

STATEMENT

From Assoc. Professor Niko Benbassat, PhD

Department of Pharmacognosy and pharmaceutical chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy – Medical University – Plovdiv „Pharmaceutical sciences“ of the

Concerning a contest for the academic position “associate professor” in „Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy“ in the field of higher education No 7 „Healthcare and sport“, professional field 7.3 „Pharmacy“, educational discipline „Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy“ for the needs of the department „Pharmaceutical sciences“ of the Faculty of Pharmacy – Medical University - Plovdiv, Published in Bulgarian Official Journal issue 49/28.02.2023.

By order No P1182/05.05.2023 of the Rector of the Medical University – Plovdiv I was appointed as a member of the scientific jury in the contest for the academic position “associate professor” in „Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy“ in the field of higher education No 7 „Healthcare and sport“, professional field 7.3 „Pharmacy“, educational discipline „Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy“ for the needs of the department „Pharmaceutical sciences“ of the Faculty of Pharmacy – Medical University - Plovdiv, Published in Bulgarian Official Journal issue 49/28.02.2023.

Only one candidate, chief assistant Plamen Dimitrov Katzarov, PhD from the department „Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy“ presented his documents for the participation in this contest. The complete set of documents presented in an electronic version are in full accordance with the requirements of the „ЗПАКРБ“. All the official terms regarding the contest are strictly kept.

Plamen Dimitrov Katzarov studied in the English Language School in 2005 in Plovdiv. He graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University- Plovdiv in 2012 with excellent marks as a master of sciences. In 2010 he completed a two-month course in Bayer Healthcare, Leverkusen, Germany. In 2012 he was appointed as an assistant professor and from 2018 as a senior assistant professor in the field of Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy in the department „Pharmaceutical sciences“ of the Faculty of Pharmacy – Medical University – Plovdiv. From the year 2013 Plamen Katzarov was a postgraduate student in the field of Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy where he successfully defended a PhD thesis. He has experience as a Master of Pharmacy in an open pharmacy. He has participated in the development of several scientific projects. In 2017 he received the scientific title PhD, and in 2018 the degree „specialist“ in the same scientific field. The participation in a number of scientific forums was evaluated as excellent. Plamen Katzarov took part in a number of postgraduate courses.

Plamen Katzarov’s activity in the field of education is more than sufficient and complies with the legal requirements. Katzarov actively participates in the students’ education (Bulgarian and English language students) both in seminars and in practical exercises in the disciplines Pharmaceutical formulations and biopharmacy (parts I and II) and Biopharmacy and pharmacokinetics. The candidate participates actively in practical examinations. The required horarium (more than 2 500 h) is several times higher than the legally required.

Plamen Katzarov's scientific activity is mainly in the field development and characterisation of modified release drug-delivery systems aiming the optimisation of their therapeutic efficacy.

The contender takes part in this contest as author and co-author of 26 original articles in scientific journals, 13 of which with a high impact factor.

Plamen Katzarov is a co-author in a scientific monograph „Polysaccharide-based drug delivery systems“. This scientific publication is definitely an important contribution in the field of development of new pharmaceutical formulations. The natural polysaccharides are no doubt the future both in the development of new specific organ- targeted as well as contemporary modified release formulation. I would suggest (and the candidate's scientific background) permits these theoretical research results to find realisation in pharmaceutical practice. I think that the developed technological approaches could lead to new pharmaceutical formulations based on original Bulgarian drug substances of essential oils and polysaccharides.

I consider that the candidate's basic scientific and applied contributions presented in his scientific publications are a significant input in pharmaceutical practice.

The general impact factor of the candidate's publications is 36.671. The publications are cited 128 times.

The candidate has participated in the realisation of 11 national projects. He is a guest-author of the specialised issue of the journal „Polymers“.

The general evaluation of the scientometric indicators (3 642.17 points) is much higher than the legally required 1 270 points. (Приложение 1, табл.1.2. на „Правилник за академично развитие на МУ-Пловдив за заемане на академичната длъжност „доцент“ в професионално направление 7.3. Фармация.)

IN CONCLUSION I am sure that the candidate Plamen Katzarov, PhD possesses significant achievements in the field of pharmaceutical technology and fully complies with the requirements of article 107 of („Правилник за условията и реда за придобиване на научни степени и заемане на академична длъжност“ в МУ-Пловдив, за заемане на академичната длъжност „Доцент“.)

Having in mind the candidate's educational work, his ability to communicate with Bulgarian and foreign students as well as his scientific achievement I would strongly suggest to the scientific jury to vote in favour of the approval of higher assistant professor Plamen Katzarov, PhD as an associate professor.

Sofia, 26.05.2023.

Author of the statement

Заличено на основание

Чл.5 §1, б. "В" Регламент (ЕС) 2016/679

(Assoc. Prof. N. Benbasat, PhD)