

REVIEW

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Subject: Competition (announced in the State Gazette issue 61 / 23.07.2021)
for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education
7. "Health and Sports", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", specialty "Pharmacology
(including pharmacokinetics and chemotherapy)",
for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and
Therapeutics,
at Faculty of Medicine at Medical University – Varna

General presentation of the procedure

By order of the Rector of MU – Varna R-109-396 / 20.09.2021 I was elected a member of the Scientific Jury, and by decision of the meeting of the Scientific Jury (protocol №1/04.10.2021) I was elected to prepare a review on the procedure for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", specialty "Pharmacology (including pharmacokinetics and chemotherapy)", for the needs of the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, at the Faculty of Medicine at MU – Varna.

In the current competition the only candidate is Silvia Gancheva Marinova, MD, PhD, Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Faculty of Medicine at MU – Varna.

The documents provided for the competition are in accordance with the Act on Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the implementation of the Academic Staff Development Act and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University – Varna.

Biographical data about the candidate

Dr. Silvia Gancheva Marinova was born on December 20, 1982 in the town of Silistra. She graduated from the High School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics "St. Kliment

5. In addition, Dr. Gancheva has presented other 3 full-text publications in scientific journals and collections, outside the minimum scientometric requirements for the academic position "Associate Professor", which bring her another 11.48 points.

Dr. Gancheva's publications bring her a total of 215.48 points. Thus, Dr. Ganchev exceeds the minimum scientometric requirements for the academic position "Associate Professor" which are 200 points.

Dr. Silvia Gancheva Marinova is the first author of 7 (24%) of the 19 publications presented. This analysis shows that the candidate is a leading researcher in a great part of the materials submitted for review.

Seven of the scientific papers presented in this competition have been published in journals with an impact factor and have a total impact factor of 25.119. In addition, Dr. Gancheva has another publication with an impact factor of 1.78, which is related to the acquisition of educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

Dr. Gancheva has 48 participations in national and international scientific events, and 10 of the abstracts have been published in international journals with an impact factor such as *European Neuropsychopharmacology*, *Osteoporosis International* and *British Journal of Pharmacology*.

Dr. Gancheva presents information about the citations. There are 14 citations bearing 210 points, which exceed the minimum requirements for academic position "Associate Professor".

It is important to note that the candidate's research was carried out through participation in 5 research projects.

Analysis of the scientific activity and main contributions

The contributions of the scientific works of Dr. Silvia Gancheva are very accurately presented. They are in 4 directions:

1. Vitamin K and osteocalcin
2. Drug interactions
3. Pharmacological effects of *Kochia scoparia*
4. Effects of biologically active substances of natural origin in different experimental models

The works belonging to the first field predominate and they are thematically related to the dissertation of Dr. Gancheva. Studies of vitamin K and osteocalcin have examined the role

experimental models. They are presented in 4 publications. The research with natural biologically active substances is an important direction in the scientific activity of the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. In this direction, Dr. Gancheva works successfully in collaboration with other colleagues in the department, participating in the study of the effects of eugenol and gallic acid in a model of inflammatory bowel disease and the effects of fruit juice from *Aronia melanocarpa* in a model of metabolic syndrome in rats.

Analysis of the teaching activities

Dr. Silvia Gancheva is an extremely dedicated, disciplined and responsible teacher. Until July 26, 2021, she has a teaching experience as an "Assistant Professor" and "Chief Assistant Professor" for 13 years, 05 months, 10 days. She is a teacher for the seminars in pharmacology for medical and dental students – in Bulgarian and English, as well as for the seminars in clinical pharmacology for medical students – in Bulgarian and English. The report on the workload from the last 5 school years shows that with the requirement of 360 hours Dr. Gancheva had a much higher workload: for 2016/2017 – 550 hours, for 2017/2018 – 697 hours, 2018/2019 – 574 hours, for 2019/2020 – 496 hours and for 2020/2021 – 495 hours. With the presented workload, Dr. Gancheva exceeds many times the requirement of Art. 125, item 3 of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University – Varna, according to which the candidates must have had a study load of not less than 100 hours on average per year, distributed over the last 10 years.

Dr. Silvia Gancheva is a co-author of 4 pharmacology workbooks.

Conclusion

The presented data on the teaching and research activities of Dr. Silvia Gancheva Marinova show that she fully meets the requirements for the academic position "Associate Professor" according to the Act on Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the academic staff at the Medical University – Varna.

The scientific activity of Dr. Silvia Gancheva Marinova exceeds the legal requirements and is characterized by a variety of issues, the use of a large number of pharmacological models,