

TO THE CHAIR OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY,
DETERMINED BY ORDER NO RD-35 of February 13, 2023
OF THE RECTOR OF PROF. DR. ASEN ZLATAROV UNIVERSITY - BURGAS
PROF. MAGDALENA MITKOVA

STATEMENT

in a competition for the academic position Professor in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, Scientific specialty Immunopathology and Allergology, announced in State Gazette, no. 99 of 13.12.2022.

by Prof. Ivan Yankov Dechev, MD, PhD

Deputy Director for Diagnostic and Treatment Activities of the St. George University Hospital Plovdiv,

specialist in urology, oncology and general medicine

By Order No. RD-35 of February 13, 2023 of the Rector of the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov - Burgas, I am appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury in the competition for the academic position Professor in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty *Immunopathology and Allergology*, announced in the State Gazette, no. 99 of 13.12.2022. At the first meeting I was proposed and elected to prepare an opinion on the competition.

I. ORGANISATION AND CONDUCT OF THE PROCEDURE

I consider that all the legal requirements of the tender procedure have been complied. The submitted documents for the competition are from one candidate – Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Mihov Dermendjiev, MD, PhD, DSc, who has submitted in due time the documents required by the Law on Research and Development, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations on the conditions and procedure for the acquisition of scientific degrees and the occupation of academic positions at the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov - Burgas. My opinion has been prepared in accordance with the statutory documents on the procedure for filling the academic position Professor.

II. EVALUATION OF THE DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE CANDIDATE

The candidate has prepared, completed and submitted within the deadline specified in the announcement the documents required by the procedure for the acquisition of the title Professor in accordance with Article 67, paragraph 2 of the Regulations on the Structure and Activities of the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov - Burgas. The set of documents includes:

T.1-Application to the Rector of the University Asen Zlatarov - Burgas for participation in a competition for the academic position Professor in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty Immunopathology and Allergology. SG 99 of 13.12.2022

T.2-Copy of the announcement in State Gazette, no. 99 of 13.12.2022

- S.3-Identification documents:
- S.5-Documents to prove length of service under Art. 73, par. 1(2) and (3)
- T.6-Copies of scientific works
- S.7-Teaching and Teaching Work
- S.8-Professional and doctoral students supervised by the candidate
- S.9-Project activity
- S.10-Document of implemented research project
- S.11-Participation in scientific forums and membership in scientific organizations and communities
- S.12-Reviews of the candidate's work from other organisations - no documents have been submitted that correspond to the text in these Regulations for the academic post
- S.13-Reference for fulfillment of the minimum requirements specified in Annex 1 of the Regulations on the conditions and procedure for the acquisition of scientific degrees and academic positions at the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov - Burgas and author's reference for scientific contributions
- S.14-Reference of citations of the candidate's publications
- S.15.1-Full list of publications
- S.15-List of publications for the competition
- S.16-Declaration in accordance with paragraph 15 of these Regulations
- S.17-Other documents relating to the procedure

III. PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANDIDATE

■ CAREER PATH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Svetlan Mihov Dermendjiev graduated in medicine in 1988 from the High Medical Institute - Plovdiv with excellent grades. For two years he worked as a workshop therapist in LZP - KT, Karlovo (12.1988 - 12. 1990).

From 1.01.1991, after winning a competition, he started working as a research assistant in the Department of Toxicology at the Clinic of Occupational Diseases, which was later restructured into the Clinic of Occupational Diseases and Toxicology. In 2006 he moved to the Clinic of Occupational Diseases. Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is the author of the concept for the development of clinical allergology at the University Hospital St. George - Plovdiv, which was accepted and approved by the hospital management. In 2007 he was appointed Head of the Clinical Allergology Sector at the CPA. In 2010, after restructuring of the CPA and winning a competition Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev took the position of Head of the Department of Occupational Diseases and Allergology, and since 2021 he has been Head of the Clinic of Clinical Toxicology at the University Hospital St. George - Plovdiv. Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev has acquired **4 clinical specialties**: internal medicine (1994) ; clinical toxicology (1996); clinical allergology (2006) and occupational diseases (2008). Throughout his professional career

and development Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev has continuously improved his postgraduate qualifications, as evidenced by his participation in a large number of postgraduate training courses (T17.4) and courses for the performance of specialized and highly specialized activities related to his clinical specialties (T17.5). He is a member of the specialised committee for work with the National Health Insurance Fund on replacement therapy for patients with inherited immunodeficiency conditions at St George University Hospital – Plovdiv and of the National Expert Medical Board on Clinical Allergology.

■ **ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT**

In 1988 Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev graduated from the Faculty of Public Professions at the Medical University of Plovdiv and acquired the public profession Lecturer. After winning a competition, he started working at the Medical University – Plovdiv from 1.01.1991, initially as a "research assistant", and subsequently held successively the academic positions of "assistant" (1991 – 1996) and "senior assistant" (1996 – 2010). After successfully defended thesis, in 2010 Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev became "**Master**" in "**Health Management**". In 2014, after winning a competition, he held the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the Second Department of Internal Medicine, Section of Occupational Diseases and Toxicology of Medical University – Plovdiv. Since 2012 he has been the **Head of the Section of Occupational Diseases and Toxicology**. He was a member of the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University – Plovdiv (2009-2010), and since 2020 he has been a member of the Faculty Quality Committee at the Medical Faculty. Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is also responsible for scientific research activities in the Section.

Associate Professor Dermendjiev has successfully defended 2 dissertations and acquired 2 scientific degrees:

- In 2012 he obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in Social Medicine and Organization of Health Care and Pharmacy after defending his dissertation entitled: "Comparative analysis of allergic diseases of general and occupational nature for a 10-year period in Plovdiv region".
- In 2020 he obtained the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" after defending his dissertation on "Angioneurotic edema - epidemiology, etiology, pathogenesis, forms, clinical course, diagnostic and differential diagnostic criteria, therapeutic approaches".

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a member of 5 professional and scientific national **organizations:**

- 1) Bulgarian Medical Association;
- 2) Bulgarian Society of Allergology;
- 3) Bulgarian Society of Clinical Toxicology;
- 4) Bulgarian Scientific Society of Occupational Diseases
- 5) Bulgarian Medical Homeopathic Organization;

Since 2018 Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is the President of the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Occupational Diseases

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a member of 3 international scientific organizations:

- 1) European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI);
- 2) World Allergy Organization (WAO);

3) International Association of Rare Diseases (ICORD).

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a member of the editorial board of the journal "Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs". By order of the Minister of Health he was appointed a member of the examination committees for passing the state examination for the acquisition of the specialty in "Clinical Allergology", "Clinical Toxicology" and "Occupational Diseases". Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a scientific supervisor and scientific consultant of PhD students, and a supervisor of theoretical and practical training of postgraduate students in "Clinical Allergology" and "Occupational Diseases". He teaches a module on "Allergology" to physicians from a number of specialties.

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is the author of two successfully accredited curricula at MU-Plovdiv. One of them is for teaching "Clinical Allergology" to medical students at MF, and the second one is for teaching "Food Toxicology" to students of the Medical College in the specialty "Dietary Nutrition Instructor". Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is also a co-author of the curriculum on "Occupational Diseases and Toxicology" for the training of students in the specialty "Medicine" at the MF, as well as the curriculum on "Occupational Diseases" for teaching students in the specialty "Dental Medicine" at the Medical Faculty of Medical University of Plovdiv. Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a leading lecturer in the above mentioned disciplines.

Summary:

The entire professional path and academic development of Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev is marked by continuous growth and development. The acquired professional qualification and the development he has achieved in scientific research, teaching and expert activities characterize him as a brilliant specialist, scientist and lecturer of national and international scale.

IV. EVALUATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKS IN THE OVERALL ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANDIDATE

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev, MD, DSc has submitted complete lists of publications (T.15.1) and publications after obtaining the academic position of Associate Professor and the scientific degree of Doctor of Science (T.15):

- ❖ dissertation and abstract for the award of PhD (T.16-1,2)
- ❖ Dissertation and abstracts (in Bulgarian and English) for the award of Doctor of Science (T.16-3,4,5)
- ❖ 6 monographs, of which one based on a defended habilitation thesis (T.15.1.1)
- ❖ 1 published chapter of a collective monograph (T.15.1.2)
- ❖ participation in 2 published university textbooks and 5 university manuals (S.7.1)
- ❖ 22 publications in refereed Bulgarian and international journals, 9 of them with IF (40.90%), in 12 publications - first author (54.55%), in 5 publications - second author (22.73%), in 5 publications - third author (22.73%) (S.15.2)
- ❖ 48 publications in non-refereed journals, in 9 publications he was the sole author (18.75%), in 16 publications - first author (33.33%), in 19 - second author (39.58%), in 4 publications - third and following author (8.33%) (S.15.3)

Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev has attached to the competition documents an up-to-date citation reference in www.scopus.com and www.webofscience.com (T.14.1.,T.14.2, T.14.3) after the Central Medical Library and NACID.

- ❖ 30 citations in international licensing databases (S.14.3)
- ❖ 26 citations in unrefereed journals

Summary :

The successfully defended two dissertations, the published monographs and the published articles give me full grounds to appreciate extremely highly the achievements of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev in the field of medical science. The broad professional qualification and extensive clinical experience he has acquired enable him to study and publish on a wide range of topics and problems of medicine in general, as well as in the areas in which Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is a proven specialist.

V. SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE OVERALL PUBLICATION ACTIVITY IN REFEREED AND NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

The scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions of the two dissertations of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev are justified and successfully defended before a Scientific Jury, and do not require comment. Having read and analysed the evidence submitted by the applicant, I confirm the contributions of the articles published in journals refereed and indexed in international databases www.scopus.com and www.webofscience.com, (attached in the list under T15.1.4 of the application) in the following areas:

► Contributions of scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the scientific specialty of immunopathology and allergology

1. On topics and problems related to bronchial asthma (publications No. 2,5,9,10,28,32 from the attached list under T15.1.4)

2. On topics and problems related to angioneurotic edema, including hereditary angioedema (publications Nos. 3,4,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,16,17,18,19,23,27,31,33 of the annexed list under T15.1.4)

3. On topics and problems related to urticaria (publications No. 4,23,29,30, from the attached list under T15.1.4)

4. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of immunopathology and allergology (publications № 3,4,5,9,13,14,16,17,18,20,23,27,30,31,33 from the attached list under T15.1.4)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in the field of occupational diseases

1. On topics and problems related to occupational allergic diseases (publications No. 4,9,10,17,27,29,33 from the attached list under T15.1.4)

2. On topics and problems related to other occupational diseases - of the peripheral nervous system, musculoskeletal system, etc. (publications № 15,22,26,28,34 from the attached list under T15.1.4)

3. Rare diseases and occupational disease-associated immunoallergic pathology - description of clinical cases (publications No. 4,5,9,14,20,23 from the attached list under T15.1.4)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in the field of social medicine, health care organization, health economics and health management

Publications No 1,21,25 of the annexed list under T15.1.4

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in other fields of medicine

Publications No 24,26 of the attached list under T15.1.4

The contributions of articles published in non-refereed journals (attached in the list under T15.1.5 of the application) can be divided into the following several groups:

► Contributions of scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the scientific specialty of immunopathology and allergology

1. On topics and problems related to bronchial asthma, including occupational asthma (publications No. 3,10,14,20,23,25,26,29,63 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

2. On topics and problems related to angioneurotic edema, including hereditary angioedema (publications No. 2,7,8,11,16,21,23,27,40,42,44,46,47,48,49,51,58 of the annexed list under T15.1.5)

3. On topics and problems related to allergic rhinitis (publications No. 17,19,22 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

4. On topics and problems related to urticaria (publications No. 1,2,33,38,53,58 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

5. On topics and issues related to food allergy (publication No. 36 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

6. On topics and issues related to hypersensitivity pneumonitis and immunoallergic vasculitis (publication nos. 43 and 45 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

7. On topics and issues related to drug allergy (publication No. 21 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

8. On topics and problems related to the therapy of allergic diseases (publication No. 63 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

9. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of immunopathology and allergology (publications № 1,2,5,6,9,10,13,15,21,22,32,36,38,41,44,45,47,52,54,56,57,58,61,62 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in the field of occupational diseases

1. On topics and problems related to occupational allergic diseases (publications No. 1,10,13,14,18,20,21,22,23,25,26,29,38,41,53, from the attached list under T15.1.5)

2. On topics and problems related to other occupational diseases - pulmonary, peripheral nervous system, musculoskeletal system, etc. (publications № 6,9,15,18,24,30,31,64 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

3. Rare diseases and occupational disease-associated immunoallergic pathology - description of clinical cases (publications No. 1,2,4,5,6,9,15,21,26,38,41,44,45,47,52,58,61,62 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in the field of social medicine, health care organization, health economics and health management (publications No 14,17,18,24,25,29 of the attached list under T15.1.5)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in the field of clinical toxicology

1. Contributions to the theory and practice of drug intoxications (publications 12, 32, 65 of the annexed list under T15.1.5)

2. Contributions to the theory and practice of pesticide intoxication (publications Nos 50 and 60 of the annexed T15.1.5 list)

3. Contributions to the theory and practice of toxoallergic reactions with cutaneous-mucosal toxoallergic syndrome (publications № 27,39,56,57 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

4. Contributions to the theory and practice of occupational intoxications and poisoning with household poisons (publications Nos 37 and 55 of the annexed T15.1.5 list)

5. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of clinical toxicology (publications № 12,21,32,41,53 from the attached list under T15.1.5)

► Contributions of scientific and theoretical nature in other fields of medicine (publications 31,34,35,42 of the attached list under T15.1.5)

Summary:

Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev submitted a list of 110 publications, 34 of which are refereed and indexed in international databases Scopus/Web of Science, and 76 outside them. Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is the author of 11 monographs and one chapter of a collective monograph. He is the author and co-author of 9 textbooks. He has participated in 55 scientific congresses and conferences, of which 23 international and 32 national. The **total Impact Factor (IF) of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is 35.451**. This is a great achievement for Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev as a scientist and clinician, and puts him in the forefront of science. The undeniable contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev in the field of theory and practice of the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" is complemented by his achievements in other fields of medicine. This is evidenced by his high publication activity on topics and problems related to occupational diseases, clinical toxicology, social medicine, health care organization and health management.

On the basis of the above arguments, I give an exceptionally high evaluation to the contributions of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev in the theory and practice of medicine.

VI. ANALYSIS OF THE APPLICANT'S PROJECT ACTIVITY

It is evident from the attached documents that Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev is the principal investigator of 2 funded, implemented and reported international projects (S.9.1); author and principal investigator of 12 funded, implemented and reported national projects (S.9.2); author and principal investigator of one intra-university project, ranked 1st by the committee and implemented, author and principal investigator of one intra-university project, which was ranked but not funded (S.9.3).

As a particularly valuable achievement in the project activity of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev can be evaluated his participation as an author, principal investigator and implementer of the national projects with which the team led by him applied in the procedure for solicitation of proposals for funding activities for the diagnosis of occupational diseases from the Fund "Working Conditions" at the MLSP on the basis of Article 10 and Article 11 of Ordinance No. 8 of 26.11.2007. As a result of the medical activities developed and reported under the projects, high results have been achieved in the following areas:

- medico-diagnostic - hundreds of patients have been diagnosed with disabilities related to exposure to risk factors from the working environment;
- expert - in dozens of patients, a procedure for the investigation of occupational disease has been initiated, and in a number of others, recommendations for retraining have been given, as a result of which the harmful effects of factors from the working environment have been discontinued, and the patients' health has improved;
- economic - the hospital has received a lot of money earned from the successful implementation of projects.

The rich clinical and research experience in the project activities have been recognized and appreciated by the Executive Director of the University Hospital St. George - Plovdiv, who appointed Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev a member of the specialized committee for work with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) for conducting replacement therapy in patients with hereditary immunodeficiency conditions (S.10.1).

Summary :

The evidence presented by the candidate and its analysis give me grounds to give a very high evaluation of the scientific, research, expert and economical efficiency achieved in the implementation of the projects prepared, managed and implemented with the participation of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev.

VII. EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITIES

The applicant submits with the procedure documents an academic transcript showing that the teaching workload significantly exceeds the minimum hour requirements (S.7.2). Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev, MD, DSc participates in the development of a number of curricula:

- ❖ author of the program in "Clinical Allergology"; for the training of students of the specialty "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine;
- ❖ author of a curriculum on "Food Toxicology" for the training of Medical College students in the specialty of "Dietetic Nutrition Instructor";
- ❖ co-author of a training program for medical students in Occupational Diseases and Toxicology at the Faculty of Medicine;
- ❖ co-author of a training program for students of the specialty "Dental Medicine" course in "Occupational Diseases" at the MDF;
- ❖ Co-author of a programme on "Occupational Diseases with Toxicology" for the training of students in the "Public Health Inspector" programme at MK;

- ❖ author of tests for practical exercises with students from the specialty "Medicine"; specialty "Dental Medicine"; specialties "ENT" and "IDH" at the Medical College

The contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev to the writing and successful accreditation by the National Academy of Sciences of the PhD program in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" for the acquisition of the PhD degree at MU-Plovdiv should be highly appreciated.

Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev has published 4 textbooks and 5 manuals in Bulgarian and English (S.15.1.3.). He supervises the research work of 2 PhD students and is a scientific advisor of 1 PhD student (T.8.2). He supervises the specialization in Clinical Allergology of 7 postgraduate students, 4 of whom have successfully passed the State Examination for Acquisition of Specialty, 1 has completed the full course of theoretical and practical training in the specialty, and 2 postgraduate students are about to take the State Examination for Acquisition of Specialty. The training in the modules "Clinical Allergology" and "Occupational Diseases" has been conducted for 3 specialised doctors (S.8.1).

VIII. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE CANDIDATE'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY CONDITIONS AND THE MANDATORY QUANTITATIVE CRITERIA AND SCIENTIFIC AND QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS UNDER THE ACADEMIC STAFF DEVELOPMENT ACT AND THE REGULATIONS OF PROF. DR. ASEN ZLATAROV UNIVERSITY - BURGAS FOR FILLING ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Table 1. Minimum points required per indicator group				
Group indicators	Contents	Professor	Documents for the current competition	Number of points for this competition
A	Indicator 1	50		50
B	Indicator 2			100
B	Indicators 3 and 4	100		
Г	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	250		1525.3
Д	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	150		580
E	Sum of indicators from 13 to the end. For Professor, the minimum number of points for E14 = 60	120		1321.7
Table 2. Number of points by indicators				
Group of subindicators	Indicators	Number of points	Documents for the current competition	Number of points for this competition
A	I. Dissertation for the award of PhD	50		50

B	2. Dissertation for the award of Doctor of Sciences	100		100
	3. Habilitation thesis - monograph	100		
B	3. Habilitation work - monographs /not less than 10/, in publications that are refereed and indexed in world-known databases with scientific information	60/n for each publication		
Г	5. A published monograph that is not submitted as a habilitation thesis	100	6 monographs, 1 collective and 1 based on a collective work	425
	6. A published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of PhD or NS PhD	40	1 monograph based on a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Science	40
	7. Publications and reports published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information	60/n or allocated on the basis of a contribution protocol	22 papers, 9 of them with IF(40.90%), in 12 papers -first author (54.55%), in 5 papers - second author (22.73%), in 5 papers -after third author (22.73%)	403.3
	8. Publications and papers published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes	30/n or allocated on the basis of a contribution protocol	48 papers, in 9 sole author (18.75%) in 16-first author (33.33%) in 19-second author (39.58%) in 4-third and following author (8.33%)	652
	9. Published chapter of a collective monograph	20/n	1 published chapter of a collective monograph	5
Д	10. Citations or reviews published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-known databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes	15	30 citations in licensing databases	450
	11. Citations in monographs and peer-reviewed collective volumes	10		
	12. Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals	5	29 citations in Bulgarian publications, 26 of them in non-refereed publications	130
E	13. Doctor of Science degree	40		40
	14. Supervision of a PhD student /n is the number of supervisors of the respective PhD student/ or of a graduate student	40/n	2 PhD students - 2 scientific supervisors, 1 scientific consultant, 7 postgraduate students	320
	15. Acquired medical specialty	40	acquired 4 specialties	160
	16. Participation in a national scientific or educational project	15	12 national projects	180
	17. Participation in an international scientific or educational project	20	2 international projects	40

18. Leadership of a national scientific or educational project	30	12 national projects as author and leader	360
19. Leading an international scientific or educational project	40	2 international projects as project leader	80
20. Published university textbook or textbook used in the school network	40/n	2 university textbooks published	26.7
21. A published university textbook or teaching manual that is used in the school network	20/n	5 university textbooks published	85
22. Training of trainees, postgraduates and doctoral students /seminars and practical classes/	30		30
23. Awards from national sports competitions /for PN 7.6 Sport/	10		
24. Awards won in international sports competitions /for HH 7.6 Sport/	20		
Total :			3577 points

According to the submitted evidence and the scores summarized by indicators and criteria in the attached table, Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev exceeds significantly the minimum requirements of the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov – Burgas for holding the academic position Professor.

Summary:

The research and teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev, MD, DSc is in the field of the announced competition. His contributions are of proven scientific-theoretical and applied nature. The works described by Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev's rare clinical syndromes, the described patients with rare diseases and those with a combination of different allergic diseases are an achievement for the practice and an outstanding contribution to the specialized medical literature.

IX. PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

My first impressions of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev date back to his student years. Even then he was distinguished by his natural intelligence, alert mind and thirst for knowledge. The qualities he possessed in purely human terms were good manners, high morals, compassion and helpfulness. As a person who has held for many years managerial positions in the management of the Medical University - Plovdiv and the University Hospital St. George, of which I am currently the Deputy Director of the diagnostic and therapeutic activities, I have the opportunity to follow the academic and professional growth of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev. With the extensive professional qualifications, knowledge and clinical experience he has acquired, he has established himself as one of the most respected clinicians in the whole country. He is a sought-after specialist by patients, a teacher loved by students and postgraduates, a respected supervisor by his colleagues, and a highly regarded scientist and expert among the scientific community in the country. Proof of his proverbial modesty and diligence is the fact that Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev has attached to his competition entry documents a small portion of the awards he has received in recognition of his achievements in science, education and career development. Many testimonies of his professionalism and competence can be found in publicly accessible social networks and platforms. There are numerous positive comments and feedback from those satisfied with Assoc.

Prof. Dermendjiev patients. In 2017, Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev was honored by the Municipality of Plovdiv and the NAE Association with a prize for great services in the field of study, diagnosis and treatment of patients suffering from this rare disease, and in 2018, on the eve of Easter, he presented and provided patients with hereditary angioedema his monographic work on *Angioneurotic edema*.

Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendjiev is the President of the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Occupational Diseases, an active member of the Bulgarian Society of Allergology, a member of the National Expert Specialized Medical Board in Clinical Allergology, as well as other national and international scientific and professional communities and committees. Thanks to the concept developed by him and accepted by the management of the University Hospital St. George, the first specialized hospital structure for the diagnosis and treatment of allergic diseases was opened at the Clinic of Occupational Diseases in Plovdiv and Plovdiv region, which has been successfully led by Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev until now.

In recognition of the merits of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev as a scientist, specialist and lecturer, for his achievements and for his overall contribution to the field of medicine, a proposal has been made to the BMA to be nominated for *Doctor of Year 2022* in 2 categories.

CONCLUSION

Associate Professor Svetlan Dermendjiev, MD, DSc meets the mandatory quantitative criteria and the scientific metrics according to the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations of the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov – Burgas for holding the academic position Professor in the scientific specialty Immunopathology and Allergology in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine. On the basis of the analysis and evaluation of the submitted documents under the procedure, as well as my personal impressions of Assoc. Prof. Dermendjiev, I vote with conviction for the award of the academic position of Professor in the scientific specialty *Immunopathology and Allergology* to Associate Professor Svetlan Mihov Dermendjiev, MD, DSc.

April 18, 2023

Plovdiv

Prepared the opinion:

Prof. Ivan Yank

D, PhD