

## R E V I E W

by **PROF. KANCHO TRIFONOV TCHAMOV, MD, PhD,**  
**Member of the scientific jury appointed by order No. R-109-372 / 21.08.2023 years of the**  
**Rector of Medical University – Varna**

**Regarding:** competition for the academic position " **Associate Professor**" announced in SG No. 54 of 23.06.2023 on the scientific specialty "Management of health care" (BEO) in professional direction 7. 4 . "Public Health", field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports ", for Education Sector "Nurse" at the Department of "Health Care" of the Faculty of "Public Health " at Medical University - Varna "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" .

**In the competition participate one candidate- Chief assistant Galina Ilieva Petrova, Ph.D.**

### **1. Career development of the candidate**

Ch. assistant Galina Ilieva Petrova, d.o.z. was born on 21.02.1973 in the town Beloslav, Bulgaria. In 1996, she graduated from the Higher Medical Institute (PMI) in the city of Varna as a "Nurse - general profile". She continued her education, obtaining in 2003 a bachelor's degree in the specialty "Health Care" from the Medical University - Plovdiv, and in 2006 a master's degree in the same specialty from the Medical University - Sofia. From 1996 - 2007, the candidate worked as a nurse in a number of social and health facilities for outpatient and inpatient care in Varna and Stara Zagora. From 2007 to 2019, she is an assistant in the Department of "Social Medicine and Health Management" at the Faculty of Medicine of Thracian University - Stara Zagora, where in 2014 she acquired a specialty in "medical pedagogy". In 2016, she defended her dissertation on the topic "Development of preventive health care for children - the role of the nurse" and obtained a PhD in the specialty "Health Care Management" from the Medical Faculty of Thrace University - Stara Zagora . Since 2019, she has been chief assistant at the Chair of Health Care in the Medical Faculty at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

The candidate is fluent in written and spoken Russian, having also submitted a document for a completed English language course "level B2". Attached are credentials and certificates documenting participation in various forms of continuing professional education (33), as well as for participation in national and international scientific conferences and congresses (21).

The brief information about the candidate's career development shows good qualifications and a desire for professional improvement and development.

### **2. Scientometric indicators**

Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, d.oz. has presented precisely all the documents required by the Regulations of the Ministry of Education - Varna, as well as sufficient volume and content of information about its scientific production.

The candidate participated in the competition for associate professor with 23 real publications after acquiring ECD "doctor", distributed by types as follows:

- Dissertation work (1) - "Development of preventive health care for children - role of the nurse";

- Monograph (1) - "Nursing in child health care";
- Articles and reports in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 4 pieces;
- Publications and reports in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes – 16 pieces;
- Full-text publications in scientific journals and anthologies outside the minimum scientometric requirements for holding the position of associate professor - 2 pieces.

Nine publications were published in Bulgarian scientific journals, and 14 publications in foreign and foreign-language scientific journals. Summaries of 3 conference reports and scientific communications presented at scientific fora in our country are presented.

In the presented scientific publications Ch. assistant Galina Petrova Ph.D. is the only and leading author in 8 (34.8%) of the presented scientific works, second author in 3 (13.0%) third and subsequent author in 12 (52.2) of the publications. The candidate's scientific output has been published in authoritative Bulgarian and foreign scientific journals and anthologies. The publication activity is realized during the last six years, which is a proof of well-planned and purposeful scientific and career development.

The citation reference submitted by the candidate from the MU – Varna's library indicates a total of 6 citations found in the databases of Web of Science, Scopus etc. , grouped by indicators as follows: D10 – 1 pc.; D11 – 2 pcs. and D12 – 3 items, Information on publications in journals with impact factor establishes IF – 3.123. The candidate has registered profiles in Scopus, Google Scholar and ORCID, which provides international visibility for her scientific output.

### **3. Compliance with the minimum requirements of the MU-Varna for occupying the academic position "docent" in PN 7.5. "Health care"**

<b>A group of metrics</b>	<b>Required number of points</b>	<b>Number of points scored by the candidate</b>
Indicator A	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>
Indicator C	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Indicator G	<b>200</b>	<b>204.4</b>
Indicator D	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>
Indicator E	<b>...</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>Total points</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>549.4</b>

From the 23 publications presented, the candidate scored 549.4 points, which exceed the minimum requirements of the MU - Varna for holding the academic position "associate professor".

### **4. Thematic orientation and contributions of scientific production**

The scientific interests of Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, Ph.D. are directed in the field of children's nursing care and find realization in sustainable scientific development and team publication activity. The broad scope of the candidate's published research results is determined by the

integral approach used, which looks for the intersections of methodological approaches used by different scientific disciplines. The scientific production presented by the candidate corresponds to the direction of the announced competition, containing scientific-applied and theoretical contributions, thematically grouped in the following four scientific directions:

#### **4.1. Role and place of nurses in the historical development of children's healthcare in Bulgaria (7)**

This thematic direction, including 7 publications, is one of the most thoroughly developed in the candidate's scientific output. The publications are aimed at researching: the stages in the historical development of nursing in children's health care in Europe and Bulgaria; the education of children's nurses - basic and postgraduate; the terminological paradigm patient-centered care; conflict management in nursing practice; the stages in the development of hospital and outpatient nursing care for children; the statutory and organizational approaches to improving children's health care in Bulgarian villages over a 40-year period; the development of nursing health-promotional care for children aged 0-6 years. The scientific developments included in this scientific direction have a contributing character, both in theoretical and applied aspects.

In this direction, the monographic work of the candidate entitled "Nursing in children's health care" is an original contribution, which is a wide-ranging scientific work analyzing: the historical development of children's nursing; contemporary problems and infrastructural development of children's healthcare. A scientific and applied contribution is made by the results obtained from the own survey of the cooperation between the nurse and the child's family and the possibilities for the nurse's participation in promotional and preventive activities for children.

In the wide range of thematic emphases in this direction, original scientific and practical contributions are made by the obtained results, reflected in the candidate's publications as follows:

- the history and stages of development of nursing in children's health care in European and Bulgarian dimensions have been studied;
- conducted an empirical study on the involvement of nurses in curative and preventive care for children in hospital and outpatient settings;
- the impact of socioeconomic conditions on the evolution of the humanitarian, organizational, and infrastructural concepts of child health nursing is analyzed step by step.

The candidate's publications in this thematic direction are evidence-based and characterized by precision of the obtained results and causality.

#### **4.2. Contemporary Issues in Pediatric Nursing (5)**

The candidate's publications in this thematic direction are mostly confirmatory in nature and represent analyzes of problematic and debatable issues related to: the applicability of innovative models for the development of structures and activities intended for the treatment and prevention of children; managing everyday ethical and organizational conflicts in nursing practice; analysis of the content of complaints submitted to the Committee on Professional Ethics of RPC Stara Zagora; analysis of child mortality in Bulgaria for the period 1990 - 2015. The obtained results illustrate the negative attitudes occurring in the personality of the individual medical specialist and influencing his socio-psychological profile. The analysis of some contemporary problems in the practice of children's nurses reveal basic

ethical problems and common conflict cases, contributing to the determination of effective strategies and methods for their management not only in an individual, but also in a systems plan. In this direction with scientific contributions are the results obtained from:

- the studies on the management of conflicts in Bulgarian nursing practice and the analysis of the content of the complaints received in the Professional Ethics Commission of RPC - Stara Zagora;
- the comparative analysis of child mortality for 25-year period in Bulgaria in the conditions of socio-economic transition.

The scientific production of the candidate in this direction is presented in collective studies that have scientific-practical and informative contributions.

#### **4.3. Ethical and organizational problems of long-term care in general medical practice (6)**

The publications of Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, Ph.D. in this direction include critical analyzes of the applicability of innovative practical and normative foreign initiatives such as advance treatment directives (ATD) in general medical practice. Facilitating and hindering conditions and factors for the use of ATD, related to the awareness of patients and their families about the theoretical foundations and practical applications in the long-term care of the patient, were studied. The results obtained from a survey regarding the possibilities for the introduction in Bulgarian conditions of the "Advance Directive" of the patient as an aspect of ethical nursing care at the end of human life have been correctly analyzed. Proposals have been made for changes in documentation and the legal framework, taking into account free will and affirming the model of patient autonomy. The study of the regulatory framework for health promotion activities in early childhood and the role of the nurse in this direction helps to determine the problems, the resolution of which would contribute to improving the quality of this care.

In this direction scientific and practical contributions have the results obtained from:

- analyzes of the theoretical foundations and practical dimensions of "Advance Treatment Directives" and of the patient's rights through the formulation of the "Immovable Health Care Directives";
- the survey among medical students on ethical behavior towards terminally ill patients.

Publications in this direction have informative and analytical-applied contributions.

#### **4.4. Health and social inequalities in early childhood; cooperation between the nurse and the children's family (5)**

The candidate's production in this direction is presented with five collective publications reflecting the results of valuable studies that have theoretical, scientific-practical and informative contributions. With the use of survey methods, the following were studied: the activity of children's health centers in three Bulgarian regions; inequality in health care for children under 1 year of age in Bulgaria; the satisfaction of doctors with their work in Bulgarian hospitals and the role of nurses in the process of informed consent. A scientific and applied contribution is made by the results obtained from questionnaires about the cooperation between the nurse and the children's families, as well as about the possibilities for the nurse's participation in promotional and preventive activities for children.

The results received definitely support the realization of modern theoretical-applied models, offering new approaches in the interaction between the nurse and the children's families as partners; individualizing the service by creating better communication; focusing on the state of the child and family in their natural environment. Approaches are proposed to improve the working environment and the satisfaction of doctors working in Bulgarian hospitals.

The scientific publications of Ch. Assistant Professor Galina Petrova, Ph.D., in this direction, have theoretical, applied scientific and scientific-informative contributions, as well as with the possibility of application in the training of students in the " Health Care " specialty .

### **5. Educational and teaching activity**

The candidate has a total teaching experience of 16 years and 16 days, calculated as of 16.08.2023. The study load report presented by the Health and Safety Executive of the MU-Varna certifies that Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, Ph.D.. has implemented a student training workload significantly exceeding the minimum normatively defined for an academic academic year. For the period 2019 – 2023, the candidate has an annual study load as follows: 2019-2020 academic year – 399 study hours; 2020-2021 - 713 students hrs.; 2021-2022 - 792 academic hours; 2022 – 2023 – 743 academic hours The teaching and activity at MU - Varna includes conducting exercises, educational practice and pre-diploma internship in the following disciplines of the "Nursing" specialty: philosophy and introduction to nursing care; nursing care (NC) for neurological patients; NC in ENT diseases; NC in infectious patients; NC in somatically ill patients; NC at home; NC in children and adults with disabilities; NC for adults, etc. The candidate participates in the updating of curricula and exercises for the above-mentioned disciplines of the Educational and Scientific Degree "Bachelor" for the period 2019 - 2023 at the Faculty of Public Health at MU - Varna.

### **6. Participation in research projects, scientific activity and membership in scientific societies**

For the period 2011 - 2021, the candidate participated in five scientific projects financed by the "Science" Fund of MU - Stara Zagora and MU - Varna. The scientific activity of Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, Ph.D. is documented with the presentation of 3 reports at scientific forums in Bulgaria. Ch. assistant Galina Petrova, Ph.D. is a member of the following national and international professional and scientific organizations:

- Bulgarian Association of Healthcare Professionals (BAHPA)
- European Public Health Association ( EUPHA)
- Bulgarian Public Health Association (BAOH)
- Bulgarian Scientific Society of Public Health (BNDOZ)
- Bulgarian Society for the History of Medicine (BDIM)

## **CONCLUSION**

In the current one contest for awarding the academic position of "associate professor" participates as the only candidate Chief Assistant Galina Ilieva Petrova, Ph.D The evaluation of her scientific production, educational and teaching activity and compliance with the minimum

requirements for scientific and teaching activity of the Rules of the MU-Varna show: relevance and contributing nature of the presented scientific production; published research results of scientific and applied value; published monograph; normatively corresponding teaching-teaching employment.

In connection with the above and in accordance with the provisions of the "Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the MU-Varna, I strongly recommend the members of the honorable Scientific Jury to award Chief Assistant Galina Ilieva Petrova, Ph.D. the academic position "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health care and sports", professional direction 7.4. "Public Health" and the scientific specialty "Health Care Management" for the needs of the "Health Care" Department of the Faculty of "Public Health", at the Medical University - Varna "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov".

10/23/2023 Reviewer:  
Sofia



Prof. Dr. Kancho Tchamov, Ph.D.