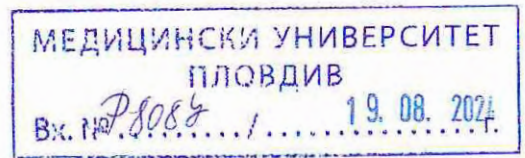


## Opinion



from prof. Dr. Maria Anastasova Semerdzhieva, MD

Dean of the Faculty of Public health at the Medical University of Plovdiv

Member of the scientific jury, appointed by Order No. 2159/24.06.2024 of the Vice-Rector for Scientific and research activities at the Medical University of Plovdiv in relation to the procedure for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of 7.3. Pharmacy, for the needs of the Faculty of Public Health, Department of Health Care Management, as announced in the State Gazette, issue 35 / 19.04.2024.

The only candidate in the competition is Master Pharmacist Anna Atanasova Mihaylova, PhD, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Health Care Management at the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University of Plovdiv.

The submitted documents in connection with the competition are complete and in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations for the structure and activities of the Medical University of Plovdiv and the Regulations for academic development at the Medical University of Plovdiv, which allows for the evaluation of the candidate participating in the competition.

### **I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile**

Anna Atanasova Mihaylova graduated in "Pharmacy" in 2008 from the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University of Plovdiv. She obtained a master's degree in "Public Health and Health Management" (2004) from the Medical University of Sofia. In 2018, she defended her PhD in the scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation" with a dissertation titled "Epidemiological and Pharmacoeconomic Study of Corticosteroid Prophylaxis of Hyaline Membrane Disease in Prematurely Born Children." She has acquired two additional specialties: "Medical Pedagogy" (2007) and "Organization and Economics of Distribution and Pharmacy Practice" (2022).

In 1997, she began working at the Medical University of Plovdiv, successively holding the positions of "Lecturer" and "Senior Lecturer" in the specialty "Pharmacy Assistant" at the Medical College. Since 2023, she has been a senior lecturer in the Department of Health Care Management at the Faculty of Public Health, where she leads the newly established

master's specialty "Pharmaceutical Business Management." Concurrently, she successfully manages her own pharmacy business.

Master Pharmacist Anna Mihaylova has been responsible for research activities in the "Pharmacy Assistant" specialty and a member of the Council of the Medical College at the Medical University of Plovdiv.

For the last appraisal period, 2018–2020, she received the highest rating of "Very Good." She is proficient in English at C1 level and speaks Russian and Italian fluently.

She is a member of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union, the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Pharmacy, the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, and the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Public Health.

Anna Mihaylova's qualifications and career development fully correspond to the area of the announced competition.

## **II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition**

The materials submitted by Master Pharmacist Anna Mihaylova for the competition provide a complete set of necessary information for conducting a quantitative and qualitative assessment of her overall academic development. The documentation is detailed and well-organized in the form of reports, lists, and supporting evidence.

### **1. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific works for overall academic development**

The scientific output presented by the candidate includes 86 publications: 35 publications in scientific journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, of which 17 have an Impact Factor (Clarivate Analytics); and 51 publications in non-indexed journals with peer review or published in edited collective volumes.

She is participating in the current competition with her scientific works from 2012 to the present, excluding those submitted for her PhD.

Anna Mihaylova's scientific contributions result from her research and practical project activities, as well as her work with multidisciplinary teams, including students. The main directions of her research activities can be summarized as follows:

## **PHARMACEUTICAL REGULATION**

- Dispensing and regulation of medicinal products and dietary supplements
- Regulation in crisis situations and combating certain infectious diseases

## **PHARMACEUTICAL CARE**

- Pharmaceutical care and patient counseling, the role of the pharmacist in reviewing medication therapy
- Pharmaceutical care for certain chronic diseases
- Pharmaceutical care for specific population groups
- Information and communication technologies in pharmaceutical care

## **PHARMACOECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND MEDICO-SOCIAL ASPECTS OF PREMATURELY BORN CHILDREN**

- Health-economic assessment of costs for prematurely born children with respiratory complications
- Pharmacoeconomic and epidemiological study of prenatal corticosteroid prophylaxis
- Application of surfactant therapy

## **ROLE AND PLACE OF DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRACTICE**

- Therapeutic action, benefits, regulation
- Undeclared ingredients in dietary supplements and alternative products on the market

## **QUALITY OF TRAINING FOR MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**

- Good pharmaceutical practices in professional training
- Digitalization in modern professional/medical education
- Additional opportunities for practical training and research activities
- Effective management of distance e-learning
- Innovative technologies supporting students

## **INNOVATIONS IN HEALTHCARE**

- The importance of e-health for optimizing pharmaceutical care
- Telepharmacy—clinical benefits and challenges
- Ethical challenges related to digital technologies and artificial intelligence in healthcare

- Application of bioprinting in personalized medicine, dental medicine, and the pharmaceutical sector
- 3D (bio)printing in modern medical education
- Ethical and legal regulation of bioprinting

## **THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR SOCIALLY SIGNIFICANT DISEASES**

- Management of chronic diseases
- Modern dimensions of health tourism
- Multidisciplinary rehabilitation approaches

### **2. Evaluation of the monographic work or equivalent publications submitted for participation in the "Associate professor" competition by the candidate**

The main monographic work submitted, titled "Good Pharmaceutical Practice in the Training of Pharmacy Assistants," was published in 2020 and contains 187 pages. The scope and subject matter of the monographic work fully meet the minimum requirements for the position of Associate Professor and the field of the competition. The monograph addresses a multi-component and relevant topic related to the modern concept of good practices in the field of pharmacy, standards and quality rules for the offered pharmaceutical and health services, public health, and education, intertwined with various aspects of the training of pharmacy assistants and their development as health professionals. In this area, the author has many years of experience and skillfully uses the accumulated knowledge from pharmaceutical practice to enhance the quality of training and professional development of pharmacy assistants.

The second monographic work, co-authored by the candidate and N. Parahuleva, titled "Health-Economic Assessment of Costs for Prematurely Born Children with Respiratory Complications," with ISBN 978-619-236-509-7, is the second expanded edition from 2024 (first edition 2020) and contains 283 pages. A co-authorship certificate has been correctly provided, verifying the joint authorship of the collective monograph by both authors. The scope and subject of the monographic work fully comply with legal requirements. The monograph addresses a globally relevant issue, namely the consequences of premature birth in newborns, the prevention of complications, and respiratory pathology, presented from a medico-social and health-economic

perspective. A significant contribution is the pharmacoeconomic assessment of the application of surfactant in prematurely born children.

Also submitted is participation with published chapters in three collective monographs, which are the result of the candidate's project activities.

### **3. Impact (Citations) of the candidate's publications in national and international literature (Publication visibility)**

A list and supporting evidence have been provided for a total of 184 citations: 68 citations in the Scopus and Web of Science databases; 6 citations in monographs and books; 110 citations in non-indexed, peer-reviewed journals.

The candidate's scientific works have received exceptionally wide recognition within the international community, with 156 of the citations being by foreign authors. The H-index of Master Pharmacist Anna Mihaylova is 5 in Scopus and 4 in Web of Science.

### **4. Scientific Activity**

Anna Mihaylova has participated in 9 scientific and educational projects, 2 of which are international, with her serving as the lead researcher in 1 of the projects.

## **VI. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of educational and methodological activities, including scientific supervision of students, doctoral candidates, and trainees**

The report on the teaching workload of Senior Lecturer Anna Mihaylova for the past three years - 1250.6 hours, 1246.2 hours, and 881.6 hours, respectively - shows an exceptionally high teaching load that exceeds the standard for non-habilitated lecturers. The candidate conducts 30% of the lectures, leads practical exercises and seminars, participates in practical and theoretical exams, and is also a member of the State Examination Commission for Social Pharmacy at the Medical College of Plovdiv Medical University. She has actively worked with students, resulting in several joint publications and participation in national and international forums. She has served as an advisor, mentor, and supervisor for interns and students in various international programs.

Anna Mihaylova is the author of the curriculum and course content for the elective discipline "Good Pharmaceutical Practice" at the Medical College of Plovdiv.

## VII. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no critical remarks regarding the candidate.

## VIII. Overall assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements under a. 2b, p. 2 and 3, and the requirements under a. 2b, p. 5 of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the specific units of MU – Plovdiv

The data shows that the candidate Anna Mihaylova meets the mandatory conditions and significantly exceeds the minimum criteria according to the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for academic development at MU-Plovdiv for the position of "Associate Professor" (Table 1).

*Table 1. Comparative characteristics of the results of A. Mihaylova, PhD, and the Minimum required points for the position of "Associate Professor" by groups of indicators*

<b>Indicator Group</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Minimum Required Points</b>	<b>A. Mihaylova's Points</b>
A	Indicator 1	50	50 p.
B	Indicator 2	-	-
C	Indicators 3 or 4	100	100 p.
D	Sum of Indicators 5 - 9	210	935.9 p.
E	Sum of Indicators 10 - 12	300	1630 p.
F	Sum of Indicators 13 to the end	50	347.4 p.
G	Academic employment, Academic position	560	547 p.
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>1270</b>	<b>3610.3 p.</b>

## IX. Conclusion

Based on the above, I give my positive assessment and firmly believe that Senior Lecturer Anna Atanasova Mihaylova, PhD, meets the requirements of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations of Plovdiv Medical University, and the Regulations for Academic Development at Plovdiv Medical University. I recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury award the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of Higher Education 7. Healthcare and Sports, Professional Field 7.3 Pharmacy, with a specialization in "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation."

Date: 19.08.2024  
Plovdiv

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
/Prof. M. Semerdzhieva, MD,Ph.D./

