

## ACADEMIC OPINION

by **Prof. Dr. Vera Borisova Krumova, DMD, PhD**, external member of the Scientific Jury, on the basis of an Order P-109-518/30.11.2023 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"- Varna

**Subject:** Competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education "7. Health care and sports", professional direction "7.2. Dental medicine" for the needs of the Department of Orthodontics (published in the SG, no. 83 of 03.10.2023) and on the basis of Art. 4, para. 1, para. 2 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Art. 57, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Regulations for its Application and the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff of Medical University -Varna Art. 6, para. 1, Art. 127, para. 1 and para. 2

**Candidate:** Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Iliyana Georgieva Atanasova, DMD, PhD – Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University – Varna

### **Candidate's career profile**

Dr. Iliyana Georgieva Atanasova, DMD, PhD was born in 1979 in Varna. In 1996 she graduated with excellent results from the High school "St. Kliment Ohridski" Varna, profiled with Russian and English language programme. In 1999 she graduated with excellent results from the Medical College of Varna specialty Pharmacy with professional qualification assistant pharmacist. In 2011 she obtained Master's Degree in Dental Medicine at the Medical University of Varna and graduated with honors and awards. She was granted with "GOLDEN HIPPOCRATES" Award as a holder of DIPLOMA MAGNA CUM LAUDE of Alumni 2011 and Diploma "STUDENS OPTIMUS" –Prof. Dr. Slavcho Davidov for excellent results and high academic achievements in the academic, scientific and creative activities of Alumni 2011. After graduating since 2011 to 2013 she was Assistant Professor at the Department of Orthodontics. After a short break from 2016 she is a regular Assistant Professor at the Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna. In 2020, Dr. Atanasova acquired a specialty in Orthodontics. In 2019 she was admitted as a full-time PhD student at the Department of Orthodontics and was selected as an Administrative Assistant to the Department of Orthodontics. In 2022, she acquired the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and from November 2022 after a competition she took the position of "Chief Assistant Professor" in the Department of Orthodontics. She is fluent in English and Russian. Regular member of BDA, Bulgarian Orthodontic Society, Australian Dental Association, EOS. She has 14 publications and number of participations in National and International Conferences and Symposia.

## **Overall assessment of the documentation submitted for the participation in the competition.**

The materials submitted for participation in the announced competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" are in accordance with the requirements of the Law on Academic Staff Development and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff and Academic Positions at the Medical University - Varna.

## **General characterization of the applied candidate's research and scientific activity**

In the academic transcript of publications, citations and scientific profiles of Ch. Assist. Dr. Iliyana Atanasova, PhD, the scientometric requirements for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor include:

1. Doctoral Dissertation on the topic "Evaluation of individual indicators for orthodontic treatment of children in mixed and permanent dentition"
2. Monographic ( habilitation) work on **“AGE DETERMINATION BY MORPHOLOGICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF DENTAL TISSUES** , 2023, ISBN 978-619- 221-431-9.
3. 9 full -text publications, 3 of which were in referenced and indexed databases with scientific information- Scopus и Web of Science.

The scientific publications scored overall 229,5 points.

In 4 of the published scientific papers Dr. Atanasova is an independent author, of one is the first author of three is a second author and of one publication - a fourth.

Dr. Atanasova provides an additional list describing all the publication activity until the announcement of the competition for academic position "Associate Professor". In this list, in addition to the articles included in the academic transcript of records, there are 3 more full-text publications.

The presented scientific papers and the results of the research work are divided thematically in the following scientific fields:

1. Dental age of Bulgarian children in mixed and permanent dentition ( Г7.3, Г8.3)
2. Skeletal age of Bulgarian children 7-17 years. Mean chronological age of Bulgarian children during the phases of pubertal pick CVM II, CVM III и CVM IV. (A1)
4. Study of individual indicators of puberty growth period and development of a prognostic model on orthopantomography for initiation of orthodontic treatment.( A1, B3)
5. Incidence of tooth germ mineralization stage of permanent teeth in the pubertal growth period. ( Г7.2, Г8.1, Г8.2)
6. Determination of age at different stages of human ontogenetic development by different characteristics of dental tissues (B3)
7. Mouth breathing in children in mixed and permanent dentition and associated dental and occlusal deformities (Г7.1)
8. Pathology of dental eruption and rotation of upper permanent first molars (Publications beyond the minimum scientometric requirements)



A reference is presented for 19 citations, which bring 135 points, of which 2 are citations in refereed and indexed scientific journals and 17 are citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review and in monographs.

Dr. Atanasova has scientific profiles in three databases: Google Scholar, Research Gate and ORCID.

In the monographic work of Dr. Iliyana Atanasova on the topic: "**Age determination by morphological and physiological characteristics of dental tissues**" she presents the phylogenetic and postnatal development of maxillofacial structures. A correlation between dental, chronological and skeletal ages is derived. As a result of the study conducted by Dr. Atanasova, involving 320 children, she found that the peak of puberty development ( Skeletal Age CVM III) in Bulgarian children is 11.58 - 12.02 years for girls and 12.12 - 12.93 years for boys. This is also the most favorable moment for the treatment of Class II Malocclusions with the possibility of maximum change in the antero-posterior position of the lower jaw. After examining the degree of mineralization of maxillary and mandibular canines, mandibular second premolar and second molar by the method of Demirjian she found that the peak of puberty in boys corresponds to completed root development of maxillary and mandibular canines. In girls, puberty peak correlates with complete root development of the mandibular canine tooth alone.

The prepubertal period (Skeletal age CVM II) in Bulgarian children is up to 11.63 - 11.98 years for boys and up to 9.91 - 10.54 years for girls. This is the most favorable moment for the treatment of Class III Malocclusions with a maximum effect on the growth of the upper jaw. After examining the degree of mineralization of maxillary and mandibular canines, mandibular second premolar and second molar by the Demirjian method of determining dental age, she found that this chronological age in boys corresponded with stage G of root development of maxillary and mandibular canines, as well as the mandibular second premolar. In girls, the assessment of the dental age of the two canines showed the same result, while the degree of mineralization of the mandibular second premolar and molar she found that they were in an earlier stage-F on Demirjian.

The results from the study are innovative in terms of research in Orthodontics in our country.

### **Complex assessment of the candidate's educational and teaching activities**

The academic transcript for the teaching activities of Dr. Atanasova shows that the average academic workload covers the norm of 360 academic hours almost the entire period: 2018/2019 – 358 hours; 2019/2020 – 378hours; 2020/2021 – 367 hours; 2021/2022 -344 hours and 2022/2023 – 395. Dr. Atanasova teaches and train the both- Bulgarian-language students and English language students.

**Overall assessment of the applicant regarding the compliance of the mandatory requirements for the quantitative criteria and scientometric requirements according to the Regulations of Organization and Procedure of MU – Varna**

With a lot of hard work and perseverance, Dr. Iliyana Atanasova, DMD, PhD has achieved these high scientific results with which she participates at the competition in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for acquiring academic degrees and occupying academic positions at MU - Varna.

These results are an objective reflection of her development, which I have known since her student years as her teacher, until now.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, I would like to point that Dr. Atanasova's career development, scientific and teaching activities are at the highest academic level. The overall assessment of her professional development, scientific appearances and contribution, educational and teaching activity and administrative experience, prompt me to give my positive opinion and to confidently suggest to the members of the Scientific Jury to choose Chief Assistant Professor Dr Iliyana Georgieva Atanasova, DMD, PhD for the academic position "Associate Professor"

01.02.2024  
Sofia

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