

STATEMENT OF OPINION

from

Prof. Dr. Dimitar Temelkov Kostadinov, MD

Head of the Department of Lung Diseases at the Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Sofia

member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order № P-109-187 / 26.04.2021 of The Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov" - Varna

Regarding: procedure for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports"; professional field 7.1. "Medicine", for the needs of the First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna, in the clinical base of the Clinic of Pneumology and Phthisiatry at the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD – Varna

The current contest for the academic position of "Associate Professor" has been announced in state newspaper, issue 17 of 26.02.2021 and was admitted to it by the Commission under Art. 79, para. 1 of the Regulations for development of the academic staff in MU "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna one candidate: **Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova, PhD**, Chief Assistant at the Board of Pulmonary Diseases and Allergology at the First Department of Internal Medicine and Chief Assistant at the Clinic of Pneumology and Phthisiology at the University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna.

As a member of the Scientific Jury (according to order № P-109-187 / 26.04.2021 of the Rector of MU - Varna), after a meeting of the Scientific Jury (Minutes №1 of 10.05.2021), I am appointed to prepare an opinion under the procedure for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

I. Description of the submitted materials for the contest

The preparation of the opinion on the materials submitted for the contest is based on the criteria of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna of 2018 (amended and supplemented on 15.09.2020). All the necessary documents for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in accordance with the criteria of the Law on the development of the academic staff in Bulgaria and MU-Varna (Art. 125 and Art. 126).

II. Brief biographical data of the candidate:

Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova graduated from the Medical University - Varna, specialty "Medicine" with a professional qualification "doctor" in 1990. She has PhD in "Lung Diseases" since 2018 with the topic "Clinical and prognostic characteristics of patients with chronic post thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (STERN)" - **A1 - 50 points**. Dr. V. Dimitrova has two specialties: "Internal Medicine" from 2002 and "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" from 2006. She has an additional qualification for highly specialized activities in medicine: certificate in "Bronchology" - conventional bronchoscopy.

Dr. V. Dimitrova is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Society, the Bulgarian Respiratory Society, the European Respiratory Society and the Heart-Lung Association. She speaks English and Russian.

III. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of teaching and research activities.

1. Teaching and pedagogical activity - Dr. V. Dimitrova presents an academic report on the workload of MU-Varna for the last five years (issue -5112-54 / 12.03.2021), as the main

participation is in the teaching of clinical specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" of medical students (exercises and lectures with students, Bulgarian language training), the **average annual and study load is 171.2 hours.**

2. Research activity - the presented reference for the scientific production of Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova includes:

- dissertation for the award of PhD in the scientific specialty "Lung Diseases" (**A1** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor") - **50 points.**

- The monograph of Dr. V. Dimitrova "Pulmonary thromboembolism - a predictable mystery", Varna 2020 has scientific and practical value and the possibility of wide application in clinical practice (**B3** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor") - **100 points**

- publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Scopus / WOS) - eight. In five publications Dr. Dimitrova is the first or last author (**G7** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor") - **116 points.**

- publications and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - eleven. In nine publications Dr. Dimitrova is the first or last author (**G8** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor") - **86.5 points.**

- full-text publications in scientific journals and collections, apart from the obligatory ones for covering the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor" are **four** - (**G8 - 23 points**)

- Dr. Valentina Dimitrova has 11 participations in scientific congresses, conferences and symposia in Bulgaria and abroad after acquiring PhD.

3. Influence of the candidate's scientific publications in the national and foreign literature (citations).

3.1. Citation or reviews in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes - **two** (**D10** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor") - **30 points.**

3.2. Citation or reviews in unreferenced journals with scientific review - **four** (**D12** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor") - **20 points.**

4. Participation in a national scientific or educational project.

Dr. Dimitrova has one participation in a research project approved by the Science Fund, competitive session 2016 at MU "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna with registration № NI-2 / 05.12.2016 (**E16** of the minimum requirements for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor") - **15 points.**

5. Publication of a university textbook or manual used in the university network (E20 and E21).

5.1. Dr. V. Dimitrova has a participation in a chapter of a textbook on Lung Diseases and two chapters in the textbook on Internal Medicine for health care specialists in co-authorship with Assoc. Prof. D. Petkova: (**E20 - 60 points**).

5.2. The candidate also presents participation in a textbook, a guide for patients: (**E21 - 5 points**).

6. Assessment of the personal contribution and qualities of the candidate.

Dr. Valentina D. Dimitrova is a lecturer with pedagogical experience since 2011, when she was appointed an assistant at the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD. Her research and clinical interests are in the field of pulmonary thromboembolism, pulmonary arterial hypertension, chronic post thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension, non-invasive ventilation in acute and chronic respiratory failure and international bronchology.

From the presented materials and my personal impressions I think that Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova is an erudite scientist, experienced teacher and clinician. The presented publications are original, with personal contribution of the candidate. I have not found plagiarism.

Dr. Dimitrova has active scientific profiles in: Google Scholar, ORCID and Research Gate (RG), Researcher ID, eLibrary.

IV. Critical notes.

Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova has sufficient professional experience and in the future I recommend her to realize her creative ideas by publishing them more in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information. In this way she will present more convincingly his author's concepts and views in his scientific works.

V. Conclusion.

The materials presented by **Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova, PhD** in the contest, meet in scientometric terms the minimum National requirements and those of MU - Varna - in quantitative indicators of the criteria for awarding the academic position "Associate Professor" of Appendix 1 the **total number of points of Dr. V. Dimitrova is 505.5 points with minimum requirements for groups of indicators for the academic position of "Associate Professor" - a total of 400 points.**

Based on the presented data and their analysis, I give a positive vote and strongly recommend the members of the esteemed scientific jury to award the academic position of "Associate Professor" in "Pneumology and Phthisiatry" to Dr. Valentina Dimova Dimitrova, PhD, in the competition for the needs of First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna, in the clinical base Clinic of Pneumology and Phthisiatry at the University Hospital "St. Marina EAD - Varna.

Sofia
07.07.2021



(Prof. Dimitar Kostadinov, MD PhD)