



## OPINION

from Prof. Dr. Anna Naidenova Tolekova,  
Director of the Faculty of Medicine, Thracian University  
of the materials submitted for participation in the competition  
for the academic position of 'Associate Professor'  
field of higher education: 7. Health and sport  
professional field 7.1. Medicine  
scientific specialty "Clinical Laboratory"

In the competition for 'associate professor', announced in SG no. 87 of 19.10.2021 for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas documents were submitted by the only candidate Dr. Stoyanka Tancheva Ilieva, assistant at the Department of Clinical Laboratory at Medical University - Varna.

### 1. General presentation of the received materials

The presented set of materials on paper and electronic media by the candidate Dr. Stoyanka Tancheva Ilieva is in full compliance with the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for Application of the Law and the Rules for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

### 2. Brief biographical data of the candidate

Dr. Stoyanka Ilieva acquired a Master's degree in Medicine at the Medical University of Varna in 1986. She holds Master's degrees in Health Management in 2007 and Psychology in 2017. After a one-year internship in Razgrad, was appointed in 1987 as an assistant in the Department of Physiology and Pathophysiology at Medical University - Varna. Since 1989 she has been working as an assistant in the Department of Clinical Laboratory of MU-Varna and at the same time she works in the Central Clinical Laboratory at UMHAT "St. Marina", Varna. She has successively held the position of manager of a laboratory at SMDL "Kandilarov" and head of a clinical laboratory at the Medical Center "St. Anna", Varna. Proof of her formation as a highly qualified medical specialist is the acquisition of 4 specialties, namely: Clinical laboratory, Internal medicine, General medicine and Psychotherapy and psychological counseling. In addition, in 2019 she successfully defended her PhD thesis with title "Pathophysiological aspects of active tubulo-interstitial bacterial nephritis according to clinical and laboratory data."

### **3. General characteristics of the candidate's activity**

#### *Teaching activities*

The teaching experience of the candidate is very rich and concerns various disciplines, directly related to her clinical activity. Her teaching practice is 34 and a half years. It is related not only to the direct teaching and delivery of practical classes and lectures, but also to the development of programs in various disciplines, namely: pathophysiology, clinical laboratory, internal medicine for laboratory assistants, nurses, midwives and medical assistants trained in MU-Varna and Asen Zlatarov University - Burgas. Her accumulated experience and professionalism are reflected in her co-authorship in "Textbook of Pathophysiology", in which she participates with a separate chapter - hematomorphology. She is also the author of a textbook on clinical laboratory "Tutorial on clinical laboratory".

#### *Research activity*

A significant part of Dr. Ilieva's research activity is dedicated to renal pathology, starting with experimental models, pathophysiological mechanisms and reaching laboratory characteristics. Her habilitation work "Tubulo-intestinal bacterial nephritis - pathogenesis and laboratory" is the first monograph on this issue. It is an in-depth reading (pathophysiology, clinical and laboratory characteristics, modern approaches to treatment), spread over 210 pages with a very rich literature. Her monograph on "Hemostasis and thrombosis - pathogenesis and laboratory" deserves high praise. In recent years, a lot of new data has been accumulated in this area, a new concept for coagulation processes has been created. In this respect, the generalization of world experience in the context of a number of hematological nosological units is an extremely valuable contribution. A number of her articles are devoted to the clinical and laboratory diagnosis of various nephrological, hematological disorders and some rare diseases. She has also worked in the field of experimental models of thermal trauma and the effects of melatonin as one of the most powerful antioxidants.

#### *Scientific-metric indicators*

Dr. Ilieva presented:

- 1 monograph on the dissertation (habilitation thesis, 210 pages),
- 1 collective monograph co-authored (294 pages),
- 5 full-text publications co-authored in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information (to indicator group D.7),
- 16 full-text publications and reports in unrefereed scientific journals with scientific review (to indicator group D.8);

- 1 abstract, published in a journal indexed in the Web of Science;
- 13 abstracts presented at conferences and national congresses.

The total number of points of the candidate exceeds the required minimum of scientometrics for the professional field.

An indicator of the quality and significance of Dr. Ilieva's scientific works is their high citation rate. The only ones presented in the competition for associate professor are over 205 citations, most of which are in journals with an impact factor.

### **Conclusion**

The candidate in the competition has presented a sufficient number of scientific papers, including monographs and has actively participated in the learning process not only as a lecturer but also as an author of curricula and teaching aids.

Based on the above, I express my firm opinion that Dr. Stoyanka Tancheva Ilieva meets all the requirements of ZRASRB, the Rules of BAS for application of ZRASRB and the Criteria for holding academic positions and obtaining scientific degrees at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov.

I confidently propose to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to award the academic position "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" to Dr. Stoyanka Tancheva Ilieva, in the field of higher education 7. *Health and Sports*, professional field 7.1. *Medicine*, scientific specialty "Clinical Laboratory" at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas.

12.03.2022.

Full Prof. Anna Tolekova, dm