

STATEMENT

By Prof. Stoyanka Popova, MD, Ph.D.

Scientific specialty: „Social medicine and Organization of Health Care and Pharmacy”

Member of Scientific jury, following a Protocol № 149 /19.03.2020 of Concel of Faculty of Public Health and an order of the Rector of Medical university - Varna № P-109-181 / 03.06.2020. At the first meeting of the Scientific jury – Protocol № 1/ 9.06.2020 I was elected to prepare Statement.

Re: competitive procedure for holding academic post „Associate professor” - field of higher education 7. „Health care and Sport“, professional direction 7.4. „Public Health”, specialty „Public Health Management“ (0.25 position) in the Department of Social medicine and Health Care Organization - Faculty of Public Health, MU-Varna, announced State newsletter №: 8 /28.01. 2020.

One candidate applied for above mentioned procedure: Dr. Dimitar Valchanov Dimitrov, Ph.D. The candidate has submitted all the necessary documents for the competition, stipulated in the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation and the Rules of the MU-Varna.

Biography and Career profile of the candidate.

Dr. Dimitar Dimitrov graduated in 1982 Faculty of Dentistry – Medical university - Sofia. The candidate's professional development began as postgraduate student and dentist in the specialty of maxillofacial surgery (acquired a specialty in 1992).

After 1993 in the career profile of the candidate the dominant place is occupied by the management of public health and health management. In 2004 upgraded a Master's Degree in “Public Health and Health care management”, Medical University - Sofia. After successfully defending his dissertation on the topic „Problems of Hospital Manager’s Professional career”, 2009 he acquired the Educational and Scientific degree “Doctor” in the specialty „Social medicine and Organization of Health care and Pharmacy”.

He upgrades his professional qualification in the field participating in different forms of postgraduate education, which is a reliable basis for successful position as a manager of leading hospitals - „St. Anna” University Hospital - Sofia, “St. Ivan Rilski” University Hospital – Sofia.

Dr. Dimitrov combines his practical activity and experience with teaching trainees and postgraduate students. He uses English and Russian.

General characteristics and evaluation of the scientific production and publication activity of the candidate

Dr. Dimitrov participated in this competition with scientific production of 19 titles of full text publications, distributed in scientometric aspect as follows:

- Abstract of dissertation for acquirement the Educational and Scientific degree “Doctor” „Problems of Hospital Manager’s Professional career”, 2009. (**Indicator A-1**)
- Independent monograph / habilitation work (**Indicator B-3**): „Effective Hospital Manager”, Ed. Gorexpress, 2009, ISBN:978-954-616-204-5.
- Monography (**Indicator G-5**) : „Strategies and Management of Organizational change in health care”, 2011, ISBN: 978-954-616-217-5.
- Publications and reports in scientific journals, referred and indexed in world databases (**Indicator G-7**) - 4
- Publications and reports published in non-refereed scientific journals with scientific peer review or published in edited collective volumes (**Indocator G-8**) – 12

The publications (**Indicator G-7**), have been published in the Journal of General Medicine(SJR). The candidate published also in “Health care management” (2), “Health policy and Management” (5), “Medical meridians” (5 pcs.)(Indicator G-8).

Dr. Dimitar Dimitrov is a co-author in one of the publications and an independent author of the others, which is an indicator of the leading position of the candidate in the research.

Dr. Dimitrov's research interests are in the field of public health, health policy and health management, where the author's contributions are, classified in the attached report as scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied, which I fully support.

The candidate's research activity is directed to analyzing current painful problems and finding adequate solutions. A distinctive feature of the scientific activity of Dr. Dimitrov is its close connection with his practical activity as a hospital manager. Health management and especially hospital management dominate its publishing activity.

Various aspects of management and managerial career have been studied. Through empirical surveys, the factors determining the motivation and adaptation of the management staff in the medical establishments have been studied; leadership, communication, management styles.

The "pitfalls" in the professional career of the health manager have been studied. The author convincingly defends the thesis about the need for professionalization of hospital management as an important condition for the effectiveness of modern health systems (independent monograph "The Effective Hospital Manager").

A sector of the research is dedicated to the management of the resources in the hospital establishments: time management, indicating the reserves for its effective utilization; human resources management - the role and principles of teamwork - selection and participation of staff, its proper positioning in the institutional hierarchy, delegation of rights, staff qualifications. Special attention is paid to the management of the quality of hospital care.

Dr. Dimitrov explores health management on the background of health policy, which has to combine health efficiency, economic profitability and social acceptability. Pointing out unresolved problems in the health care system, the author highly appreciates the importance of the prevention policy to improve public health; the management based on a unified information system for collection, processing and analysis of health data; the role of adequate regulatory framework, resource provision and public support for effective organizational reform in health care.

Dr. Dimitrov has participated in 5 National scientific forums related mainly with Emergency Medicine.

From the citation report issued by Central Medical Library – Sofia (42 Bulgarian citations were found out), the high scientific interest and assessment of Bulgarian researchers to the author's publishing activity is evident.

Teaching and Methodological activities of the candidate

Dr. Dimitrov has more than 36 years total work experience according the official document issued on March 2020 from the University Hospital "St. Iv. Rilski" - Sofia.

A reference by the Department "Scientific activity and postgraduate qualification of UMHAT "NI Pirogov"- Sofia was presented for teaching activities, including lectures, exercises, individual training, participation in examination commissions, management of summer internships for 2012, 2013 and 2014 with teaching hours between 86 and 140.

Dr. Dimitrov has developed series of lectures in the specialty "Emergency Care" for trainee doctors. Participates in the development of a curriculum for "Organization of health care and health management", works with graduate students and doctoral

students on research methodology and presentation skills, editor in the field of health management.

Dr. Dimitrov has a significant public activity. He is a member of prestigious scientific organizations: Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Bulgarian Scientific Society of Public Health, Bulgarian Association of Public Health, European Association of Public Health (EUPHA).

Dr. Dimitrov was honoured with numerous awards and prizes of the Ministry of Health, BMA, FPH-Sofia, Newsletter Forum Medicus and Bulgarian Physician for his contributions to public health and health management.

Conclusion: The candidate meet the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria set out in the Academic Staff Development Act in Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules of the MU-Varna for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor"

The presented overall research, pedagogical, organizational and expert activities, the received high marks and awards characterize Dr. Dimitrov as an excellent professional and in-depth researcher and analyst in the field of healthcare management. The scientific production of the candidate is dedicated to serious and current topics with significant theoretical and practical contributions to the development of public health and health management. The reviews define Dr. Dimitrov as a highly erudite lecturer. The active public activity, memberships in prestigious scientific organizations, numerous awards and prizes are an indicator and assessment of the high professionalism and contributions of Dr. Dimitrov to public health and health care management.

All this gives me a reason to propose **Dr. Dimitar Valchanov Dimitrov, M.D. to take the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Public Health Management" for the needs of the Department of "Social Medicine and Health Care Organization" - Faculty of Public Health of Medical University – Varna.**

Statement written by:



/prof. Stoyanka Popova, MD, Ph.D./

07.08.2020