

OPINION

Reviewer: Prof. Dr. Georgi Panov Panov MD, PhD, DSc
Medical Faculty, University „Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov” - Bourgas

Regarding: Competition for the academic position of professor in the scientific specialty Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, for the needs of the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology to the Faculty of Medicine, MU - Varna, announced in SG no. 28/28.03.2023.

According to: Order No. R-109-270/25.05.2023 of the Rector of the MU – Varna, based on The Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations of Medical University – Varna and decision with Protocol No. 2/04.05.2023 of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine and Protocol No. 1/07.06.2023 from the first meeting of the scientific jury I was designated as a reviewer.

Candidate: Single candidate – Associate Professor Doctor Petar Milchev Petrov, MD, PhD, DSc - Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology to the Faculty of Medicine, MU – Varna and Fourth Psychiatric Clinic of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry – University Hospital St. Marina Varna.

I. Biographical data

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Milchev Petrov was born in 1971 in city of Vratza. He has been living and studying in the city of Varna since the age of 5. In 1989, he graduated with honors from the Mathematical High School in the city with a major in "Computer Programming". In the same year he was accepted, and in 1995 he graduated in Medicine at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

II. Education and scientific degrees

1995 – Master of Medicine – Medical University Varna

2004 – Acquired the specialty of "Psychiatry"

2010 – Acquired the specialty of "Child and Adolescent Psychiatry"

2012 – PhD in Medicine

2016 – Acquired the specialty of "Forensic Psychiatry"

2018 – Scientific Degree "Doctor of Medical Sciences"

III. Professional Development

- 1995-1996 After the graduation in 1995 Dr. Petar Petrov start his work as a General Practitioner in the village of Kazashka reka and Unak, Varna.
- 1996-2000 Consultant in Pharmaceutic company
- 2000-2004 General Practitioner in Varna
- 2004-2006 Psychiatrist (outpatient) DCC "Asparuhovo" Varna
- 2005-2008 Psychiatrist in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Ward – University Hospital "St. Marina" Varna
- 2008-2016 Head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Ward – University Hospital "St. Marina" Varna
- 2016 and cont. e Head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic – University Hospital "St. Marina" Varna

IV. Academic Development and Teaching activity

- 2010-2011 Honorary Assistant Professor in Varna Free University
- 2011-2013 Honorary Assistant Professor in Medical University Varna – Dept. Psychiatry and Medical Psychology
- 2013-2014 Assistant Professor in Medical University Varna – Dept. Psychiatry and Medical Psychology
- 2014-2015 Chief Assistant Professor in Medical University Varna – Dept. Psychiatry and Medical Psychology
- 2015 and cont. Associate Professor in Medical University Varna – Dept. Psychiatry and Medical Psychology

During all these years Associate Professor Petar Petrov taught Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry and Medical Psychology. His academic load exceeds the requirements according to regulations.

He was the supervisor of five interns in child psychiatry, as well as three doctoral candidates, and two are in the process of training.

Over the years, Associate Professor Petar Petrov has established himself as an excellent teacher and lecturer. In recent years, he has been among the main lecturers of the educational modules in child psychiatry in our country.

V. Membership in Organizations

Associate Professor Petar Petrov is member of Bulgarian Medical Association, Bulgaria Psychiatric Association and is a President elected of Bulgarian Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions.

VI. Quantitative scientific indicators and Scientific activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Petrov presents a report on the implementation of the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the regulations of the Medical University - Varna, prepared in the Library of the MU - Varna, in accordance with the Regulations for the implementation of the law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Medical University - Varna. According to the presented reference, Associate Professor Petar Milchev Petrov, MD, PhD, meets the requirements to take the academic position "Professor".

Indicators	Points required	Points presented by the Candidate
A	50	50 p
C	100	100 p
D	200	224.52 p
E	100	1725 p
F	100	280 p

Tab 1. Compliance with the scientometric requirements of the MU - Varna for occupying the academic position of professor according to the presented academic reference of the library at the MU - Varna.

The total number of scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Petrov from the report submitted includes:

- Abstract of PhD dissertation
- Abstract of second dissertation
- Monography work – 2
- Full-text scientific publications - 42
- Abstracts at international and national scientific forums - 10
- Textbook chapters – 10 броя
- Number of citations reflecting scientific activity – 115 in the report submitted and 308 in Google Scholar.

From the Full-text scientific publications – 13 are in English and 10 of these relate to international projects in ICMH Study Group and Child psychiatry research conducted to date in the general population involving 10 countries. In the presented scientific works, Assoc. Prof. Petar Petrov is the first author of 12 publications in journals and 6 of the chapters in textbooks.

All works of Assoc. Dr. Petar Petrov are in the scientific fields - Psychiatry, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry and Medical Psychology.

The total impact index of the publications, as author and co-author is IF 91.367 according to the presented reference.

In general, the scientific directions of the published scientific works are in the fields of:

1. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
2. Eating Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence
3. Multinational studies of certain problems in Childhood and Adolescence in the general population
4. General presentation of features in the field of child psychiatry
5. Other

1. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

In this section, the author presents two dissertations and has 8 scientific publications. ADHD was the earliest scientific interest of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Petrov. His two dissertations, for obtaining the scientific and educational degrees "Doctor" and "Doctor of Medical Sciences", are related to the most common behavioral disorder in child and adolescent psychiatry, and perhaps the most commonly diagnosed disorder in this population. The first of them is the result of the only epidemiological study conducted so far in our country on the prevalence of ADHD. The second is the result of a 10-year prospective follow-up of children and adolescents diagnosed with ADHD and examines risk factors for the development of late sequelae of the untreated disorder.

The DSM classification (fourth and fifth revisions) used in the two dissertations over time has proven its advantages with regard to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. In the new ICD-11 classification, both the name of the disorder was changed in this direction, as well as the division into distinct subtypes, whose prevalence in our country was assessed by the author more than 10 years ago. The results obtained in the two dissertations and the publications related to them will be of increasing value in the coming years, because they confirm, also in our conditions, previous research, according to which at least half of the patients diagnosed with the disorder in childhood continue to have symptoms and in adulthood. The negative consequences associated with untreated (in our country at this stage it is practically untreated) ADHD have a huge social cost.

In general, this is a disorder that has so far been considered mainly in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry, and which has a hitherto greatly underestimated social significance.

2. Eating Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence

In this section, 5 scientific publications and one monograph by the author are presented. For decades, the death rate in the eating disorder group has been assumed to be among the highest in psychiatry. In recent years, globalization, the media, access to the Internet and social networks, the change of information channels in adolescence, build the image of a fashionable and desirable thin figure, and this happens at an increasingly early age. The pursuit of perfectionism in terms of appearance is becoming more and more

widespread in today's young society: A huge share of eating disorders debut precisely in childhood and adolescence. Learning the triggers of eating disorders, as well as actively looking for co-occurring suicidal and non-suicidal self-injurious behaviors, greatly improves the chances of timely diagnosis and therapeutic success.

In his monograph, Associate Professor Petar Petrov, presents in detail a clinical sample of patients with anorexia and bulimia nervosa in childhood and adolescence, the methodology for the use of standardized tools for the detailed assessment of eating disorders in childhood and adolescence. Illustrative clinical cases are presented. The rich personal and clinical experience of the author allow him to present a complete therapeutic algorithm.

Discussing a wide range of environmental factors that include perinatal complications, personality characteristics, family relationships, socio-cultural attitudes and others provides strong opportunities for designing prevention programs, such as the use of appropriate information sources (internet, social networks) for children and adolescents can raise awareness of eating disorders and support early help-seeking.

Two clinical cases of anorexia nervosa in adolescence have been published in authoritative Bulgarian journals, which draw attention to the seriousness of this disorder, its potential lethality and the need for a multidisciplinary team for its treatment.

3. Multinational studies of specific childhood-adolescence problems in the general population

In this section, the author presents 10 scientific publications, as well as the monographic work on "Locus of control, life psychotraumatic events and depressive and anxiety symptoms in adolescence". All 10 scientific publications are in English and published in international journals. They are related to international projects in collaboration with the ICMH Study Group and the research conducted to date in the field of Child Psychiatry in the general population involving a number of countries. Child psychiatry in the general population provides significant tools that can be used for the prevention of mental disorders in children and adolescents, which is one of the main functions of the specialty. The diversity of countries involved in these projects also allows some culturally specific phenomena to be assessed.

Among these 10 publications, there are 5 on the application of screening tools:

- Adolescent Self-Report on the Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory
- Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire
- UCLA PTSD reaction index for DSM-5
- ESSENCE-Q: Slavic language versions for developmental screening in young children
- Adolescent Self-Report on the Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory

They show some transcultural peculiarities in the use of these screening tools in the general adolescent population, while at the same time showing specificities of our country.

4. General presentation of features in the field of child psychiatry

Included are 7 scientific publications related to various significant aspects of the specificity of psychiatric pathology in children and adolescents. The most significant of these are the two publications related to non-suicidal self-injurious behavior in the adolescent population. This is another problem of enormous social importance, which in recent years has gained more and more "popularity", usually again through various information channels, for which there are still no uniform criteria and almost no information about its true prevalence.

5. Other

This section includes publications on a variety of issues in psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, as well as interdisciplinary issues related to oncology, rheumatology and COVID.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Petrov is a co-author in 10 chapters of textbooks related to the education of child and adolescent psychiatry for students of medicine, health care and interns. Reviewed in their entirety are main aspects in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

VII. Qualification and Participation in national examination boards

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Petrov is the only one in the country with acquired specialties in Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry and Forensic Psychiatry. This gives the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology of the Medical University of Varna the opportunity to train both specialists and doctoral students in these specialties.

Assoc. Prof. Petrov participates in the national examination board for the acquisition of a specialty in Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry as a member and is the Chairman of the board for the acquisition of a specialty in Forensic Psychiatry.

VIII. Conclusion

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Milchev Petrov is an experienced educator, researcher and clinician. The presented data for scientific research, teaching and organizational activity meet the requirements of the law and the regulations for its implementation, as well as

the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Medical University - Varna.

In conclusion, I give a positive opinion and propose to the other members of the scientific jury to vote positively for awarding the academic position "Professor" to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Milchev Petrov, in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", in the scientific specialty "Child Psychiatry", for the needs of the Department of "Psychiatry and Medical Psychology", Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University - Varna and the Fourth Clinic "Child and Adolescent Psychiatry" at University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna.

28.Jul.2023

Bourgas



Prof. Dr. Georgi Panov MD, PhD, DSc