

TO

THE CHAIR OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY,

BY ORDER NO. RD26-2023/18.10.2023

OF THE HEAD OF

UMHATEM "N.I. PIROGOV" LTD

Opinion

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Head of Internal Medicine Department

UMHATEM "N.I.Pirogov"

Member of the scientific jury for the occupation of the academic position "associate professor", in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, by professional direction 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialist "Pediatrics" for the needs of the Pediatrics Clinic at UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov", Sofia, announced in State Gazette: 46, dated 26.5.2023 and on the website of UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov". Pirogov"-Sofia, according to the decision of the Scientific Council, protocol No. 01-3/4.10.2023.

The opinion was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Application, and the Regulations for the Terms and Procedures for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Occupying AD and Quality Criteria for the Development of the Academic Staff of UMHATEM "N .I. Pirogov"-Sofia.

For participation in the competition for the academic position "docent", in higher education 7. Health care and sports, by professional direction 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialty "Pediatrics" for the needs of the Pediatrics Clinic of the N.I. Pirogov UMBALSM,

Sofia, announced in the State Gazette number: 46, dated 26.5.2023 and on the website of the N.I. UMHATEM Pirogov"-Sofia, one candidate has submitted documents - Dr. Snezhina Mihaylova Lazova, PhD.

The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Application, and the Regulations for the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Occupying AD and Quality Criteria for the Development of the Academic Staff of UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov"-Sofia.

Biographic data

Dr. Snezhina Mihailova Lazova graduated from secondary education at the "Hristo Botev" High School in Dupnitsa in a humanities class with advanced study of the German language. She graduated the Medical University of Sofia in 2008. In 2013, she acquired a speciality in paediatrics, and in 2021, a second specialty in pediatric pneumology and phthysiology. Dr. Lazova is defending two additional master's degrees - "Public Health and Management" and " Clinical Trials Management" at the Faculty of Public Health at Sofia University.

Dr Lazova's professional career began as a pediatric specialist at the Tokuda UMBAL Pediatrics Clinic and completed her practical training in paediatrics at the UH Aleksandrovska Pediatrics Clinic, where she worked successively as a specialist physician, a full-time doctoral student, resident, part-time teacher of fifth-year medical students (in Bulgarian and English). Since 2018, Dr. Lazova has been a member of the team of the Department of Pediatrics of the UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov" as a specialist in paediatrics, and since 2020 as a chief assistant. Dr Lazova also works as a consultant physician in pediatrics and children's pulmonology in pre-hospital care - at the Cardiohelp Medical Center, the Pirogov Medical Center, and currently at the InSpiro and Neoclinic Medical Centers.

Dr. Lazova has conducted a number of postgraduate training in Bulgaria and abroad - highly specialized courses organised by the European Respiratory Society, as well as practical training in Germany, Greece, and Austria.

Dr. Lazova is fluent in written and spoken English, German and Greek, and has the necessary computer literacy.

The candidate has a marked clinical and research interest in the field of functional diagnostics of breathing in pediatric pulmonology, the problems of childhood bronchial asthma and respiratory allergies, acute respiratory infections and immunological phenomena in pediatric pathology. She has good organizational skills and has mastered the necessary didactic, practical and clinical knowledge and skills necessary for making independent decisions in the diagnostic and therapeutic process in general pediatric pathology as well as in pediatric pulmonology.

Research and scientific activity

Publications

For the current competition for the academic position of "associate professor", Dr. Lazova presents 59 scientific articles, all of which were created after obtaining the educational and scientific degree "doctor", as well as 3 chapters of collective monographs. Twenty of them have been published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus) - 13 of them after the year of awarding the ONS "doctor". In non-refereed journals, 39 publications are presented, of which 26 are after the year of awarding the ONS "Doctor".

Scientific meetings and congresses

Dr. Lazova took part with posters, poster discussions and reports in 50 scientific forums - 25 in Bulgaria and 28 abroad, at which 78 scientific reports were presented. Three of the presented posters were awarded with a diploma - two with first prize and one with third prize.

Citations

Based on the information in the submitted citation reference from the Central Medical Library, the candidate has 21 citations in publications referenced in SCOPUS (Elsevier) and 25 citations in Web of Science (Clarivate). In addition, there are also 9 citations in publications from other foreign freely available online sources (proofs provided).

22 citations were reported from the CMB repository (list provided). Two of the candidate's publications have been cited in a university textbook.

Scientific projects

Dr. Lazova participated in nine scientific projects in Bulgaria and one international scientific project under the international program "ERASMUS+KA2010" with the joint participation of the Kapodistrian University in Athens, Greece and the Faculty of Public Health of the Sofia University. The project is focused on postgraduate training opportunities for nurses from remote areas using clinical algorithms and pathways. Seven of the scientific projects in Bulgaria are financed by the Medical Science Council of Sofia University. In one of them, "Young Researcher", Dr. Lazova participated as a full-time doctoral student, and in the remaining six as a researcher in the entire implementation process - from administration and research work to summarizing and presenting the results at scientific forums and as scientific publications. Scientific projects are related to pulmonological, but also multidisciplinary clinical and socio-medical problems - microbiological, virological, immunological. All projects have been rated high and excellent. During her work at "N.I. Pirogov" UMBALSM, Dr. Lazova participated in the initiation and implementation of two scientific projects focused on the work in the Multi-Profile Emergency Department and the Department of Pediatrics - one focused on the medical effects of energy intake drinks from children and adolescents, and the other with a focus on children with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C) due to past infection with SARS-CoV2.

Teaching and academic activities

The candidate has nearly 10 years of experience teaching paediatrics to nursing, midwifery, physician assistant, kinesitherapy and clinical trial management students, pediatric residents, English-speaking medical students, and participating in examination boards. Dr Lazova began her teaching and teaching activities as a part-time teacher at the Department of Pediatrics of Sofia University, after which she was appointed to the position of "chief assistant" at the Department of Pediatrics of the Sofia University, as well as at the Department of Health Care at the Faculty of Public health of Sofia University. According to the submitted reference for the period 2020-2023, the candidate has 125 study hours of lectures and exercises each year. The reference of the Department of Educational and

Scientific Activities of the UMBALSM "Pirogov" proves that as a lecturer of 6th-year students for the year 2022/2023, Dr. Lazova has 6 hours of lectures and 20 hours of practical exercises. He is the supervisor of two specialists in paediatrics.

Clinical expertise

The candidate has a total work experience of 13 years, during which he gained extensive experience both in general pediatric pathology and in its narrow speciality of pediatric pneumology and phthiology. She works in children's wards and clinics with traditions in clinical, academic and scientific-teaching activities. In the field of pediatric pulmonology, Dr. Lazova is certified and specializes in the implementation and interpretation of various methods of functional breathing research and their application in scientific research, but also in daily clinical practice. After joining the team of N.I. Pirogov UMBALSM, Dr. Lazova gained extensive practical experience in the organization and worked in emergency situations and in a multidisciplinary team with pediatric resuscitators, pediatric surgeons, urologists, neurosurgeons, and toxicologists. Also working as a consultant in pre-hospital care, he gained experience in the follow-up and monitoring of children with acute and chronic lung diseases.

Criteria

Dr. Lazova's main scientific and clinical interests cover general pediatric pathology and diseases of the respiratory system in childhood. The focus is on bronchial asthma and atopy in children, functional breathing research, chronic wet cough, dysfunctional breathing and various respiratory infections.

In accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, and the Rules for the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Occupying AD and Quality Criteria for the Development of the Academic Staff of UMBAL "N.I. Pirogov"-Sofia, the indicators of Dr. Snezhina Lazova, DM are as follows:

group A – 50 points

group B - 385,8 points

group Г - 487,15 points

group Д – 645 points

group E- 205 points

Teaching activity – 441 points

Total scientific activity - 1772.95 points

Total teaching activity – 441 points

Total number of points - 2213.95

Conclusion

In conclusion, Dr Lazova, PhD, meets all the mandatory conditions and criteria, exceeding the minimum requirements for scientific and teaching activity to occupy the academic position "associate professor" in professional direction 7.1. Medicine and the scientific speciality "Pediatrics", specified in the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, and the Rules for the Terms and Procedures for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Occupying AD and Qualitative Criteria for the Development of the Academic Staff of UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov"-Sofia.

I recommend to the members of the scientific jury, appointed according to the decision of the Scientific Council, protocol No. 01-3/4.10.2023, to award Dr. Snezhina Mihailova Lazova, PhD, the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, by professional direction 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialty "Pediatrics" for the needs of the Clinic of Pediatrics of UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov".

27.11.2023r

Assoc. Prof. dr Petar Yordanov Atanasov, PhD

Sofia

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