



## STATEMENT

by

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Subject: procedure for filling the position of AD "Associated Professor" in PEDIATRICS , field of higher education: 7. Health and Sport, Professional field 7.1 Medicine at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at MU - Plovdiv, for teaching in Bulgarian and English, according to the Order No. R-2142/21.06.2024 of the Vice Rector of MU - Plovdiv and the advertisement in the Official Gazette No. 35/19.04.2024.

A single candidate is applying - Dr. Penka Vasileva Petleshkova-Angelova, dm

### I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CAREER PROFILE OF THE CANDIDATE

Dr. Penka Petleshkova was born in 1968. She graduated from "G. Dimitrov" High School in Sofia. She graduated in 1986 in Plovdiv. She graduated as a Medical Doctor at the University of Medical Sciences - Plovdiv in 1993. 2012 is the year in which she acquired the specialty "Neonatology", and from 2020 - "Health Management" at VUARR- Plovdiv.

The period 1993-2010 covers the time during which Dr. Petleshkova worked at the Pazardzhik Hospital. Since 2010 she has been working in the Neonatology Department of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic at the University Hospital "St. George"- Plovdiv. In 2012, after successfully passing a contest, she was appointed as an assistant-professor at the corresponding department at the Medical University of Plovdiv, and since 2022 she has been a senior assistant professor.

She has defended a thesis on the topic "Procedural pain in full term newborns - assessment and possibilities for treatment with non-pharmacological agents".

Dr. Petleshkova shows scientific interests in various areas of Neonatology, which is evidenced by the number of postgraduate training courses and participation in forums of relevant professional associations.

The candidate attests with certificates acquired additional skills in abdominal ultrasonography, transfontanal ultrasonography, neonatal neurology, etc.

Dr Petleshkova applied to the present procedure with a sufficient number of publications and participations in scientific forums at home and abroad.

She has also participated in national scientific projects.

She is a member of the BMA, the Bulgarian Association of Neonatology and the Bulgarian Pediatric Association.

She speaks English and Russian.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBMITTED MATERIALS

The candidate's scientific workload includes: abstract-1; monograph "Actual problems of fetal and neonatal pain"- 1; publications - 25 in total, 14 of which are refereed and indexed in world-known databases (SCOPUS and Web of Science), 7 of them in journals with impact factor.

Dr. Petleshkova is the first author in 8 of the scientific papers, second author in separate chapters of 2 collective monographs.

The h-index is 3.

IF-6,29

## III. EVALUATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Dr. Petleshkova's research interests are in several main areas:

- Diagnosis, assessment and treatment of neonatal pain: for the first time in Bulgaria, data from two validated pain assessment scales applied in clinical settings in Bulgaria are presented and changes in vital signs as markers of procedural pain are studied. For the first time in our country, standard and non-standard methods of pain management in full term neonates are introduced. A natural manifestation of these significant contributions is found in the candidate's monograph "Current Problems of Fetal and Neonatal Pain";

- Influencing neonatal pain with non-pharmacological and homeopathic methods: the analgesic effect of Sol.Glucosae 25% and its proven advantages are confirmed in accordance with the results of other international studies; comparisons are made between standard and alternative non-pharmacological methods;

- Study of the influence of perinatal factors on pregnancy outcome and postpartum pathology: for the first time in Bulgaria, the association between maternal vulvovaginal candidiasis and colonization of newborns by such maternal infections was studied. The importance of nutrition and physical activity of pregnant women for fetal development is pointed out, the current challenges arising from the widespread use of ART and the increasing incidence of pregnancy-associated extragenital pathology are discussed;

- Rare diseases and pharmacology

#### IV. TEACHING ACTIVITY

From the reference provided, the candidate's teaching load is as follows : 2020/2021 - 457 hours; 2021/2022 - 379 hours; 2022/2023 - 499 hours.

Dr Petleshkova is the supervisor of 2 postgraduate residents in neonatology. She participates in the examination committees for enrolment for the specialty "Neonatology" and those for the state examination "Midwives".

#### V. CONCLUSION

Dr. Penka Petleshkova is a well-established specialist and teacher. She is distinguished by her dedication to her profession and her aspiration to master and apply modern methods in both clinical and scientific research.

The submitted materials comply with the requirements of the Law on Research and Development, the Regulations for its implementation and the relevant Regulations of the Medical University of Plovdiv.

All of the above gives me grounds for a positive attestation and recommendation to the members of the Honorable Scientific Jury to also support the appointment of Dr. Penka Vassileva Petieshkova-Angelova to the position of Academic Position of Associated Professor.

14.08. 2024

Plovdiv

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