

To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
Assoc. Prof. Oliana Boykinova, MD, PhD
Determined by Order No R-147/12.01.2024
Of the Rector of the Medical University - Plovdiv

On your Protocol No. 1/ dated 19.01.2024.

Attached I present: Written Statement

For a competition for the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR"
in scientific specialty "Epidemiology"

announced for the needs of Medical University - Plovdiv, Department of Epidemiology and
Disaster Medicine

announced in the State Gazette issue 83 from 03.10.2023

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eliyana Panayotova Ivanova, PhD

Scientific specialty – Epidemiology

Medical University – Varna

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

Phone

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The only candidate for the announced competition is:

Vanya Rangelova Rangelova, MD, PhD

Chief assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Disaster Medicine,

Faculty of Public Health, Medical University - Plovdiv

I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile

Dr. Vanya Rangelova completed her medical degree at Medical University - Plovdiv in 2014. From 2014 to 2016, worked as a doctor in the Emergency Internal Department of UMHAT "St. George", Plovdiv. From 2016 to the present, she has worked as an assistant and then as a chief assistant professor at the Department of "Epidemiology and Disaster Medicine" at Medical University of Plovdiv. In 2020, she obtained her specialty in Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases and earned a PhD degree defending a dissertation with a topic "Clinical-epidemiological, microbiological, and financial aspects of healthcare-

associated infections (HAIs) in the neonatal period." Dr. Rangelova was actively engaged as an epidemiologist-consultant at the National Centre for Disease Control and Prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic from 2020 to 2023. She was involved in collecting, processing, and reporting data on the spread of SARS-CoV-2 nationally and regionally. Additionally, she assisted in preparing annual analyses for the WHO and participated in online meetings with the ECDC and WHO on current COVID-19 and flu-related matters. Since 2020, Dr. Rangelova has been acquiring practical and organisational experience as a hospital epidemiologist at St. Mina Hospital - Plovdiv. Since 2023, she has been advancing her training in public health by specialising in "Health Management" at Medical University of Plovdiv.

The candidate has an excellent command of English - written and spoken, which gives her the opportunity to work as a freelance translator of medical texts.

She is a member of many scientific organizations: European society of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria - Plovdiv, Bulgarian Scientific Society for Public Health, Bulgarian Scientific Society for Epidemiology of Infectious and Non-Infectious Diseases, Youth Scientific Society "Asclepius".

II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

In the report on the implementation of the mandatory minimum scientometric indicators of Medical University of Plovdiv for direction 7.1. Medicine and 7.4. Public Health, Chief Assistant Professor Dr. V. Rangelova participates with evidentiary material for 43 scientific works: 2 monographs; 1 abstract; 1 book based on a defended dissertation work; 37 full-text publications, of which: 20 publications in Scopus and/or WoS and 17 publications in non-refereed journals; 2 abstracts with an impact factor in journals referenced in Scopus /WoS (no scoring).

III. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific works for the overall academic development

The materials for participation in the current competition mainly include own research, but also overview articles. The total publication activity of the candidate to date includes 46 publications, 4 textbooks and study aids, 2 monographs and 1 book based on a dissertation work.

The distribution of scientific works submitted for review is as follows:

1. **Habilitation thesis - monograph 1 pc.** "Vaccine hesitancy and attitudes towards influenza vaccination among different population groups", Paisii Hilendarski University Publishing House, 2023; ISBN 978-619-202-921-0
2. **Published monograph, which is not presented as the main habilitation thesis - 1 pc.** "Covid-19 in Bulgaria. Epidemiological analysis", Paisii Hilendarski University Publishing House, 2023, ISBN 978-619-202-922-7
3. **Published book based on a protected dissertation - 1 pc.** Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in the neonatal period. Lax book Plovdiv, 2023 ISBN-978-619-189-228-0

4. **Publications in full text in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in a global database with scientific information (Scopus and Web of Science) – 20 items.**
5. **Publications in non-referenced journals** with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - **17 items**
6. **Published university textbooks – 4 items**
7. **Citations and/or reviews in scientific journals**, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (only Scopus and Web of Science) with evidentiary material from databases - **24 citations and 23 reviews**
8. **Citations and/or reviews in non-referenced peer-reviewed journals - 12 citations**
9. **Participation in international scientific or educational projects - 2 international projects**
10. **Management of international scientific or educational projects - 3 international projects**
11. **Participation in national scientific or educational projects - 1 national scientific project; 1 national educational project – 2 intra-university projects**

The submitted evidentiary material for the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" determines the following number of points:

- Indicator A – Dissertation work (author's abstract) – **50 points**
- Indicator C – Monograph – **100 points**
- Indicator D 5-9 (minimum number according to regulations 220 points) – **697.2 points**
- Indicator E 10-12 (minimum number according to the rules 200 points) – **765 points**
- Indicator F 13-22 (minimum number according to the rules 80 points) – **308.02 points**
- Indicator G (minimum number according to the rules 350 points) – **655.5 points**

Total number of points from all indicators (minimum number according to the regulations 1000 points): **2575.72 points**, with which the candidate **Dr. V. Rangelova fully covers the required quantitative criteria for awarding the academic position "Associate Professor", according to the Regulations of the Medical University - Plovdiv.**

Dr. Rangelova has participated in 39 international and national scientific forums, where the results of her research activities were presented. She is a member of the editorial boards of 3 scientific journals and is part of the Management Boards of 2 scientific societies - the Bulgarian Scientific Society for Epidemiology of Infectious and Non-Infectious Diseases and the Youth Scientific Society "Asclepius".

IV. Scientific directions and contributions in the candidate's scientific works

The topics of the presented scientific studies are mainly in the field of healthcare-associated infections, immunoprophylaxis, viral hepatitis and airborne infections. In her works, the candidate examines:

1. Healthcare-associated infections

- The dynamics and trend of the **epidemic process of HAI in the neonatal intensive care unit** of one of the largest university hospitals in the country is studied, and the determinants for morbidity modeling and surveillance, as well as measures for the

prevention of HAI in the neonatal intensive care unit, are indicated. An in-depth analysis of a number of maternal and neonatal factors that could influence the possibility of subsequent development of HAI was carried out.

2. **Immunoprophylaxis**

- a representative cross-sectional study was conducted to investigate **the attitudes of general practitioners towards vaccines from the mandatory immunization calendar and the attitudes of different population groups towards influenza and COVID-19 vaccination**, and the factors that could serve as predictors of vaccine hesitancy were investigated.
- an analysis of the reported adverse reactions (local, systemic, allergic) after vaccination with vaccines against COVID-19 (vectored and mRNA-based) was performed and the associative relationship between the severity and duration of the reactions with the characteristics of the studied respondents was investigated.

3. **Airborne infections**

- **A comprehensive analysis was conducted of the main epidemiological indicators of the pandemic infection COVID-19 in Bulgaria.** The analysis considered demographic factors, pre-existing health conditions, healthcare resources, impact of various virus variants, vaccination rates, and other relevant factors.

4. **Viral hepatitis**

- In-depth studies **on the spread of the Hepatitis E virus among risk groups of the population** - hemodialysis patients in southern Bulgaria, immunocompetent and immunocompromised patients, etc. with an assessment of gender and age trends in the prevalence of anti-HEV IgG and anti-HEV IgM, and the **frequency of HBV and HCV viral infection among hemodialysis patients**

V. **Qualitative assessment of the candidate's educational - methodical and teaching activities**

Dr. Vanya Rangelova conducts Bulgarian and English training for students in the following disciplines: Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health Inspector and participates in the training of trainee doctors during their state internship in Epidemiology in the period 2017-2018. and during the winter semester of 2023-2024. The average study load in the last three years is 523.3 study hours with a norm of 360 study hours.

VI. **Critical notes and recommendations**

I have no critical notes.

VII. **Conclusion**

Chief assistant professor Dr. Vanya Rangelova is an established teacher with good theoretical and practical training, and a scientist with broad interests. Her professional development in the field of clinical epidemiology gives her the opportunity to enrich her practical experience and apply it successfully in the educational process. In our joint work, Dr. V. Rangelova is distinguished by high professionalism, diligence, ethics and organizational skills.

The scientific output and academic workload of Dr. Vanya Rangelova fully meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria for the academic position "Associate Professor", according to the Regulations of the Medical University - Plovdiv.

Based on the above, I propose to the members of the Scientific Jury, determined by Order No. R - 147/ 12.01.2024. of the Rector of the MU - Plovdiv, **chief assistant professor Dr. Vanya Rangelova Rangelova, PhD to be elected as "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Epidemiology" for the needs of the Department of Epidemiology and Disaster Medicine of the Medical University of Plovdiv.**

Prepared by:

A red rectangular stamp is partially visible behind the signature. The stamp contains the text "Секретариат на Ректора" and "№ 11, Б. П. Пловдив 262016029" in small red font.

Assoc. prof. Eliyana Ivanova, MD,PhD

26.02.2024