



REVIEW

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Subject: competition for a **professorship** in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (Health management)".

1. Information about the competition

The competition was published in the State Gazette, No. 83 of 18.10.2022, in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (Health Management)" according to the order of the rector of UARD.

I participate in the composition of the scientific jury for the competition according to Order No. 33/27.01.2023 of the Rector of UARD.

2. Brief information about the candidates in the competition

One candidate participated in the announced competition - Associate Professor Georgi Yordanov Yordanov for the academic position of "Professor" at UARD in professional field 3.7 "Administration and management", scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (Health Management)".

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov completed his higher education at the Medical University in Plovdiv, majoring in "Dentistry" in 1979.

Subsequently, he specialized in "Social Medicine and Health Management" (in 2000), obtained a master's degree in "Health Management" (in 2009), holds a specialty in "Dental Imaging" (in 2004).

In 1991, he successfully defended his dissertation work, for which the Higher Attestation Commission awarded him the educational and scientific degree "doctor" (then "candidate of sciences").

In 1995, he became an "associate professor" (then "senior research associate second degree").

The creative biography of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov is subordinated to the teaching and scientific activity as a teacher at the Medical University in Plovdiv.

In parallel with his teaching activity, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov was also a national representative in the 44th National Assembly, executive director of University Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment - Plovdiv, director of "St. Mina" Hospital, he also held the position of director of the Regional Health Center, Plovdiv. Until 2006, he was a municipal councilor in Plovdiv municipality, chairman of the Health Commission, Plovdiv. He is currently the executive director of the Agency for People with Disabilities. All this shows the combination of the scientific and teaching experience with the socially useful activity as a deputy, municipal councilor and head of health institutions in the field of health care management in Bulgaria.

3. Fulfillment of the requirements for occupying the academic position

Associate Professor Dr. Georgi Yordanov has shown a study load of lectures and exercises, which experience will serve to fulfill the required standard workload in UARD, which justifies the announced competition for the academic position of "professor" in this university. A certificate is attached to the competition documentation, which shows that the candidate had a high annual study load in the last two academic years, 260 and 284 study hours, respectively.

Associate Professor Dr. Georgi Yordanov supervised four doctoral students who successfully defended their dissertations between 2006 and 2017.

In the competition, the candidate participates with a monograph work, in which he is a co-author. Associate Professor Georgi Yordanov, Ph.D. has submitted a division protocol, from which it is clear that his participation in the monograph is 50%. In this way, the applicant fulfills

the requirement of Art. 29 item 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

30 publications in national and foreign scientific publications were submitted for review, of which 2 monographs, articles and papers published in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 6 items, and articles and papers published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes – 22 items. In all the mentioned works, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov is a co-author with at least two of his colleagues. This fact can be taken as evidence that Assoc. Prof. Yordanov has the ability to work successfully in a team and cooperate with colleagues in developing the issues that are the subject of these publications.

In parallel, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov declared participation in three intra-university research projects.

4. Assessment of teaching and learning activity

Associate Professor Dr. Georgi Yordanov fully meets the requirements regarding teaching and learning activities. As stated in item 2 and item 3, he meets the requirements of having a teaching experience of at least five years and at least two years as a part-time teacher. The disciplines in which he teaches are from the field of his scientific research and interests - in the field of outpatient and diagnostic work, as can be seen from the attached study load report issued by the Medical university in Plovdiv.

It can be concluded that the candidate has accumulated teaching experience in disciplines that are predominantly in the field of his scientific research, evidence of a good combination between scientific and teaching activity.

5. Characteristics of the presented scientific works

The candidate participates in the announced competition with 30 (thirty) published papers. The monograph "**New Health Model Solidarity**" (230 pp. ISBN 978-619-196-096-5, COBISS.BG-ID 40562952) is leading. Along with this monograph work, the candidate submits for review:

6 (six) articles and papers published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 6 items, and

22 (twenty-two) articles and papers published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes - published in publications with a global appeal.

All publications listed for review are co-authored, for which separation protocols were presented.

The main task in the monograph work "New Health Model Solidarity" is to determine the model of the National Health Card of the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as its imperative. The author believes that the health card should be mandatory, not optional. The implementation of this National Health Card model is related to the introduction of objective and modern criteria and requirements for diagnosis and treatment at system levels. The aim is to guarantee the quality of the activity of the structures following the European principle - The same everywhere, the highest possible quality depending on the location, as much as possible.

The author substantiates the basic requirements in order to implement **the "New Solidarity Health Model"**. And they are: updating the legal regime for the establishment, management, financing and closure of medical facilities and the resulting changes in the Law on Medical Facilities, the Law on Public Health, the Law on Health Insurance, the Law on Professional Organizations of Physicians, Dentists and the various health care professionals and adoption of new by-laws. The author is convinced that the proposed model of the National Health Card can guarantee affordable medical assistance to the population in settlements, regions and at the national level, according to the order of health insurance.

Along with the leading habilitation thesis, Assoc. Prof. Dr. G. Yordanov offers for review a monograph, which is not presented as a main habilitation thesis under a previous or current procedure, entitled: "***ritten rules and health indicators at the European and national level, for evaluating the activity of health activities - evidence-based medicine (Evidence - Based Medicine - EBM)***" co-authored with two other colleagues in a volume of 222 pages.

In this monograph, the objects of analysis are:

- the human factor, and in particular the participation of doctors and medical specialists in the formation of hospital policy,
- the performance of professional activities by doctors and other medical specialists,
- the creation of the "hospital product", the results of the professional activity of medical specialists.

The proposal to introduce nine management indicators, of which two are basic and seven are operational, is interesting. The main indicators are decision-making and leadership of direct subordinates. Operational indicators are planning, organizing, delegating, communicating, motivating, leading and controlling.

Research work regarding clinical pathways, indicators and processes in the direction of clinical effectiveness, efficiency and quality of services that patients receive can be defined as a scientific contribution.

The critical analysis of existing concepts regarding the concept of technology in healthcare is of special interest.

In the focus of the subject of scientific articles and presented scientific papers, private problems are affected, such as the frequency of infraaxial proximal defects in the maxilla and mandible, established by 3D cone volume tomography; three-dimensional cone-beam computed tomography; CBCT images; the diagnostic possibilities of orthopantomography; of the healing process after conservative and surgical treatment of drug-induced osteonecrosis of the jaws, etc. This scientific production proves the in-depth knowledge and practice of the candidate.

The candidate in the competition presented a reference of citations, issued by the library of the Medical University - Sofia, from which it can be seen that his developments and scientific research have aroused the interest of the scientific community and colleagues follow and know his analyzes and summaries. A total of 24 citations were identified. From the Scopus database 4 citations were found, from Web of Knowledge – 3, and 1 other databases - 9 citations.

6. Synthesized assessment of major scientific and applied scientific contributions

The facts indicated in the previous parts of the review speak of a focus on the problem, which is thoroughly illuminated in the presented two monograph works - the ways of implementing a new modern model of health management in order to reveal its complex and multidirectional nature - the complex of problems, relating to the principles and their successful application in health care practice.

The reference to the contributions that the candidate himself has formulated is, in practice, a description of the main topics that he addresses in his publications.

The more in-depth review of the scientific work of Assoc. Prof. Yordanov makes it possible to provide the following assessments of what has been achieved theoretically:

In the two monograph works "***New health model Solidarity***" and "***Written rules and health indicators at the European and national level, to evaluate the activity of health activities - medicine based on the evidence (Evidence - Based Medicine - EBM)***", a thorough review of the state of the model was made of healthcare in Bulgaria. The comparison is made on the basis of a system of indicators adopted in Europe and at the national level, in order to highlight both the positive and the weak sides of healthcare in the country. A merit of the "Solidarity" model proposed by the author is its adaptation at the level of administrative districts, of which there are twenty-eight in Bulgaria. The introduction and use of a broad interdisciplinary team of specialists is justified.

It is proposed and substantiated that the determination of personal physicians of citizens is done by address registration by the municipalities by place of residence. By providing an insurance card, one important drawback of the current system will be avoided and it will be possible to provide medical assistance to the patients at any time.

Special attention is paid to clinical pathways and the need for their improvement. For this purpose, a new regulatory framework is needed to guarantee fair remuneration for treating specialists.

An important contribution is highlighting the importance of the human factor - doctors and all medical specialists in the implementation of health policy, so that it leads to high quality results in the most delicate sphere in society - health care. In this aspect, nine management indicators are proposed. The author divided them into two basic and seven operational. Rules for work in hospitals, clinics and departments have been developed and proposed. The preventive work, the entire treatment-diagnostic process, the security regime, the two-level medical care, the supply of drugs, hospital nutrition and other activities accompanying the treatment of patients are successively described. An analysis was made of conflicts in the health sector, which are an important part of the health management process. The justification for introducing the electronic file of patients, which will improve the possibility of making correct decisions about their treatment, also deserves attention.

The other group of problems, on which the candidate has apparently worked for many years - imaging diagnostics, injuries in the

lower jaw and their X-ray examination, are an expression of the deep specialization of the candidate.

Regarding the practical-applied results of the research in the works of the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov, the following can be concluded:

1. The two monographic works could serve as a tool for the implementation of a modern health policy and effective measures to strengthen the elements of health management in the Bulgarian health care system, carried out by the specialized units and bodies.

2. The publications can be useful reading for specialists, doctoral students and students who are interested in the problems of health management and ways to improve it.

7. Key critical notes and recommendations

There are two main remarks regarding the scientific publications of the candidate in the announced competition for a professor in the scientific specialty "Health Management".

First, when reviewing the scientific publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov, the lack of studies, textbooks and teaching aids is striking. The academic position of "Professor" is the one for which the applicant claims in the current competition, and it implies prepared and published high-level textbooks in the taught disciplines. Textbooks are a special scientific genre that is subject to the specific requirements of teaching scientific knowledge, and it is expected that Assoc. Prof. Yordanov has mastered it well. Therefore, the absence of such publications attached to the documentation is surprising.

Second, it is recommended that the applicant expand the number of publications that are relevant to the field of health management. He has in-depth knowledge in the specific field of dentistry, but also has extensive practical experience in management and health care, which was highlighted in item 2 of this review.

8. Conclusion

Taking into account the achievements in the research and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Yordanov Yordanov and the confidence that he will continue in the direction of deepening and improving the qualities of his developments and will enrich them with the necessary depth and practical results in the field of health management, I will vote "FOR" the awarding of the academic position "professor" in 3. Social,

economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.7. Administration and management, scientific specialty "Organization and management outside the sphere of material production (Health Management)" for the needs of UARD.

02/16/2023

Reviewer:

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