

Opinion

From

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Internal member of the Scientific Jury, determined by the Order of the Rector of the MU - Varna № P-109-518/ 30.11.2023.

Regarding: announced in SG No. 83/03.10.2023 competition for the occupation of the academic position "associate professor" on the basis of Art. 4; 1 and 2 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, art. 57; 1 and 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law, Art. 6; 1, Art. 127; 1 and 2 of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University - Varna

Candidate (single): Ch. assistant professor Iliana Georgieva Atanasova, Ph.D.

1. Brief biographical and professional data about the candidate

Ch. assistant Dr. Iliyana Georgieva Atanasova, MD was born on February 17, 1979 in Varna. In 1996, she graduated from the Secondary School "St. Kliment Ohridski", Varna, studying Russian and English. In 1999, she graduated from the Varna Medical College as an assistant pharmacist. She graduated as a master's degree in Dental Medicine at Varna Medical University in 2011 as the top of the class with full honors and the "Golden Hippocrates" award. At the same time, she also received the "STUDENS OPTIMUS" Diploma - Prof. Dr. Slavcho Davidov Award for excellent success and high student achievements in the academic, scientific and creative activities of the graduating class of 2011. In 2019, she was enrolled as a full-time doctoral student in the scientific specialty "Orthopedic Dentistry" on the topic: "Evaluation of individual indicators for orthodontic treatment of children in mixed and permanent dentition" with supervisor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hristina Arnautska. In 2020, she acquired a specialty in Orthodontics, and in 2022 the scientific and educational degree "Doctor". Since 2022 she has held the academic position "chief assistant" in the Department of Orthodontics.

She is a member of BDU, BOS, EOS, ADA.

2. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific activity

The submitted works for participation in the competition, a total of 14, reflect the research activity in the period 2018-2023.

Dr. Atanasova works in eight main directions of scientific works:

1. Dental age of Bulgarian children in mixed and permanent dentition (D7.3, D8.3)
2. Skeletal age of Bulgarian children 7-17 years. Average chronological age of Bulgarian children at the puberty peak phases CVM II, CVM III and CVM IV. (A1, Publications for acquisition of Ph.D)
4. Study of individual indicators of the pubertal growth period and creation of a prognostic model on orthopantomography for starting orthodontic treatment. (A1, B3)
5. Frequency of the degree of mineralization of the embryos of permanent teeth in the pubertal period of growth. (D7.2, D8.1, D8.2)
6. Determining age at different stages of human ontogenetic development by different characteristics of dental tissues (B3)
7. Oral breathing in children with mixed and permanent dentition and the related dental and jaw deformities (G7.1)
8. Pathology of tooth eruption and rotation of upper permanent first molars (Publications beyond the minimum scientometric requirements)

Scientific indicators:

A1. **Dissertation work** for the acquisition of educational and scientific degree "doctor" – **50 points.**

C3. **Habilitation thesis - monograph "Determination of age by morphological and physiological characteristics of dental tissues"**. MU Varna. 174 pp. ISBN: 978-619-221-431-9 – **100 points.**

D7. Publications and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information – **132 p.**

D8. Publications and reports published in non-refereed journals or published in edited collective volumes – 75 p.

TOTAL (indicators D5-9) mandatory minimum – 200 points - 207 points.

D10. Citations or reviews in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes – 2.

D11. Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 4

D12. Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals -13

TOTAL (indicator D10-12) 19 - 135 points

Full-text publications in scientific journals and anthologies, beyond the minimum requirements for the appointment of "Associate Professor" - 3 - 22.5 p.

Publications submitted for the acquisition of "Ph.D." - 3

TOTAL (indicators G7-8) minimum - 30 points - 90 points

- Distribution of scientific works by language of publication:
 - Publications in Bulgarian - 6
 - Publications in a foreign language (English) – 8
- Distribution of scientific works by authorship:
 - As an independent author - 9
 - Co-authored 5, of which such as:
 - first author – in 2 publications
 - second author – in 2 publications
 - fourth author – in 1 publication

3. Main contributions in scientific works

Contributions related to the main directions of scientific works:

I. Contribution of original character

For the first time in our country, a model for determining the pubertal growth period on orthopantomography, by evaluating individual indicators of growth and development, is being prepared.

II. Contributions of a scientific and theoretical nature

1. Dental age was assessed using the Demirjian method and the Willems method in Bulgarian children aged 7-16 years.
2. The accuracy of the two methods in determining dental age relative to chronological age and between them was investigated.
3. The correlation between the accuracy of Demirjian and Willems dental age estimation methods and gender was investigated.
4. The average chronological age in girls and boys before the peak of pubertal development in stage CVM II, at the peak of pubertal development in stage CVM III and after the peak of pubertal development in stage CVM IV was determined by the Baccetti method of cervical vertebrae maturity.
5. The mineralization stages of teeth 23, 33, 35, 37, 38 in the stages of bone age - CVM II, CVM III and CVM IV according to Baccetti were established.
6. Correlation relationships between tooth mineralization stages 23, 33, 35, 37, 38 and bone age stages CVM II, CVM III and CVM IV according to Baccetti were investigated.

III. Contributions of a scientific and applied nature

1. The Willems method is recommended for assessing dental age in Bulgarian children aged 7-16 years.
2. The average chronological age of girls and boys in stage CVM II, up to which the treatment of class III with maxillary expansion and maxillary protraction according to Baccetti is most effective, was established.
3. The average chronological age of girls and boys in stage CVM III and CVM IV, at which it is recommended to start the treatment of the distal bite with retromandibulia according to Baccetti, was established.
4. The stages of mineralization of teeth 23, 33, 35, 37, 38 during bone age stages CVM II, CVM III and CVM IV and the interrelationship between them were determined.
5. A model was prepared for determining the pubertal growth period on orthopantomography, by evaluating the degree of mineralization of different teeth in combination with chronological age and gender.

4. Opinion on the candidate's teaching work

Dr. Atanasova presents a certificate of **teaching experience of 8 years and 17 days as of 06.10.2023.**

The study workload report shows, with a norm of 360 hours, workload respectively:

2018/2019 – 358 hours

2019/2020 – 378 hours

2020/2021 – 367 hours

2021/2022 – 344 hours

2022/2023 – 395 hours

Including lectures, exercises and pre-diploma internship in Bulgarian and English.

5. Personal impressions of the candidate

I know Dr. Atanasova as a colleague in her teaching process at the Department of Orthodontics and from joint participation in student exams. She has shown ethics, precision and a careful attitude towards colleagues and students. I believe that she is an established teacher, scientist and colleague who, in the higher academic position for which she is applying, will continue to develop her potential and contribute to the development of the Department of Orthodontics and the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the Medical University - Varna.

Conclusion

The analysis of all the documents provided for participation in the competition shows **that Dr. Atanasova's** scientific indicators, professional and academic qualifications fully comply with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff, the Regulations for the Implementation of the LDAS and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in Medical University - Varna for the academic position "associate professor".

Based on all this and my positive personal impressions of her high professionalism, broad scientific interests, expressed collegiality, organizational skills and social authority, **I recommend**

to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for hiring the candidate Dr. Iliana Georgieva Atanasova, MD for the academic position "associate professor", higher education area 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.2 Dental medicine, specialty "prosthetic dentistry", for the needs of the department "Orthodontics", Faculty of Dental Medicine, MU- Varna.

12.02.2024

Varna

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Assoc. prof. Dr. D. Konstantinova, Ph.D.