

## **Opinion**

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**Subject:** Competition for Associate Professor in Public Health Management (Analysis of medicinal products), professional area 7.4. Public Health, field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, announced GG 41/03.06.2022 for the needs of the training sector Assistant Pharmacist, Medical College - Varna

The only candidate taking part in the competition is Assist. Prof. Silvia Georgieva Mihaylova, PhD. is Assist. Prof. Mihaylova graduated in Pharmacy from MU-Sofia in 2003. Until 2013 she worked as a pharmacy manager, 2013-2020 she was an assistant professor at the Medical College of MU-Varna, and since October 2020 she has been a senior assistant professor. In 2019 she completed her PhD thesis and in 2021 she acquired a specialty in Drug Analysis.

Assist. Prof. Mihailova has submitted all the necessary documents according to the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act.

### **Научно-изследователска дейност**

Assist. Prof. Mihailova has presented 23 full-text scientific publications (12 in Bulgarian, including one monograph and 11 in English), incl. one scientific manual. In 2 of the publications, Assist. Prof. Mihailova is the first author, in 8 she is the second and in the remaining 12 she is the third and next author, with a total impact factor of 4.4. Assist. Prof. Mihailova has also presented 36 contributions in national and international scientific forums.

The scientific journals and collections in which the papers were published (JIMAB, Varna Medical Forum, Scripta Scientifica Pharmaceutica, Int Bull Otorhinolaryngol, J Med College - Varna, Int Arch Integr Med, Int J Informat Res Rev) correspond to the developed topic, namely, healthcare problems of modern society, promotion towards protection of public health and prevention of socially significant diseases, social pharmacy and effective drug policy aimed at the needs of the population for quality, affordable, proven in therapeutic practice and value-effective medicinal products. Forty-eight citations of her work have been noted in ResearchGate. Assist. Prof. Mihailova, she submitted evidence for a total of 13 citations.

Important is the participation of Assist. Prof. Mihailova in grant contracts of MU-Varna and the Ministry of Education. Since 2005 she has participated in 5 projects.

She is the author of one monograph "Peptides as Medicine - Application of Chemical Methods in the Synthesis and Optimization of Peptide-Based Drug Products", including a detailed review of scientific information and her own studies on the possibilities of peptide-based drug products.

The main directions in the scientific research activities of Assist. Prof. Mihailova are in the field of public health (current problems, the possibilities of new technologies, the role of the pharmacist), as a unifying scientific and applied field for the prevention and therapy of socially significant diseases. Her research focus is on quality care in chronic non-communicable diseases, which are the main cause of reduced life expectancy and quality of life.

A number of papers have addressed the role of food that may provide additional benefits in unison with conventional therapy. The importance of these works is that they are published in journals accessible to the general scientific public, general practitioners and pharmacists. A number of Assist. Prof. Mihailova's papers have relevance to neoplastic diseases, and she has worked extensively on the potential of peptides as a cost-effective and safe alternative to modern small molecule drugs.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Assist. Prof. Mihailova has teaching experience of more than 8 years in the teaching sector Assistant Pharmacist at Medical College, MU-Varna. She has been successively assistant, head of teaching sector and chief assistant. Her teaching workload for the last 5 years repeatedly exceeds the norm of 324 hs. Her teaching workload is related to lectures, laboratory and practicals in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, lectures and seminar practicals in homeopathy, as well as conducting teaching practice and pre-degree internship.

Assist. Prof. Mihailova is a co-author in a textbook for midwives edited by Assoc. Diana Dimitrova "Non-medical methods of labour pain relief".

### **Conclusion**

All that has been said so far shows that Assist. Prof. Mihailova is an outstanding scientist with a large volume of scientific production, widely reflected in the scientific literature, with a drive to implement scientific results in practice. She is an established teacher and researcher, author and co-

author of a sufficient volume of scientific works proving her competence in the field of public health.

In accordance with the criteria for the academic position of Assist. Prof. Mihailova gained 485 points out of the required 400.

On the basis of the scientific achievements and the teaching and learning activities, I give a fully positive opinion and recommend the members of the Scientific Jury to vote for the award of the scientific title "Associate Professor" to Assist. Prof. Silvia Georgieva Mihailova, PhD, in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports, in the professional field 7.4. Public Health, for the needs of the Training Sector "Assistant Pharmacist" at the Medical College of Medical University - Varna.



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