

STATEMENT

from

Assoc. Prof. Maria Ivanova Dimitrova, PhD

Faculty of Public Health «Prof. Dr. Tzekomir Vodenicharov, MD», Medical University -
Sofia, Department of Health Care

Appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury by Order No. R-109-511 of 29.11.2023.
of the Rector of Medical University «Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov» – Varna

Subject: Procedure for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"

Topic: Modern models, new approaches and perspectives in the education of students of the specialty "Medical Laboratory Technician"

Author: Yordanka Yordanova Mihailova

Doctoral program: "Health Care Management"

Professional direction: 7.4. Public Health

Field of higher education: 7. Health care and sports

Form of the doctorate: Regular form of Doctoral Program

Research supervisor: Associate Professor Emilia Petrova Georgieva, Ph.D.

The presented set of documents and materials on paper and electronic media comply with the Procedure for the acquisition of the ESD "Doctor" according to the requirements of the ZRASRB and the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna «Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" for its application.

Yordanka Mihailova completed two majors at Medical College - Varna: "Medical Laboratory Technician" (specialist - 1990). and "Pharmacist Assistant" (professional bachelor's degree - 2006), as well as three master's programs: "Health Management" (2001 - MU - Varna); "Social Pedagogy" (2007 at "Episkop Konstantin Preslavski" University of Shumen) and in 2015, specialty in "Health Care Management" at the Medical University - Varna. Since 2022, she has acquired a specialty in "Public Health".

Yordanka Mihailova has 22 years of work experience as a medical laboratory technician, at the same time she works as an assistant pharmacist, and since 2012 she has been a teacher at the Varna Medical College. Leads classes on the academic disciplines: Clinical laboratory - exercises and teaching practice in clinical laboratory.

The doctoral student presents a list of a total of 20 publications and 2 participations in research projects. The submitted documents show a continuous increase in her professional and educational development.

The dissertation contains 139 pages and is well structured, with an optimal ratio of structural parts. The dissertation is properly illustrated, contains 33 figures and 10 tables. The bibliographic reference includes 158 sources, of which 96 are in Cyrillic and 62 are in Latin.

The presented dissertation work has a current sound, it examines the problems related to the training of medical laboratory students, the application of new approaches and their prospects in subsequent professional development. Continuously increasing demands on health care, on health care specialists and on laboratory-diagnostic services, present us with challenges that can only be answered by highly qualified professionals with adequate basic training.

The literature review describes the place and specific role of the medical laboratory technician in the healthcare system, presenting the development of the specialty in historical terms. A critical analysis of some key elements that influence turnover in medical diagnostic laboratories is carried out. The job description of the medical laboratory technician is presented with the specific tasks, major professional responsibilities and their modern training in Bulgaria and other European countries. The completed literature review shows the doctoral student's wide awareness of the topic under consideration.

The purpose and working hypotheses of the dissertation work are specific, clearly and accurately formulated. The set five tasks logically follow from the goal, allowing a good implementation of the planned study. The methodology of the study is thoroughly described, all elements and stages of the study are indicated correctly and in detail.

A total of 189 persons divided into three groups of respondents were covered: medical laboratory workers (79 respondents); students of the medical laboratory technician specialty (100 respondents) and expert managers of medical diagnostic laboratories (10 respondents).

Adequate methods and a suitable software program have been selected for the realization of the set tasks: documentary, sociological and statistical methods. The research design is comprehensive, precise and meets the requirements of a dissertation.

In chapter three, four and five - Results and discussion of the survey among the working medical laboratory workers, the students and the interview with the managers of Medical-diagnostic laboratories, a precise analysis with a correct interpretation is made. Based on the obtained results, 6 conclusions were formulated, which follow logically from the set tasks and summarize the most important results in a synthesized form.

Of the working medical laboratory workers, 79.75% are satisfied with the opportunities provided to them in the workplace, and the leading reasons for turnover are low pay, high workload and the inability to obtain a higher qualification in the same professional field. The results for the second group of respondents - students, show that 89% of them are satisfied with the relevance of the lecture material and 55% rate the conducted practical exercises as "high". When conducting the interview with the third group of respondents, turnover and lack of personnel stood out as the main problem.

Based on the research and analysis, Yordanka Mihailova offers as a solution continuing education with a Master's degree (closely profiled for medical laboratory technicians). In connection with this, a "Master's Program Model" and curriculum was prepared and implemented.

The submitted abstract for the dissertation work is presented in 58 pages and reflects the most important results, research conclusions and contributions. There are 4 publications in connection with the dissertation work, one of which is the independent author, and the other three are the first author.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the dissertation work submitted for review on the topic "Modern models, new approaches and perspectives in the education of students of the specialty "Medical Laboratory Technician" by Yordanka Mihailova has a practical-applied nature and meets all the requirements for a dissertation work for the award of the END "Doctor ".

Based on the above, I give my positive assessment for the dissertation work and the abstract, and I recommend the honorable members of the scientific jury to vote positively for

awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Yordanka Yordanova Mihailova in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports , professional direction 7.4. Public Health, Health Care Management.

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
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Sofia

Prepared statement:
/ Assoc. Prof.M. Dimitrova, PhD/