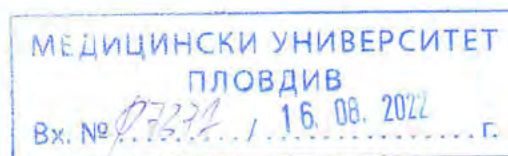


To  
The Chairman of the scientific jury,  
Determined by Order № P - 1725/ 15.07.2022 г.  
Of the Rector of Medical University of Plovdiv  
15A Vasil Aprilov Blvd., Plovdiv 4002

On your protocol №1/ from 25.07.2022г.



**Hereby attached, I submit: Statement**

Regarding the procedure for occupying the academic position *Professor*  
In the scientific specialty **Cardiology**  
Announced for the needs of Medical University of Plovdiv,  
In State Gazette, issue **32/26.04.2022**

**Reviewer: Professor Ivaylo Rilkov Daskalov, MD, PhD**  
Scientific specialty: **Cardiology and Internal Diseases**  
Institution: **Military Medical Academy, Sofia**

**Address and contacts:**

Sofia, Military Medical Academy

E-mail Заличено на основание Чл.5 §1, б."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

Phone

Assoc. Prof. Lyudmila Georgieva Vladimirova- Kitova, MD, PhD began her professional career as an assistant professor and senior assistant professor in the Clinic of Cardiology at “St.George” University Hospital, Plovdiv. In 2007 she was awarded a PhD degree and in 2014 she acquired the academic position Associate Professor. She has two specialties in “Internal Diseases” and “Cardiology” and a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Management. She has been an Assistant Professor in the Clinic of Cardiology since 1999. Assoc. Prof. Lyudmila Georgieva Vladimirova- Kitova, MD has numerous specialisations in Bulgaria and abroad. She is a member of the Bulgarian Society of Cardiologists, the European Society of Cardiologists, the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, the Society for Doppler Echography, the Group of Echocardiography at the Bulgarian Society of Cardiologists, the Editorial Board of the Topmedica journal, issued by the National Cardiological Hospital- Sofia, of the Faculty Council of MU of Plovdiv, of the University Quality Committee, she is responsible for the scientific activities at First Department of Internal Diseases and she is a Departmental Quality Administrator at the Clinic of Cardiology.

For the present competition, the candidate has presented the following scientific work: Summary of a Dissertation, Publications in refereed and non-refereed journals, abstracts from scientific forums, monographs, textbooks and handbooks, scientific projects, attestations, references, and other evidence.

The scientific work of Assoc. Prof. Kitova can be divided in the following nine scientific areas:

1. Contemporary aspects in the pathogenesis and diagnostics of atherosclerosis (AC). The scientific works discuss the most contemporary aspects of the cellular and molecular mechanisms which prove that AS is a dynamic, chronic inflammatory process which can be influenced. In this aspect AS is perceived as a multifactorial disease with genetic predisposition.
2. Familial dyslipidemia. This is a topic which Assoc. Prof. Kitova follows throughout her academic development. A proof for this are the two intra-university projects which were successfully completed, the first one was completed with a defended dissertation.
3. Current aspects of immunomodulating therapy. In the monograph “Lipid, lipomodulation-current aspects” the current lipidoregulatory and novel treatment opportunities are presented.
4. The primary prevention of cardio-vascular diseases and functional foods. In a series of publications, the topics for counteracting ageing of the cardio-vascular system through food antioxidants are discussed.
5. Epidemiological research of the risk factors for atherosclerosis. Different correctable risk factors for atherosclerosis such as arterial hypertension, dyslipidemia, diabetes mellitus and their distribution in different risk categories are studied.

6. Early diagnostics of diabetes and hypertension. Questions for improving the diagnostic approach for early diagnostics of diabetic nephropathy in patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus by clinical genetic, echography and laboratory investigations.
7. Cardio-vascular risk in dental practice. The actual practical nature of the problem is discussed reasonably in the context of anti-platelet agents, vitamin K antagonists and new oral anticoagulants.
8. Cardiac insufficiency. Mainly issues related to diagnostics and cardioherabilitation as well as echocardiography and biochemical markers for early cardiac dysfunction in liver cirrhosis are discussed.
9. Flow-mediated vasodilation and the phenomenon desaturation in patients with COPD, acricooncology, study of the sleep hormone, COVID-19-associated cardiac complications are described in a number of scientific publications.

The major scientific achievements and unquestionable scientific authority of Assoc. Prof. Kitova are due to the numerous publications in Bulgarian and foreign scientific journals, her participation in eight textbooks, eight monographs, one handbook, two joint monographs, numerous participations with scientific articles in congresses and conferences in Bulgaria and abroad, as well as her participation in the implementation and management of international and national scientific projects among which are “Cardio-vascular changes following a COVID-19 infection”, “Contemporary Aspects of Familial Hypercholesterolaemia”, “Cardio-vascular Risk in Women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome”, COPD Exacerbations: Evaluation of Endothelial Function, Systemic Inflammation and Hypoxia” etc.

Assoc. Prof. Kitova was a scientific consultant to three doctoral students and scientific supervisor to four doctoral candidates who successfully acquired a PhD degree.

In the monograph “Lipid, lipimodulation- current aspects”, Assoc. Prof. Kitova makes a thorough review of the contemporary concepts for the atherosclerosis mechanisms and treatment control. The established and new pathogenic mechanisms are discussed- from the lipid theory through atherosclerosis as an inflammatory disease to the contemporary concept for microbioma. The topicality of the monograph is based on presenting the prognostic value of the lipid profile in COVID-19 infection.

Assoc. Prof. Kitova is a co-author of collective monographs, one of them international and one national.

The Citations of the candidate in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science are 107. According to data from CML for national papers, 156 citations from Bulgaria and 9 citations from monographs are found.

Assoc. Prof. Kitova is a lecturer of medical students, including English speaking ones, nurses and midwives, residents in Cardiology and General Practice, she teaches post graduate courses of doctors in vascular diagnostics and is a member of the national committee for state exams in Cardiology.

I have no critical remarks and recommendations.


The candidate meets the minimum national criteria in accordance with art. 2b (2), (3) and (5) from the Law the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the specific requirements determined by the Regulations for Academic Development of MU of Plovdiv for departments with clinical activity. Regarding the specific requirements of MU of Plovdiv for obtaining the academic rank "Professor", Assoc. Prof. Kitova presented almost three times the number of points required- 5660,16. H-index- 7 with a requirement of  $\geq 3$ .

**Conclusion:** Associate Professor Lyudmila Georgieva Vladimirova-Kitova **meets** the mandatory and specific requirements and scientific criteria for obtaining the academic rank "Professor".

Associate Professor Lyudmila Georgieva Vladimirova-Kitova is a reputable specialist, lecturer, researcher and scientist with comprehensive training and rich experience in Cardiology. The presents scientific work in volume and quality overpasses multiple times the minimum national requirements of Law the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the specific requirements of MU of Plovdiv. This gives me the grounds to recommend that the honourable members of the Scientific Committee vote positively for awarding Assoc. Prof. Lyudmila Vladimirova-Kitova with the academic position "Professor".

**I am going to vote positively,**

10.08.2022

Signature: 

/ Prof. Ivaylo Rilkov Daskalov, MD, PhD /

Заличено на основание  
Чл.5 §1, 6."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679