



Attn. to The Chairman of scientific jury,
Appointed with Order No.РД-243/21.12.2020
By the Rector of University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov"
City Burgas

OPINION

By Professor Kamen Petrov Kanev, MD

for competition for an academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific field of "Internal Medicine", with only candidate Dr. Assia Andrianova Konsoulova-Kirova, MD, physician – medical oncology in the Department of Medical oncology, Complex Oncological center, city Burgas

In a competition, published in the State Gazette issue 90 / 20.10. 2020 and Order of the Rector of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas, for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific field of "Internal Medicine" in the field of higher education 7." Healthcare and Sports", professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Internal Diseases" and Report reg.N 3059 dated 15.12.2020 by the Dean of Faculty of Public Health and Healthcare for the needs of Faculty of Public Health and Healthcare, participates an only candidate Dr. Assia Andrianova Konsoulova-Kirova, MD, where she has presented all documents requested for the competition, which complies with the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas.

1. Professional qualification

After obtaining a master's degree in medicine at the Medical University "Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, Dr. Konsoulova works at the Clinic of Medical Oncology, University Multidisciplinary Hospital for Active Treatment "St. Marina" - Varna. In 2011 obtained the specialization in "Internal Medicine", and in 2016 the specialization in "Medical Oncology". In 2016 she completed a doctorate for educational and scientific degree "Doctor" with specialty Oncology at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna on the thesis: "Expression of some plasma and tissue biomarkers as potential predictors of antiangiogenesis therapy with bevacizumab in metastatic colon cancer" During the period 2007 - 2018 he was a part-time and fulltime assistant at the Department of Foreign Language Training in the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine at the Medical University - Varna. She has completed a number of basic additional training courses: oncologist at the Jules Bordet Cancer Institute, Brussels, Assistant of Oncology at the Free University of Brussels, Belgium and Assistant of Medical Oncology at the Jules Bordet Institute, Brussels, Belgium. She has completed a number of specializations and scholarships in medical / clinical oncology in Austria, Portugal, Germany, Darzalas and has the relevant diplomas and certificates from training courses in Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Spain, etc., she has awards for best performance.

2. **The teaching and educational activity** of Dr. Konsoulova includes: the organization and presenting lectures and exercises in postgraduate qualification courses for doctors and nurses. Participates in the training of Bulgarian and foreign students at the Medical Faculty of the University of Varna and Burgas, respectively in Bulgarian and English. She teaches specialists in internal medicine and medical oncology and within the curriculum of the specializations for various other specialties. Classroom and extracurricular employment for the period 2014 - 2020 meets the

required by the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas, according to the attached official references.

3. Scientific and research activity

In the current competition Dr. Konsoulova presented 72 scientific papers, of which 18 publications in Bulgarian journals as first / last author or author with equal contribution; 6 are co-authored publications; 22 are international publications; and 26 are chapters of textbooks, study guides and educational manuals. In addition to the mentioned scientific papers, Dr. Konsoulova also presents 59 participations in scientific forums, 13 of which are reports at national scientific events; 24 are reports at international scientific events; 2 issues are posters and scientific announcements at national scientific conferences; and 15 are posters and scientific announcements at international scientific conferences. Of course, they are not subject to review, but are reported as a scientific activity of the candidate for the academic position of "associate professor". This opinion includes the following scientific works: - 1 dissertation for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and 1 abstract, which I accept without being subject to review; - 1 publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Scopus; Web of Science); - a total of 25 scientific publications and reports published in not-referenced peer-reviewed journals or published in peer-reviewed compendium volumes; - 1 habilitation thesis, containing 14 scientific publications in issues, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, applied instead of habilitation work

A total of 12 of the publications have been published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases. According to Scopus's reference for referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, Dr. Konsoulova is cited 61 times with the author's h-index: 3.

The minimum requirements by groups of indicators for the academic position "Associate Professor" and their coverage by Dr. Konsoulova.

Group of indicators	Contents	Doctor	Doctor of Science, PhD	Chief Assistant	Associate Professor	D-r Assia Konsoulova
A	Indicator 1	50	50	50	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	100	-	-	
C	Indicators 3 and 4	-	-	-	100	139,79
D	Amount of indicators from 5 to 9	30	100	-	220	284,1
E	Amount of indicators from 10 to 12	-	100	-	60	285
F	Amount of indicators from 13 to the end	-	-		20	145

It is evident from the attached table that the candidate fully meets the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the University

"Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov ". Only actual publications are accepted for review, while presentations and abstracts are evaluated as additional scientific activity.

Over the years, the publications have been distributed in various journals, the most frequently addressed topics are oncological diseases, pathogenetic changes, including at the molecular level, their treatment, concomitant complications and diseases and methods for assessing treatment control. There are articles concerning oncological, gastrointestinal and gynecological problems, as well as problems with the course and treatment of some rare courses of oncological diseases and those related to men and young people.

The scientific publications correspond to the topic of the competition and are summarized in the field of internal medicine, and in a specific aspect the emphasis is on medical oncology.

The following contributions are outlined in the main areas:

In the field of medical oncology participates as a co-researcher in clinical researches of a number of oncological diseases - therapeutic algorithms for the treatment of breast cancer in metastatic stage, determines the specifics of treatment and proposes an algorithm for behavior in rare diseases such as breast cancer in men, offers a four-step algorithm for individualized systemic therapy in advanced non-small cell lung cancer according to its biological profile, as well as in the field of clinical behavior, treatment, assessment of therapeutic response and potential toxicity in patients with malignant melanoma, predictors of recurrence after adjuvant chemotherapy have been studied in patients with initially radically surgically and systemic treated colon cancer, identification and determining of cancer patients who would be suitable for systemic immunotherapy. Of great interest are the publications, which can be presented in the form of a monograph with a view to maximum conceptual clarity and simplicity in staging, surgery and determining the behavior, treatment and follow-up of various rare tumors and conditions. The derived scientific conclusions, recommendations and summaries facilitate the behavior in the real clinical practice. From a practical point of view, the studied and confirmed prophylactic and therapeutic schemes deserve significant interest and attention. It is obvious that her creative research includes aspects of her overall activity, which presents her as a completed researcher and teacher.

In the materials submitted for review cannot be made significant critical notes, recommendations and essential remarks about the design, goals, methodology, results, discussions and conclusions, the used literature sources in the creative researches, conducted at a modern scientific level. Some insignificant omissions and inaccuracies can be noted regarding the specialized literature used, especially by Bulgarian authors. The presented list of scientific publications includes participations, which, although related to its overall initiative, can be attributed to scientific-research and teaching activities. In this field are referred a number of valuable materials that are not formed according to the requirements for fulfilling the criteria for real publications. I would recommend the candidate to expand the scope of her research in more areas of internal medicine, moreover taking into account her extensive in-depth knowledge.

I have no professional contact with Dr. Konsoulova, the acquaintance with her scientific production allows me to characterize her as well-prepared, conscientious, thorough, initiative and productive researcher, demanding of herself and her colleagues, correct in her relations.

4. Memberships and participation in professional organizations and boards: President of Women for Oncology - Bulgaria, member of ABC Global Alliance, Member of the Bulgarian Association of Dermato-Oncology (BADO), Member of the European Respiratory Society (ERS), Member of ECCO, Member of American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), Member of the Bulgarian Oncological Research Society (BORS), Member of the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) and YOC at ESMO, Member of the European School of Oncology (ESO), Member of the Young Oncologist Club. Member of the National Expert Council on Medical Oncology at the

Ministry of Health, Secretary and Coordinator of the First National Commission on Neuroendocrine Tumors, University Hospital "St. Marina", Varna, Founder and Board Member of the Bulgarian Oncological Research (BORS), Member of the Bulgarian Oncological society, Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov" - Varna, Member of the Research Commission at the University, Member of the Union of Quality Specialists in Bulgaria. Editor at Frontiers in oncology, Women's health sector, Reviewer of the scientific journal "Breathe" of the European Respiratory Society, Editor at Scripta Scientifica Medica Journal, Reviewer in the field of Respiratory Oncology for the National Congress of the European Respiratory Society. She speaks English, French, Portuguese, German, Russian and Italian. Licensed simultaneous translator from / into English.

In conclusion, I give my confident opinion, in the announced competition, Dr. Assia Andrianova Konsoulova-Kirova, MD to be elected as "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Internal Medicine" for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health and Health Care at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas

February 14, 2021
Varna

Opinion prepared by
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