

To the Chairman of the Scientific Juri
Appointed No. RD-26-269/29.01.2025
of the executive director of the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov"
Sofia

STATEMENT

by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Ventsislavov Yankov, MD, PhD**
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For the competition for Associate Professor, higher education field: 7. Health and Sports;
professional field 7.1. Medicine; specialty "Pediatrics"

1. General presentation of the procedure. The competition for the position of Associate Professor in the scientific specialty "Pediatrics" has been announced in accordance with the relevant procedure, in accordance with the regulations for the development of the academic staff of the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov".

The opinion on the materials is based on the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for its Application. It contains all the required documents and the quality criteria for the development of the academic staff of the University Hospital Medical School "N. I. Pirogov".

The procedure for determining the composition of the National Assembly was followed by order No. PД-26-269/29.01.2025 of the executive director of the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov".

1 candidate participated in the competition, admitted by the Documents Committee:
Dr. Denitsa RumenoVA Kofinova, MD

I declare that there is no conflict of interest.

1. General description of the submitted materials for the competition.

Dr. Kofinova has provided all documents accepted according to the sample for arranging scientific papers for the competition for Associate Professor at the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov". They are supported by the necessary evidentiary material.

2. Candidate's career profile. Dr. Kofinova graduated from Medical University of Sofia in 2014. The same year she started working as a doctor at SBALDB "Prof. Dr. Ivan Mitev", Clinic of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Department of Pediatrics, Sofia. Since May 2023 and until now she has been appointed as a Pediatrician and Pediatric Gastroenterologist in the Department of Pediatric Abdominal Surgery of University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov", Sofia.

Since 2016, Dr. Kofinova has been successively elected as an assistant and chief assistant at the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical University, Sofia. She has participated in many qualification forums in Bulgaria and abroad.

Dr. Kofinova has acquired specialties in pediatrics and pediatric gastroenterology. She defended her dissertation for the award of the PhD on the topic: "Assessment of fibrosis in chronic liver diseases in childhood".

She is a member of the Bulgarian Society of Ultrasound, Bulgarian Association of Ultrasound in Medicine, Bulgarian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine, and ESPGHAN .

She speaks German, English and Russian.

Dr. Kofinova actively participates in the treatment of children with general pediatric and gastroenterological diseases. As a senior assistant, she participates in the training of students of medicine and dentistry at MU-Sofia. She participates in our and international scientific forums, prepares publications for Bulgarian and international journals.

Dr. Kofinova 's scientific interests are in the field of pediatric gastroenterology, pediatric endoscopy and ultrasound diagnostics.

3. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific works and overall academic development.

• ***General characteristics of scientific production and publication activity.*** Dr. Kofinova participated in the competition with 28 publications:

- dissertation
- participation in collective monographs – 6 pcs.
- participation in textbooks – 3 pcs.
- publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (only Scopus and Web of Science – 25 issues)

Total IF 2.26.

Dr. Kofinova has participated in many scientific activities in international forums, national and regional scientific and practical forums.

• ***Scientific activity – dissemination and application of the candidate's scientific and practical achievements.*** Dr. Kofinova publishes in foreign and domestic specialized scientific journals. Most of her works are collective, with the participation of prominent domestic and foreign co-authors, which speaks of the authors and the recognition she has in her circles.

Thus, Dr. Kofinova makes her scientific research and its results available to our and foreign scientific communities. And the interest in them is highlighted, as evidenced by IF.

Evaluation of scientific production and scientific contributions. The contributions in the publications presented of Dr. Kofinova - independent and co-authored - are significant:

- liver elastography in children
- complications of children with inflammatory bowel diseases.
- role of genetic factors in children with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease.
- behavior and therapy in children with hepatitis B and hepatitis C.
- behavior and therapy in Wilson 's disease .
- surrogate markers of liver fibrosis .
- publications with descriptions of rare gastroenterological pathology in childhood – Wilson 's disease , Budd - Chiari Sy , 1 p 36 Deletion Syndrome , etc.

Many of Dr. Kofinova's presented publications have scientific and practical contributions and those of a confirmatory nature.

• In the presented self-assessment table for the mandatory minimum scientometric indicators of the University Hospital Medical School "N. I. Pirogov" for the field of medicine (medical-clinical disciplines), Dr. Kofinova has 273.54 points, with a required minimum for AD "Associate Professor" of 200 points.

• ***Participation in the implementation and management of projects.*** Dr. Kofinova participated in an educational intra-university project on the topic " Biochemical, genetic and echographic criteria for assessing the degree of development of steatosis and fibrosis in chronic liver diseases in childhood " .

4. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of educational, methodological and teaching activities, including scientific supervision of students, doctoral students, and postgraduates. Dr. Kofinova regularly participates in the training (practical exercises and seminar classes) of medical and dental students throughout her academic development. She is a co-author of chapters of study guides that can be used by medical students and postgraduates.

- In the presented self-assessment table for the mandatory minimum scientometric indicators of the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov" for the field of medicine (medical-clinical disciplines), Dr. Kofinova has 273.54 points, with the required minimum for AD "Associate Professor" being 200 points, which exceeds the required minimum.

5. Critical notes and recommendations – I have none.

6. Overall assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively, the requirements specific to University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov ". Requirements by areas and for units with/without clinical activity. Dr. Kofinova has presented a self-assessment through a table according to the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria for occupying the position of Associate Professor at University Hospital „N. I. Pirogov “She exceeds the required number of points in most of the criteria.

7. Personal impressions – I have known Dr. Kofinova personally for more than 10 years. She is extremely dedicated to her work, deeply immersed in her diagnostic and therapeutic research, in her teaching and scientific activities. Over the years, she has proven her ability to work in a team. She is demanding of herself, the students/residencies she teaches, and the colleagues she works with. With dedication and care for patients, she has proven her ability to deal with difficult clinical cases.

8. Conclusion. The work of Dr. Denitsa Rumeno Kofinova, MD presents her as an excellent professional, researcher, clinician and university lecturer. Her scientific developments are original, thorough, and precisely executed. The presented results make them applicable in everyday practice and open the way for new studies.

As a candidate for the position of Associate Professor at the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov" EAD, Dr. Kofinova exceeds the minimum national requirements.

Everything stated above is a reason for me to confidently vote in favor of Dr. Denitsa Rumeno Kofinova , PhD

Date: 26.02.2025

SIGNATURE.....
/Assoc. Prof. Dr. I. Yankov, MD, PhD/