, and by indicators are divided into 3 groups:

- 1) Citations or reviews in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes - 6 pcs.
- 2) Citation in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 2 pcs.
- 3) Citation or review in unrefereed journals with scientific review - 5 pcs.

Based on information from the author and automated information from foreign databases from WEB of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svetla Staykova has a total of 135 points according to the list of citations.

### *Impact factor:*

A reference from the library of MU - Varna, indicates Impact factor from the publications of Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova - 12,698, and her total IF is 28.78 of all scientific papers.

### *4. Scientific interests*

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova has a diverse scientific activity, which can be summarized in several main areas with significant scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions:

- 1) *Biomarkers of bone and mineral metabolism* - analysis for diagnostic and prognostic purposes of the most modern bone and highly specific non-invasive biomarkers for chronic kidney disease and impaired bone and mineral metabolism; a constellation has been developed for complex individualized therapeutic behavior
- 2) *Psychological problems in dialysis patients* - the relationship between patients and medical staff, assessment of the quality of life of patients.
- 3) *Congenital and hereditary diseases / anomalies with renal involvement in childhood*
- 4) *Urinary tract infections* - challenges, aspects and consequences for patients with chronic kidney disease on renal replacement therapy
- 5) *Urine markers for early renal damage* - analysis and study of their predictive value; monitoring of renal hemodynamics in patients with  $\beta$ -Thalassemia Mayor
- 6) *Adequacy of dialysis treatment* - application of a modern algorithm for timely diagnosis of complications and selection of vascular access in patients on renal replacement therapy
- 7) *Plasma replacement in the complex treatment of immune and autoimmune diseases* - proven favorable prognosis in immunocompromised patients and achieving long-term remissions.

### *5. Teaching activity*

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova has over 25 years of teaching experience. She teaches students from 3rd and 5th year "Medicine" in the disciplines: Internal Medicine (Propaedeutics), Nephrology and Toxicology and has 250 lectures and exercises per year.

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova participates in examination commissions for students and graduates, as well as in State examination commissions for awarding the specialty "Pediatric Nephrology" at Medical University of Varna and "Nephrology" at Medical University of Sofia.

She is a member of a number of scientific juries for acquiring an academic position and educational-scientific degree, both in MU – Varna and in MU - Sofia.

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova has supervised 6 PhD students, 1 of which has successfully finished her dissertation, and 5 work successfully on their PhD thesis. She was been also the supervisor of 5 graduates.

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova is Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Current Nephrology.

### *6. Diagnostic - therapeutic activity*

Dr. Svetla Staykova started working after graduating in 1987, and 6 years later she became an assistant at Medical University of Varna. She successively passed all levels of her academic career and in 2015 was elected associate professor. Since 2018 she is Head of the Clinic of Nephrology and Dialysis at UMHAT "St. Marina" EAD.

She has many years of professional experience as a nephrologist, working at the University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna and participates as a trainer in courses in ultrasound diagnostics in the system of CME of doctors.

Assoc. Prof. Staykova participates in some professional and scientific societies: Member of the Board of Bulgarian Society of Nephrology and Kidney Foundation; Member of European Association of Dialysis and Transplantation, American Society of Nephrology, International Society of Nephrology and Balkan Association of Nephrology, Transplantation and Artificial Organs (BANTAO).

## CONCLUSION

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova has been practicing as a doctor since 1987, and since 1996 she has been working as a nephrologist and has extensive scientific and practical experience in the field of kidney diseases and dialysis treatment. She works and knows well the problems of the specialty nephrology.

Assoc. Prof. Staykova has finished successfully dissertations for scientific and educational degree "Doctor" (2001) and "Doctor of Science" (2018) in the specialty "Nephrology".

Assoc. Prof. Svetla Staykova participated in the competition for academic position "Professor" with 57 scientific publications, 1 of which is DSci dissertation, 4 participations in textbooks and manuals, 29 full-text publications and 27 printed abstracts. She has a total IF - 28.78 and 13 citations in the scientific literature.

Assoc. Prof. Staykova is a research supervisor of 6 PhD students, 1 of whom has successfully finished her dissertation.

The general assessment of her research, teaching and medical-diagnostic activity is that she **is above the minimum national requirements and meets all the criteria for taking the academic position "Professor"**.

I propose to the distinguished members of the Scientific jury to vote positively for Assoc. Prof. Svetla Vasileva Staykova for the academic position "Professor" of Nephrology in the II Department of Internal Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University of Varna.

22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2020

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