

## STATEMENT

Prof. Galina Stamova Tchaneva, PhD

FPH "Prof. Dr. Tz. Vodenicharov, MD" of the Sofia University

Appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury by Order No. R-109-511 of  
29.11.2023. of the Rector of the Medical University

"Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna

Regarding: Procedure for obtaining the educational and scientific degree  
"Doctor" of Yordanka Yordanova Mihailova - doctoral student in full-time study

on the subject:

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

in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional direction  
7.4. Public Health in Doctoral Program Health Care Management.

The dissertation work developed by Yordanka Mihailova is aimed at the analysis and research of the specific features in the training and perspectives of medical laboratory technicians, as well as their professional development. In recent years, significant changes have been observed in clinical laboratory diagnostics based on technological and scientific achievements. The development of the professional competences of medical laboratory workers needs to be aligned with the improvement of their knowledge in the field of technology, new software products and modern laboratory equipment.

The dissertation is structured in 130 pages and includes seven chapters: first chapter - literature review - topicality of the problem; second chapter -

research methodology and organization; chapter three – results and discussion of a survey among working medical laboratory workers; chapter four – results and discussion of a survey among students; fifth chapter – results and discussion of an interview with managers of medical diagnostic laboratories; sixth chapter – model of master's training program; seventh chapter - conclusions recommendations and contributions. The results are illustrated with 33 figures and 10 tables. The literature used includes 158 sources, of which 96 are in Cyrillic and 62 in Latin.

The literature review includes a description of the historical development of the "medical laboratory technician" specialty. The professional activities of medical laboratory technicians, as well as the European qualification framework, are analyzed. The management issues related to staff turnover in the medical-diagnostic laboratories were examined - the influence of professional stress was analyzed; satisfaction with pay and other factors. The doctoral student presents the methods of training the students of the "medical laboratory technician" specialty, the methodological approaches in the use of electronic learning resources, as well as modern methods in training.

The goal is clearly and concretely formulated, as it is aimed at the study of modern models and new approaches in the training of students of the "medical laboratory technician" specialty. 5 tasks have been defined, which are oriented towards preparing a comparative analysis of the educational and qualification level of medical laboratory workers in the country and other countries; study of students' attitudes towards increasing their educational qualifications; survey of users' opinions regarding the professional training and competencies of medical laboratory technicians.

The methodology is described in detail, as well as the stages of the research: preparation of the instrumentation; actual research; data processing and analysis; description of results; conclusions and contributions. The methods used are: documentary, sociological and statistical. Two questionnaires and a semi-structured interview questionnaire were developed.

The obtained results are analyzed and synthetically presented in the third, fourth and fifth chapter. A scientific style and language was used to reveal the problems regarding the training and professional development of medical laboratory technician . A significant part of the persons included in the study indicate that they feel motivated and professionally confident in the work environment, which proves the quality of training of medical laboratory technician. However, when analyzing the turnover in the medical diagnostic laboratories, the interviewed medical laboratory technicians indicate that the leading reasons for the turnover are: low pay, high workload and the impossibility of increasing qualifications.

The main contributions of the dissertation work are as follows:

- The historical development of the "Medical Laboratory Technician" specialty in the country is presented.
- A comparative analysis of training in the "Medical Laboratory Technician" specialty was carried out in the country and in other countries.
- The possibilities of applying electronic learning resources in the training of medical laboratory assistants have been investigated.
- The satisfaction of medical laboratory technicians working in the territory of the city of Varna, in relation to their professional realization, was studied.

- A model of a Master's program for the specialty "Medical Laboratory Technician" has been developed as an opportunity for professional development and professional qualification enhancement.

The presented abstract of the developed dissertation contains the main elements of the conducted research. The doctoral student presents 4 articles related to the topic of the dissertation and participation in 2 research projects.

In conclusion, I believe that the dissertation work developed by Yordanka Mihailova on the topic: "Modern models, new approaches and perspectives in the training of students from the specialty Medical laboratory technician" has significant contributions and shows the deep interests of the doctoral student regarding the training and professional realization of medical laboratory technicians in the country. I give a positive assessment of the presented dissertation work and recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to make a decision to award Yordanka Yordanova Mihailova an educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.4. Public Health, Health Care Management.

22.01.2024

Sofia

Prepared the statement:

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