



## GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROCEDURE AND THE CANDIDATE

In the competition announced in the State Gazette No. 55/28.06.2024, for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "General Practice" at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" Burgas, one candidate participated: Nevena Georgieva Ivanova, MD, PhD

### 1. CAREER PROFILE OF THE CANDIDATE

Nevena Ivanova, MD, PhD graduated from HMI Plovdiv in 1998, with excellent results from the semester and state exams. She has three clinical specialties: internal medicine (2004), cardiology (2006) and general practice (2018). She defended her PhD thesis and acquired PhD diploma in the scientific specialty "general practice" in 2015.

The overall academic development of N. Ivanova MD, PhD has been related to the MU Plovdiv since the establishment of the Department of General Practice at the Faculty of Medicine and has passed through all academic levels - assistant professor (2000), senior assistant professor (2004), chief assistant professor (2007 and 2016).

She started her career in 1998, in the First Municipal Hospital, Plovdiv, as a resident in the cardiology department with an intensive sector, where she completed her specialization in internal medicine in 2004. The same year, she continued as a specializing doctor in cardiology at the Cardiology Clinic at the University Hospital "St. George" in Plovdiv until 2006. Since 2011 until now, she works as a cardiologist at the "St. Caridad" diagnostic consultation center and as chief consultant at the "St. Caridad" hospital in Plovdiv. From 2024 she works as GP at "Dr. Ivan Nastev 2015 - Ambulatory for individual practice for primary medical care", Plovdiv, which is accredited for medical students and general practice postgraduate training.

The presented diplomas and certificates confirm her extensive clinical experience and her desire constantly to improve her knowledge and skills. She has enriched her qualification with a number of additional courses at home and abroad in the field of general practice, including as a management trainer in general practice (Ministry of Health and The British Council) and others in the field of cardiology (European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, myocardial revascularization, bifurcation and complex coronary interventions, non-invasive imaging, emergency echocardiography, echocardiography, cycle ergometry, Holter-EKG, Holter-arterial pressure), in health care organization, health management, genetics at Harvard University (Harvard Medical School). She has certificates for English language proficiency (Cambridge certificate in English – FCE and CAE). She was trained at the University of Leicester, School of Medicine, Clinical Division of General Practice and Primary Health Care, UK. From the very beginning of the creation of the simulation and training center at MU-Plovdiv, she was involved in the high-tech training of the medical students there.

She actively participates in the educational process in Bulgarian and English of the medical students and general medicine postgraduates (GPs) at the Medical University-Plovdiv. N. Ivanova MD, PhD is a member of the project teams of 2 scientific projects (COVID-19 HUB and OMNIA). She has been a reviewer for journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science.

Nevena Ivanova, MD, PhD has many awards and honors:

Certificate of Achievement with Very High Score from Harvard Medical School-Genetics 2024.

Recognition by Harvard Medical School for the significance of a scientific discovery 2024.

Recognition by one of the world's oldest and most prestigious scientific societies, Sigma Xi, for scientific achievements and contributions to the advancement of knowledge 2024.

Recognition from journals indexed in world databases for high evaluation as an author and for contribution to science 2024.

Certificate for the best scientific development and presentation at the Fourth World Congress on Smoking and Health - Delhi, India, 2005.

Certificate from the Ministry of Health for "Contribution to the health policy and to the modernization of the health care system in Bulgaria" for the "White Paper on Value-Based Health Care", 2014.

Certificates and plaque from National Congresses and Conferences in General Medicine 2014, 2016.

She was the National Representative of Bulgaria in the European Academy of Teachers in General Practice/Family Medicine (EURACT) for the period 2010 - 2012. and in the WATCH World Assembly on Smoking against Health, 2004 - 2008.

## 2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COMPETITION MATERIALS

The candidate, Nevena Ivanova MD, PhD, presented precisely prepared documents. The self-assessment in the table below testifies that her results exceed multiple times the minimum national requirements (and those of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" Burgas) for the scientific and teaching activities of the candidates for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the Higher education area 7. Health care and sports; Professional field 7.1. Medicine, respectively significantly above the indicators required for individual groups of indicators:

<b>Groups of Indicators</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Associate professor</b>	<b>Nevena Ivanova MD,PhD</b>
A	Indicator 1	50	<b>50</b>
Б	Indicator 2	-	-
B	Indicators 3 or 4	100	<b>100</b>
Г	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	220	<b>1828,2</b>
Д	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	60	<b>1500</b>
Е	Sum of indicators 13 to 24	20	<b>574,86</b>
<b>In general</b>		450	<b>4053,06</b>

### 3. ASSESSMENT OF THE CANDIDATE'S SCIENTIFIC PAPERS FOR COMPLETE ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

General characteristics of scientific works and publication activity

The presented materials show the multifaceted interests of Dr. Ivanova and the possibilities for independent scientific work in interdisciplinary fields, as well as good cooperation with colleagues from different medical specialties, units and universities.

The analysis of the submitted documents shows that Dr. Ivanova participated in the competition with:

- Author abstract of the PhD thesis
- Habilitation thesis - monograph (indicator group B, item 3) - 1
- Published monograph, which is not presented as the main habilitation work (indicator group D, item 5) – 3
- Published book based on a protected dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor" (indicator group D, item 6) - 1
- Publications and reports published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world databases with scientific information (indicator group D, item 7) - 33, of which:

#### **Full text - 23**

- 10 with Impact Factor (total 14,919)
- 13 in Scopus
- As independent author - 10, of which 5 with Impact Factor and 5 in Scopus

#### **Reports - 10**

- in impact factor journals (total 11,511)
- as first author - 3

#### **Total Impact factor of presented articles and reports 26.43. H-index 3**

- Publications and reports published in refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes (indicator group D, item 8) - 40  
as independent author -10  
as first author-6
- Published chapter of a collective monograph (indicator group D, item 9) - 2
- Published university textbooks (indicator group E, item 20) - 8
- Published university study guide (indicator group E, item 21) - 12  
as independent author - 8

**Total number of scientific papers: 100**

Apart from the required mandatory works according to the scientometric indicators, 52 publications in scientific collections from national and international congresses, conferences and other scientific events have been presented.

***Scientific activity - dissemination and application of the scientific and practical achievements of the candidate among the scientific community***

The scientific contributions of the works presented in the reference correspond to the announced competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in general practice. The scientific fields in which Nevena Ivanova MD, PhD works are various and they are result of her many-sided interests in medical science and long-term clinical and teaching experience. The numerous publications in the scientific field of general practice are in a number of prestigious journals, indexed in world databases such as Scopus, including journals with Impact Factor (IF), as well as in refereed journals or published in edited collective volumes. The articles have provided data on the current state of organization, management, activity, quality, resources and problems in primary care that could contribute to the implementation of future policies in this domain of the health care system. N. Ivanova MD, PhD has also presented studies and publications on cardiovascular diseases, risk factors and their complications, complications of COVID-19 and their management in primary care and in the community. Publications related to occupational stress and burnout among general practitioners, screening and prevention in primary care have made important contributions. An additional contribution of N. Ivanova MD, PhD work is in the field of genetics - she is the author of the only published case of a mutation of the FGF23 gene (p.Thr68Ala), associated with severe vascular aneurysms and tumor calcinosis - (publication 21), which is a scientific discovery and has been recognized as significant by a world honorary scientific society and Harvard Medical School, and a request has been submitted to change and update the information included in the teaching and exam materials of one of the most prestigious universities in the world. This publication could enable the search for treatment methods and strategies, including at molecular level, of this extremely rare genetic disease.

***Participation in projects***

N. Ivanova MD, PhD has participated in two projects of Medical University-Plovdiv - "COVID-19 HUB - Information, innovations and implementation of integrative scientific developments" and "OMNIA", in which she is author of materials on "Palliative Medicine" and "Geriatric Medicine". As a member of the team, she contributed with her materials to the successful accreditation of the two new for Bulgaria doctoral programs mentioned above.

***Scientific and creative achievements (scientific authority)***

Nevena Ivanova MD PhD is a member of a number of Bulgarian and international organizations: European General Practice Research Network (EGPRN), National Association of General Practitioners in Bulgaria (NAGPB), Association of Cardiologists in Bulgaria

(ACB), Union of Scientists in Bulgaria (USB), Bulgarian Medical Union (BMU). Recognition of the contributions of her scientific work is the personal invitation from the executive director of one of the oldest and largest scientific societies, part of which have been scientists like Einstein and numerous Nobel laureates - The Scientific Research Honor Society Sigma Xi, as well as from Harvard University.

#### **4. EVALUATION OF THE MONOGRAPHS OR EQUIVALENT PUBLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION FOR "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" BY THE CANDIDATE**

N. Ivanova, MD, PhD, participated in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" with a monograph "Arterial hypertension-current view. Part 1" of 2019 and the second part "Arterial hypertension - current view. Part 2", 2020. The presented monographic work meets the requirements of the law regarding the volume of the presented material, inclusion of a research part, two reviewers. The work is a systematized summary, written for a wide range of specialists - cardiologists, general practitioners, postgraduates and medical students. It presents the modern definitions of arterial hypertension, diagnosis and treatment in the context of the current development of medicine. It is based on twenty-five years of clinical and teaching experience. Its aims are presented clearly, in a summarized and synthesized form. The guidelines for clinical behavior in arterial hypertension can be easily used in daily routine medical practice as well as to facilitate the choice of the best strategy.

#### **5. REFLECTION (CITATION) OF THE CANDIDATE'S PUBLICATIONS IN NATIONAL AND FOREIGN LITERATURE (PUBLICATION IMAGE)**

Dr. Ivanova, PhD, has attached a reference for citations in 88 Bulgarian sources and 53 in international ones, distributed as follows:

- referenced and indexed in world scientific databases or in monographs and collective volumes - 53 in foreign and 15 in Bulgarian editions, which are referenced in global databases
- monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 23
- non-refereed journals with scientific review - 50

She was a reviewer of materials in authoritative Impact Factor international scientific journals (Springer Nature Netherlands, Springer New York), which are not included in the summarized points.

#### **6. COMPLEX QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE STUDY-METHODICAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITY**

N. Ivanova, MD PhD, is a long-standing teacher at Plovdiv Medical University. She is a member of the Department of General practice since its launching at the Medical Faculty, and is currently chief assistant at the Department of Urology and General practice. She participates in the practical training and lectures in General practice in Bulgarian and English. She participates in the preparation of examination tests and in committees for semester examinations. She actively participates in the training of general practice postgraduates and colloquiums. It is clear from the presented official report that her academic workload exceeds the minimum requirements: respectively for the academic year 2020/2021 - 419 hours, for the academic year 2021/2022 - 514 h. (according to the standard of MU Plovdiv - 180 hours for part-time work).

According to indicators 20 and 21 of group E - Published university textbook and published university guide, N Ivanova MD, PhD participates in the competition with 8 textbooks, 3 of which were in general practice field and 12 manuals, of which 8 as independent author and 9 in general practice. The number of points according to the number of co-authors is correctly calculated.

## **7. CRITICAL NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

No critical remarks

## **8. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE CANDIDATE'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY CONDITIONS AND THE MANDATORY QUANTITATIVE CRITERIA AND SCIENTOMETRIC REQUIREMENTS**

Nevena Ivanova, MD PhD, meets and multiple times exceeds the minimum national requirements according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" Burgas regarding the scientific and teaching activities of the candidate for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the Higher education area 7. Health care and sports; professional field 7.1. medicine, scientific specialty "general medicine" (significantly above the indicators required for the individual groups).

Nevena Ivanova, MD PhD has a total of 4053.06 points compared to the required 450 points.

The points are based on the presented self-assessment of the candidate and on my verification of the presented materials.

## 9. CONCLUSION

After careful evaluation of the presented materials and scientific publications and based on all mentioned above, I consider that the candidate Nevena Georgieva Ivanova, MD, PhD. fully meets and multiple times exceeds the national criteria and indicators for the academic position of "associated professor", according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, the Rules for the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" Burgas.

The facts presented in this review give me reason to **confidently recommend that Nevena Georgieva Ivanova, MD, PhD, be awarded the academic position of "Associate Professor" in General practice in the competition announced in State Gazette No. 55/28.06.2024.**

Assoc. prof. Lyubima Despotova-Toleva, MD, PhD

5.11. 2024