

To The Chairman of Scientific Jury
designated by Order № P-109-398/20.09.2021
by the Rector of the Medical University-Varna

Statement

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Stoyanova Dimova, PhD
Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine,
Medical University Varna

Member of the Scientific Jury for the competition for the occupation of the academic position Associate Professor in the field of higher education Health and Sports, in the professional field Medicine and scientific specialty "Rheumatology" for the needs of the First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University of Varna and for the Clinic of Rheumatology at the University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna

Brief information about the competition

The competition was announced in the State Gazette № 61/23.07.2021r.

By order of the Rector of MU Varna № P-109-398 / 20.09.2021 I was elected a member of the scientific jury.

At the first meeting of the scientific jury I was appointed to prepare a statement on the procedure for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor" for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, First Department of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology Clinic at St. Marina University Hospital - Varna.

The procedure for announcing the competition is in accordance with the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and with the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Medical University-Varna. No procedural violations have been established. Documents for the competition have been submitted by one candidate - Dr. Tsvetoslav Antonov Georgiev, PhD.

Short details of the applicant

Dr. Tsvetoslav Antonov Georgiev completed his secondary education in 2006 at the First Language High School, Varna with English and German.

He graduated in medicine in 2012 at the Medical University – Sofia. He started working as a junior specialist and later as a junior expert in an executive transplant agency.

In 2014, Dr. Georgiev started a specialization in rheumatology at the University Hospital "St. Ivan Rilski" - Sofia and finished it successfully in 2018.

Dr. Georgiev worked in the Department of Rheumatology at "Serdika" Hospital – Sofia from 01.2019 to 07.2019, and from 07.2019. until now he is part of the team of the Rheumatology Clinic at the University Hospital "St. Marina" - Varna. Since 01.2019 he has been an associate editor at Rheumatology International

Acquired specialties: Rheumatology 2018.

Additional qualifications:

1. Musculoskeletal ultrasound - certificates for basic, intermediate levels, conducted by EULAR, BDR, BAMSU, capillaroscopy, osteodensitometry, imaging in rheumatology

Research activity

Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev received his PhD degree in 2018 after successfully completing his PhD work on the topic: "Clinical, serological and imaging studies in patients with gonarthrosis treated with various therapeutic agents."

Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev presented the following scientific production for the competition:

1. Monograph entitled "Gonarthrosis", 2019, published by the Medical University of Varna, ISBN 978-619-7168-07-5.
2. Full-text articles in scientific publications, referenced or indexed by WOS or Scopus databases - 9.
3. Full-text publications in peer-review journals and editing – 4.
5. Participation in international scientific events with abstracts– 9.

6. Participation in national scientific events – 19.

7. Number of citations: 10 in scientific journals, referenced or indexed by WOS or Scopus databases

Dr. Georgiev is the first author in 7 of the publications in refereed indexed scientific journals and the second in the others. Dr. Georgiev is the first author in two of the publications in peer-review journals and subsequent in the others of the publications submitted for participation in the competition. Dr. Georgiev has six participations in the European Congress of Rheumatology, several more participations in other European and world scientific forums, more than 10 participations in national congresses and conference. The presented scientific publications and activities of Dr. Tsvetoslav Antonov Georgiev are sufficient enough and complies with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the Academic Staff Development in the Medical University of Varna for for the occupation of the academic position Associate Professor

Cited:

As of September 11, 2021, the scientific works of Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev are cited more than 200 times in scientific publications, monographs and collective volumes, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases (Web of Science, Scopus), as well as in unreferenced journals. The individual hirsh index of the author is 7 according to Google Scholar, 6 according to Scopus, 5 according to Web of Science.

Participation in projects:

Dr. Georgiev has participated in two projects at MU-Sofia: the Young Researcher project in 2015 and the GRANT project in 2016.

Scientific achievements and contributions

The main scientific fields in which Dr. Georgiev works are in Rheumatology - Osteoarthritis, biomarkers of rheumatic diseases, imaging of the musculoskeletal system, inflammatory joint diseases, as well as the most current health problem in the world at the moment - COVID- 19 and its interaction with rheumatic diseases.

In the field of osteoarthritis, Dr. Georgiev analyzed for the first time in Bulgaria clinical parameters and biomarkers determining the functional deficit in patients with gonarthrosis; the potential adjustable factors are systematized and classified and an algorithm for modification is proposed through a combination of intervention measures. Another aspect of the problem of osteoarthritis, in which there is a clinical and scientific contribution from the work of Dr. Georgiev, is the comparative clinical effectiveness of two different regimens for injection of intra-articular cross-linked high molecular weight hyaluronic acid, which was studied for the first time in Bulgaria. The team that Dr. Georgiev worked with analyzed the relationship between polycystic ovary syndrome by detecting early symptoms of gonarthrosis in women with polycystic ovaries for the first time in Bulgaria and as a scientific novelty could be considered the study of early biomarker levels of cartilage degeneration in women with polycystic ovary syndrome. The relationship between the clinical and laboratory characteristics of women with hyperandrogenism with the early symptoms of gonarthrosis and cartilage thickness was also investigated.

In the field of biomarkers, Dr. Georgiev's studies explored the relationship between MMP-3 levels and the progression of cartilage degeneration in patients with gonarthrosis; assessment of cartilage loss in young women with hyperandrogenism using serum levels of cartilage oligomeric matrix protein. In the works of Dr. Georgiev for the first time in Bulgaria the biomarkers MMP-3, COMP and VEGF were evaluated in patients with psoriatic arthritis.

Imaging of the musculoskeletal system is well represented in the research of Dr. Georgiev and his team. The influence of the structural changes in gonarthrosis on the intensity of

pain in patients with gonarthrosis has been studied and analyzed; the morphological changes of the muscles in the lumbosacral region in patients with axial spondyloarthritis have been described and evaluated by MRI for the first time in the Bulgarian population; the area of paravertebral muscles in patients with axial spondyloarthritis and a group of patients with chronic low back pain were compared.

Among the rich scientific activity of Dr. Georgiev, there is a place for the most actual for the last two years health topics in the world - COVID-19.

The focus of research is understandably on studying the prevalence and type of rheumatic events in the cohort of patients with COVID-19, as well as on the factors that may affect the safety and efficacy of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in patients with autoimmune inflammatory diseases.

Interest and importance should be given to the reports related to the publication activity of Bulgarian authors in the field of inflammatory joint diseases and rheumatology and to those related to the possibilities and benefits of applying pharmacoeconomic cost-effectiveness analysis in the treatment of patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

In addition, Dr. Georgiev is a licensed and qualified reviewer of scientific literature, working as an associate editor at Rheumatology International (IF = 2.631). As of 09.2021, Dr. Georgiev is the author of 289 reviews in 29 peer-reviewed journals, 26 of which are referred to in the Web of Science. In connection with his work as a reviewer, he received the Publons Award from 2018 and 2019 for review and the award of the Korean Journal of Medical Science for the best reviewer in the field of Rheumatology in 2019.

Memberships in scientific organizations.

Dr. Georgiev is a member of the following professional and professional organizations:

- EMEUNET to the European Alliance of Rheumatology Associations;
- The Bulgarian Medical Union
- Bulgarian Society of Rheumatology

- Bulgarian Medical Society of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis.

Educational and teaching activities:

Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev is a part-time assistant at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine at the Medical University - Varna for the period 09.2019 / 06.2020, and from 07.2020 - Chief Assistant at the First Department of Internal Medicine at the Medical University – Varna. Information on the workload shows study employment with lectures and practicals of Bulgarian and English medical students as follows:

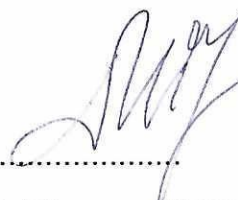
2019/2020r. – 140 academic hours

2020/2021 r. – 153 academic hours

In conclusion, Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev is a specialist rheumatologist, distinguished by his rich research and activity as an editor and reviewer of renowned scientific journals. He has extensive knowledge, especially in the imaging of inflammatory joint diseases and various scientific research interests.

The scientific production of Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev, PhD fully meet the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the Academic Staff Development at the Medical University of Varna. This gives me reason to confidently recommend to the esteemed scientific jury to vote positively for the academic position of "Associate Professor" to Dr. Tsvetoslav Georgiev, PhD in Rheumatology for the needs of the First Department of Internal Medicine at MU Varna .

11.11.2021r.


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(Assoc. prof. M. Dimova, PhD)