

## OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Elina Georgieva Baltadjieva-Trendafilova, MD  
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### SUBJECT

Procedure for competition for the occupation of the academic position Associate Professor in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and sports", professional field 7.1 "Medicine", in the scientific specialty "Cardiology", for the needs of Cardiology Clinic at MHAT "NKH" EAD, Sofia with a sole candidate Dr. Elena Svetlozarova Dimitrova, MD.

The competition was announced in State Gazette, issue 45 / 28.05.2021. The opinion was prepared on the basis of Order № 309 / 22.07.2021 according to a decision of the Scientific Council (Protocol № 19 of 29.06.2021) concerning the announcement of a scientific jury for the conduct of this competition. The opinion has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law and the Regulations for development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the Regulations of the NCB for the terms and conditions for borrowing AD "Associate Professor". I did not find any gaps in the competition documentation.

### BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Dr. Elena Dimitrova graduated in medicine at the Medical University - Sofia in 2008. She is board certified in Cardiology and she has a professional qualification for highly specialized activities in cardiology - a fundamental level in echocardiography. In 2017 she became "Doctor" in Cardiology after successfully defending his thesis on "Prospective follow-up of patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension and evaluation of the effect of specific therapy on the functional class and clinical course of the disease in compliance with a protocol for monitoring and escalating therapy". She started her career in the Clinic of Cardiology at the University Hospital "St. Anna" Sofia in 2011, and since 2014 she has been working at the National Hospital, and in 2019 after successfully passing a competition she was elected chief assistant at the National Hospital. Dr. Dimitrova is an established and recognized specialist in the field of cardiology. He is a member of the Bulgarian Society of Cardiology and the European Society of Cardiology.

### SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

Dr. Dimitrova participates in this competition with a total of 66 scientific papers, distributed as follows: 1 dissertation, 3 chapters from books, 27 articles in scientific journals and 35 published abstracts, 4 of the articles are published in english in journals with impact factor. Nineteen of the publications in full text and 25 of the published abstracts are after the acquisition of AD "Chief Assistant". In 28 of the scientific works Dr. Dimitrova is the first author. Scientific articles are cited 15 times in Bulgarian journals, in Scopus - 43 citations and in Web of Science - 43 citations. Impact factor not specified. The scientific production of Dr. Dimitrova covers the Minimum National Requirements of the Ministry of Education and Science and the NCB according to Annex №1 of the Regulations for application of the LASRB of the NCB - a total of 762.2 points. The data are presented understandably and accurately in the submitted review materials.

Dr. Dimitrova's research interests are mainly in the field of:

- Pulmonary arterial hypertension and pulmonary thromboembolism;
- Coronary artery disease and acute coronary syndrome;
- Atrial fibrillation, electroshock therapy and pacing;
- Pharmacotherapy of cardiovascular diseases;

### **SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

I believe that the most prominent are the candidate's contributions related to his own research in the field of pulmonary arterial hypertension and VTE and the creation of an algorithm for the treatment of patients with PAH.

An original contribution is the research of Dr. Dimitrova in the field of atrial fibrillation in Bulgaria, as Dr. Dimitrova is the main investigator for the National Cardiology Hospital in the international epidemiological study BALKAN-AF. The candidate is part of the team that analyzes in detail the electroshock therapy in patients with AF, with numerous publications on the topic and citations in the international literature.

Dr. Dimitrova is one of the authors who contributed with her own data to reveal the features and treatment of acute myocardial infarction in special populations in Bulgaria - elderly patients, patients with baseline anemia, etc.

Dr. Dimitrova is actively involved with several review articles in promoting new trends in pharmacotherapy, especially in the field of antithrombotic therapy.

### **EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Dimitrova actively participates in the training of students and specialists in cardiology, and for the last 10 years has averaged over 250 hours / year.


### **IN CONCLUSION**

The above characterizes Dr. Elena Dimitrova as an established and recognized specialist in the field of cardiology. I believe that the overall scientific-practical, organizational and teaching activity of Dr. Elena Svetlozarova Dimitrova, MD. fully meets the requirements of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the local Rules for the terms and conditions for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in MHAT "NKH" EAD.

**I will vote positively, I recommend to the Distinguished members of the Scientific Jury to vote for the award of the academic position "Associate Professor" to Dr. Elena Dimitrova, MD in higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional field 7.1 "Medicine", in the scientific specialty "Cardiology" for the needs of the Clinic of Cardiology at MHAT "NKH" EAD, Sofia.**

14.09.2021 r.

Sofia



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/Prof. Elina Trendafilova/