#### **OPINION**

# by Prof. Dr. Rumen Pavlov Nikolov, MD Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Sofia

member of the scientific jury for the academic position "Assoc. Professor" (published in State Gazette No. 83/03.10.2023), confirmed by order of the rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"- Varna No. R-109-513/30.11.2023, field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy - one, for the needs of the "Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy" Department, Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University - Varna.

One candidate from the University of Varna took part in the competition - Ch. assistant, magister of Pharmacy Maya Petrova Radeva-Ilieva, PhD.

Assessment of the academic development of Ch. Assistant Maya Petrova Radeva-Ilieva, PhD

## I. Biographical data and career profile of the candidate

Ch. Assistant Maya Petrova Radeva-Ilieva, PhD, was born on 12.11. 1989 in the town of Silistra. She completed her secondary education at the "St. Kliment Ohridski", town of Silistra. In 2015, she graduated from the specialty "Pharmacy" at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna. In the period 2015-2016, she worked as a master pharmacist in pharmacies in the city of Varna. Since 2016, mag. Pharm.Maya Radeva-Ilieva is an assistant in the Department of "Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University - Varna. In 2022, mag. Pharm. Radeva-Ilieva successfully defended her doctorate in the doctoral program "Pharmacology (incl. pharmacokinetics and chemotherapy)" at the University of Varna. In 2022, she acquired the academic position of chief assistant. She has an acquired specialty in "Pharmacology" (December 2023).

Ch. assistant mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva has 8 years of teaching experience at Medical University - Varna. She teaches the disciplines of pharmacology, toxicology, and pharmacotherapy to pharmacy students.

The candidate is fluent in English and has excellent technical skills in working with computer programs.

Ch. Assistant Professor Maya Radeva-Ilieva participated in 2 intra-university scientific projects.

Mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva is a member of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union and the Bulgarian Society of Pharmacology, Clinical Pharmacology and Therapy.

### II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

Ch. Assistant mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva has attached a complete set of documents, following the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna: application to the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna for admission to the competition with a description of the documents; creative resume in European format; diploma of completed education in pharmacy from Medical University - Varna, diploma for acquired scientific and educational degree "Doctor" from Medical University - Varna, diploma for specialization in "Pharmacology (incl. pharmacokinetics and chemotherapy)", certificate of internship and held academic positions, academic reports on study load, academic report from the Library of the University of Varna, monograph, list of participations in scientific projects and report on scientific contributions. The documents are submitted on an electronic medium.

# III. Evaluation of the scientific works of the candidate for the overall academic development

The candidate Ch. Assistant mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva participated in the competition with a habilitation thesis - a monograph and 19 scientific articles, as follows:

- "Health benefits and risks of using phytoproducts containing polyphenolic compounds". IC
   "Steno", Varna, 2023;
- List of 8 publications and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information;
- A list of 11 publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes;
- In 4 of the presented publications related to the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", Ch. Associate Professor Maya Radeva-Ilieva is the first author; of the candidate's scientific articles in journals with an impact factor, 6 have been published (total IF -9,102).

In the applicant's academic report prepared by the Library of the University of Varna, the points awarded for each presented scientific work are calculated in proportion to the number of co-authors, and the candidate's points by groups of indicators that I recognize are as follows: indicator A - 50 points, indicator B - 100 points and indicator G - 270.82 points.

The candidate meets the normative requirements for publication activity (indicator B-100 points with a requirement of 100 points and indicator G-270.82 points with a requirement of 200 points). According to indicator G-7, the candidate meets the normative requirements (120, 24 points against a requirement of 80 points for non-clinical specialties).

# IV. Evaluation of the monographic work or equivalent publications submitted for participation in the competition

The candidate mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva presented the monographic work "Health benefits and risks when using phytoproducts containing polyphenolic compounds" (Publishing House "Steno", 2023). The monograph examines the main groups of polyphenols contained in plant extracts, their biological effects, and the potential adverse effects associated with their use.

In recent years, there has been much interest in the potential benefits of plant polyphenols for human health. Based on data published in the scientific literature, the biological effects of polyphenols offer the possibility of preventing the development and progression of many chronic diseases in humans. Epidemiological studies show that polyphenols provide significant protection against the development of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes mellitus, bronchial asthma, and neurodegenerative diseases, as well as against bacterial and viral infections and the aging process.

The monographic work of mag. Pharm. Radeva-Ilieva includes modern theoretical data related to the biological effects of polyphenolic compounds of plant origin and the risk of unwanted effects when using phytoproducts.

### V. Citation of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature

The candidate mag. Pharm. Radeva-Ilieva meets and exceeds the normative requirements under indicator D 10-12 (180 points against a requirement of 50 points).

### VI. Assessment of teaching and learning activities

From 2016 to the present, the candidate mag. Pharm. Maya Radeva-Ilieva conducts practical classes for pharmacy students in pharmacology, toxicology and pharmacotherapy at Medical University-Varna. In the last 3 academic years Ch. Assistant Professor Radeva-Ilieva has an average auditory occupancy of 315 hours.

Ch. Assistant Professor Maya Radeva-Ilieva participated as a co-author in 2 textbooks.

### VII. Critical notes and recommendations

I have no critical remarks about the candidate. My recommendation is that she continue her publication activity.

VIII. General assessment of the candidate's compliance with the mandatory conditions and mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators for occupying academic positions at the Medical University -Varna.

Field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Pharmacy.

**Table 1.** Minimum required points by groups of indicators for the academic position "Associate Professor".

		Associate Professor	Maya Radeva-Ilieva
A	I		
Б	I		
В	I		
Γ		0	2
Д		50	8

### IX. Conclusion

My comprehensive evaluation of the educational and scientific activities of Ch. Assistant mag. Pharm. Maya Petrova Radeva-Ilieva is positive. The candidate meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scient metric criteria in the ZRASRB and the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna for the occupation of the academic position "Assoc. Professor". The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition show that Ch. Assistant Professor Maya Radeva-Ilieva meets the requirements for holding the academic position "Associate Professor", according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, and the Rules of the Medical University - Varna. The presented scientific works and evidence of the scientific activity meet the quantitative and qualitative criteria and show a high contribution character.

I propose to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to award Ch. Assistant mag. Pharm. Maya Petrova Radeva-Ilieva, PhD, the academic position "Assoc. Professor" in the

field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy, for the needs of the "Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacotherapy" Department of the "Pharmacy" Faculty at the Medical University - Varna.

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/Prof. Dr. Rumen Pavlov Nikolov, PhD/