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REVIEW

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External member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order No. RD289/18.10.2023. of the Rector of the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas.

Regarding: Competition for the academic position 'Associate Professor' in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.5. Health care, scientific specialty 'Health care management' for the needs of the 'Health care' department of the Faculty of Public Health and Health Care of the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas, announced in the State Gazette, no. 69/11/08/2023

Only one candidate participates in the competition: Chief Assistant Monika Ruseva Obreykova, PhD, lecturer at the Faculty of Public Health and Health Care at the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas

Candidate's career profile

Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova obtained her college education in professional qualification 'Nurse' at the PMK 'Dr. K. Vezenkov' - Burgas in 1991. She graduated in two master programs: master's degree in 'Social Worker' program at Burgas Free University in 1996 and master's program in 'Health Care Management' at the Medical Faculty of Trakia University - Stara Zagora in 2014. In 2022 she successfully defended her dissertation thesis 'Modern vision of the professional competence of the nurse for working with children with disabilities' and obtained the educational and scientific Doctorate degree/ PhD in 'Health Care Management'.

The professional career of Chief Assistant M. Obreykova, PhD started in 1991 at Municipality Hospital Burgas (now UMBAL - Burgas AD) as an operating nurse in the Neurosurgical operating room. From 2002-2015 she worked as a nurse in 'Child and school health care' in Kiril and Methodius school in Burgas. During 2014-2022 she was a full-time teacher, later a senior teacher at 'Health Care' department at the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov'. Since 2022 she's been working as Chief Assistant at the same department.

The educational and career development of the candidate in the competition undoubtedly confirms that she has significant teaching experience and has proved herself as a competent specialist in her professional field. Ch. Assoc. Monika Obreykova, PhD is constantly improving her qualifications as a teacher and scientist. This is confirmed by the diplomas and certificates from scientific forums in the country and abroad attached to the documents.

She is a member of well established scientific and professional organizations: Bulgarian Scientific Society for Public Health; BAPZG (Bulgarian Association of Health Care Professionals). She speaks Russian and English.

In addition to the university activity Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova works with various specialists from the practice and conducts postgraduate training. The candidate has provided as proof an official confirmation letter that she was a lecturer in thematic courses for continuing education of medical and non-medical specialists related to children's and school health care, and patronage care for the elderly and disabled.

The professional and career development of Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD are currently in the field of the scientific specialty for which the competition has been announced. The accumulated long-term reputation, professional qualification and results of her work are a positive prerequisite for further academic growth.

II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

It is to be noted that Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD has prepared the documentation for the competition correctly and precisely. All the necessary documents, required by the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application and the Rules for the Conditions and Procedures for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas, have been provided, which enables a precise quantitative and qualitative assessment of the overall academic development of the candidate.

Attached is the necessary evidentiary material for the publication activity and official references for citations of scientific works by Bulgarian and foreign authors. In addition to the mandatory documents, the evidentiary material also contains additional references, certificates, confirmation letters, etc., certifying all circumstances related to the qualification, professional activity and achievements of the candidate. A declaration of originality and credibility of the scientific works is presented.

III. Evaluation of scientific works, habilitation works and scientific activity of the candidate

General characteristics of the presented scientific works

The works after the defense of the dissertation and the competition for the academic degree 'Chief Assistant', which are subject to review in the present procedure, include 26 scientific works distributed as follows:

√ Independent monograph – 1

√ Teaching aid book - 1

√ Publications - 24, of which: publications in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 1; publications and reports in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 23.

Four of the publications are in English.

It is noteworthy that the distribution of scientific works by year is quite even, which speaks of a purposeful and well-planned scientific development of the candidate. A significant part of the presented publications are in established specialized scientific publications. The list of publications is correct and the necessary supporting material is attached.

The candidate in the competition is an independent author of eight and first author of nine scientific papers. The co-authorship with other colleagues in some of the publications is a confirmation of the qualities of Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD to look for common points of contact and cooperation with an interdisciplinary team.

The works of the Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD contain specific scientific contributions to medical theory and practice, and cover a wide range of scientific issues. They are aimed at current and significant problems in the field of public health and health care, and are entirely in the specialty of the announced competition. An objective and correct reference is presented to the scientific contributions in several leading directions of scientific research activity, which I fully accept. They are a reflection of the research and teaching activity of Chief Assistant Professor Obreykova and confirm her erudition and competence. They can be summarized in the following main directions:

√ 1. Public health and health promotion - health education, health culture, primary prevention, early childhood development; developing care models aimed at promoting prevention and health promotion in children.

This direction includes a series of publications [2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24], which reflect the long-term work and research interest of Chief Assistant Obreykova in the problems of the formation of the health culture and the importance of health promotion in this process. The work process in school health care was studied, in accordance with the normative documents as a prerequisite for quality health services. The publications have original theoretical, methodological and practical-applied contributions.

The monographic work 'Child and School Health Care - Vision and Perspectives' is particularly significant in this direction. The main topics are the creation, development, current state and vision of school and children's healthcare in the Republic of Bulgaria. The focus of the work is on the challenges faced by medical specialists from 'Child and School Health Care' and implementation of an extremely responsible part of special and specific nursing care for children with disabilities in the process of deinstitutionalization. Deinstitutionalization for children with disabilities is a reality, but still not working towards the process of increasing the competence of nurses working with children and their families. The author has competently studied and presented the legislation concerning school and children's health care, the leading professional activity of medical specialists for the formation and protection of children's and adolescents' health, despite the new trends to belittle traditions and the role of nurses in raising children up to 3 years old in nursery. In the monograph, emphasis is also placed on modernizing the training of medical staff in the direction of mastering rational communication models. A model for continuing education is

proposed, which has a scientific and practical contribution to increasing the knowledge of those working in children's health care. Another significant contribution in the monographic work carries the author's proposed Theoretical Model for organizing health promotion for children in daycare facilities. Its approbation in practice would certainly increase the role of the nurse in the preventive and promotional direction so that no socially significant, chronic diseases in children are developed.

√ 2. Health care - quality and organization of health care in children's and school health care, interdisciplinary approaches for complex activities for children with disabilities; health care management.

Particularly significant are the scientific contributions from the conducted scientific analyzes reflected in works concerning health care problems [4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 7, 21]. The leading role of humanization in improving the quality of health care in Bulgaria is advocated. The contribution results in this direction are of a theoretical, scientific-applied practical-applied nature, especially in the preparation of health professionals providing health, social and psychological assistance. Special attention is paid to the integrated education of children with SEN - education in which the child, regardless of the type of disability, is included in the general educational environment. This is accomplished through the construction and operation of a supportive environment that includes appropriate architectural and socio-living conditions, individual educational programs and trained medical specialists.

√ 3. Quality of medical education – formation of professional training in health care students, communication process in the context of medical specialist-patient relationships.

Contributions to medical-pedagogical theory and practice stand out in publications [1, 2, 6, 8, 15, 22, 23].

An author's concept has been developed for the organizational aspects in the training of health professionals in the field of communication and communication in order to acquire skills for adequate communication with patients. The therapeutic role of communication in the overall process of the patient's treatment has been proven. Specific proposals have been made for changes in the structure of the communication process, including the training of medical specialists. The good practices used in the formation of organizational models of communicative relations between medical specialists and patients are indicated.

In addition to the indicated directions in the evaluation of the scientific activity of Ch. Asst. M. Obreykova a teaching aid 'Practical foundations of nursing care .Nursing care for children with disabilities' has been presented. It is an up-to-date and necessary tool for the education of students from the 'Health care' department and helps to form knowledge and skills for interacting with children with disabilities. Special attention in the aid is paid to the historical aspects of care for children with disabilities from ancient times to the present day. Information is presented on legal norms, on the social and medical model of care for children with disabilities in some European countries and in our country, on the process of deinstitutionalization and the humanization of social and health support for the child with a disability and his family, thus raising the level of awareness of students and the public about

the positive changes that have occurred in recent decades in our country with the aim of increasing the quality of life of children with disabilities. Each section of the aid ends with questions for students' independent work, and this stimulates the process of forming professional-clinical thinking in future medical specialists and building skills for developing an individual health care plan. A significant contribution of a scientific and practical nature is the developed 'Guide for parents of children with disabilities'.

●Scientific activity

Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD has 24 participations in scientific forums, 5 - in national forums and 19 - in international conferences, which guarantees popularization of her scientific production. She actively participates in the organizing committee of student scientific forums as well. She is a scientific consultant to 15 students for the development and presentation of ten reports in student scientific sessions and seminars.

●Participation in project implementation and management

According to data from the Scientific Research Institute of University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas the candidate in the competition participates in 6 intra-university projects incl. one of the Faculty of Medicine of Trakia University - St. Zagora. Documents for participation in two national educational projects have been presented :

1.√ 2016-2018, 2018-2023 Project BG05M2OP001-2.13-0001 OP NOIR European Fund of the European Union 'Student internships - phase 1 and phase 2' - participation as an academic mentor.

2. √ 2019-2021 'Provision of integrated health care for elderly and disabled people at home' PROJECT BG05M9OP0012.028-0001, financed by the European Social Fund - Municipality of Burgas, Municipality of Karnobat, Municipality of Ruen.

Chief Assistant M. Obreykova is head of the project 'Children and adults care emergencies. First aid' - Postgraduate education for nurses in the municipality of Burgas. The candidate in the competition participates in projects especially in the field of health promotion, medical and psychosocial problems in people with oncologic diseases, obesity prevention, quality of life in people with chronic diseases.

●Reflection (citation) of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature (publication image).

The total number of noticed citations in Bulgarian and foreign scientific sources is 23, distributed in the following categories:

- Citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases -5, 1 in Scopus and 4 in Web of science.
- Citations in monographs - 7.
- Citations in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals - 11.

Citations in Bulgarian and foreign well established publications confirm the quality of the realized scientific production of the participant in the competition.

The candidate in the competition has attached a correct list of citations.

IV. Assessment of teaching activities

In accordance with her competences Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova conducts lectures and exercises for students from the course tracks 'Nurse' and 'Medical Assistant' majors at the Faculty for Public Health and Health Care.

Conducting seminars in:

1. Nursing care for patients with surgical diseases part I &II for the specialty 'Nursing', Bachelor degree.
2. Nursing care of the mother and newborn for the specialty 'Nurse', Bachelor degree.
3. Nursing care for children and adults with disabilities for the specialty 'Nursing', Bachelor degree.
4. Patient care and nursing technique 'Medical assistant', Bachelor degree.
5. Educational/clinical/practice and pre-diploma internship for the specialty 'Nurse', Bachelor degree.

The candidate participates in the development and updating of 7 curricula for the 'Nurse' specialty of the Bachelor degree and 5 programs for postgraduate training of nurses, social workers and assistants - Municipality of Burgas, Municipality of Karnobat, Municipality of Ruen. She participates in conducting of semester and state exams.

The presented official reference points to a high academic load per year (on average 800-900 hours, for the last 5 years), including lectures, exercises, pre-diploma internship and clinical practice, and covers the set norm of 400 academic hours per academic year for the position of Chief Assistant. This proves that the competition is provided with the necessary academic workload. It is clear from the provided documentation that Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD actively participates in the preparation for program accreditation of the 'Nurse' and 'Medical Assistant' specialties.

V. Personal impressions

I do not know the candidate in the competition personally, but from the documentation I have, I get the impression that she is a thorough researcher and a competent teacher, dedicated to her profession. She has invested a lot of energy and strength in her professional development and has achieved significant results. Her academic career to date is a natural result of her overall scientific and teaching activities.

I wish her successful development of the scientific areas to which she has focused her research interest.

VI. Compliance with the minimum requirements for the scientific and teaching activity of the candidates for the academic position 'Associate Professor' by professional direction 7.5. Health care

With regard to compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - the city of Burgas/for occupying the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health care and sports, professional direction 7.5. Health care, in the scientific specialty "Health care management" from the documents presented to me / a list and evidentiary material with scientific works and citations / becomes clear that Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova fully meets the requirements and not only meets the standards in the individual groups of indicators, but in some indicators even exceeds the requirements.

Table 1 Minimum required points by groups of indicators for the academic position 'Associate Professor'

Group of indicators Content	Fulfillment of requirements by the applicant Chief Assistant M. Obreykova	Minimum requirements
A Indicator 1	50	50
B Indicator 2	0	0
C Indicator 3	100	100
C Indicator 4	0	0
G Sum of indicators 5 to 9	477,5	220
D Sum of indicators 10 to 12	200	60
E Sum of indicators from 13 till the end	65	20
	892,5	450

VII. Conclusion

The candidate participating in the current competition fully meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff for the Occupation of the Academic Position 'Associate Professor' at the University 'Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' - Burgas.

Chief Assistant Monika Obreykova, PhD demonstrates expressed desire for development and potential for an educational and scientific career. The candidate presents a scientific production sufficient in volume, with significant teaching-teaching and research experience.

The overall assessment of the professional development, teaching activity and scientific contribution is a reason to give a positive vote and to confidently suggest to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively in favor of Chief Assistant Monika Ruseva

Obreykova, PhD to obtain an academic position 'Associate Professor' in 'Health Care Management', professional direction 7.5. Health care, area of higher education 7. Health care and sport, for the needs of the specialty 'Nurse' in the 'Health Care' department at University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov - Burgas.

17.11.2023

Reviewer:

Plovdiv

Prof. Dr. Byanka Tornyova