

## REVIEW

on the competition for the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, Scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology", announced in the State Gazette, issue 15 of February 21, 2025.

by Prof. Dr. Mariela Gencheva Geneva-Popova, MD,

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specialist in internal diseases, infectious diseases and rheumatology

The review is prepared according to order No. R-2097/25.04.2025 of Prof. Dr. Maria Tokmakova, MD, Vice Rector for Research and Development of MU-Plovdiv, according to which I am an internal member of the Scientific Jury in connection with a procedure for occupying an academic position "PROFESSOR" in "Immunopathology and Allergology", field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine at the Department of "Occupational Diseases, Clinical Allergology and Toxicology" for teaching Bulgarian in the discipline "Immunopathology and Allergology", announced in the State Gazette, issue 15 of February 21, 2025.

The competition is with a single candidate Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendzhiev, MD.

At the first meeting of the scientific jury, I was proposed and elected as the chair of the Scientific Jury, and I was assigned to prepare a review based on the documents submitted by the candidate for the competition.

## ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF THE PROCEDURE

After reviewing the content of the documents submitted to me by the Scientific Department of MU-Plovdiv, I believe that all legal requirements for the procedure of the announced competition have been met. Documents for the competition were submitted by 1 candidate – Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Mihov Dermendzhiev, MD. He submitted the documents required under the Law on the Promotion of Research and Development of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations for academic development at the Medical University-Plovdiv within the deadline. My review was prepared in accordance with the normatively approved documents for the procedure for occupying the academic position of "Professor".

## EVALUATION OF THE DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE CANDIDATE FOR THE COMPETITION

The candidate has prepared, completed and submitted within the deadline specified in the announcement the documents required under the procedure in accordance with Section V. Occupancy of the academic position "PROFESSOR" at MU-Plovdiv from the Regulations for Academic Development at Medical University-Plovdiv. The documents are described in a list attached to the application for participation in the competition submitted to the Rector of MU-Plovdiv with Entry No. R-NO-269/14.03.2025, as follows:

P.1.Application to the Rector

P.2.Autobiography in European format

P.3.Copy of Diplomas for the Master's Degree with attachments (notarized copy)

P.4.Copy of diplomas for the acquired Doctorate, Doctor of Sciences, Associate Professor and Professor

P.5.Certificate of internship in the relevant specialties and academic positions held

P.6. Academic report on the candidate's academic workload, certified by the head of the department of the Department of Education for the last three academic years

P.7. Copy of the last attestation sheet

P.8. Abstract of the dissertation for the ONS "Doctor" and abstract of the dissertation for the NS "Doctor of Sciences"

P.9. Habilitation work – monograph or scientific publications (not less than 10) in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (only Scopus and WoS)

P.10. Published monographs that are not presented as the main habilitation work with supporting material

P.11. Published book (which has an ISBN) based on a defended dissertation for the award of the National Council "Doctor of Sciences" with supporting material

P.12. List of publications in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (only Scopus and WoS) with supporting material for IF in T.29.

P.13. List of publications in non-refereed journals with scientific review with evidentiary material in T.30

P.14. Published chapter of a collective monograph

P.15. List of citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases

P.16. List of citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review

P.17. List of citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review

P.18. Diplomas for recognized specialties (notarized)

P.19. Documents certifying participation in a national scientific or educational project - (certificate from the funding institution or copy of a contract, etc.)

P.20. Documents certifying participation in an international scientific or educational project - (certificate from the funding institution or copy of a contract, etc.)

P.21. Documents certifying leadership in a national scientific or educational project - (certificate from the funding institution or copy of a contract, etc.)

P.22. Documents certifying leadership in an international scientific or educational project - (certificate from the funding institution or copy of a contract, etc.)

P.23. Published university textbooks with supporting material

P.24. Published university teaching aids with supporting material

P.25. Documents certifying the training of interns, postgraduates, doctoral students, issued by a relevant department of the higher education institution or scientific organization (orders, contracts, references, etc.)

P.26. Reference for original scientific contributions with evidentiary material

P.27. Reference – self-assessment according to a template for fulfilling the specific scientometric requirements of the main units of MU-Plovdiv

P.28. Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents according to the template

P.29. Copy of the publications from P.12

P.30. Copy of the scientific publications in full text from P. 13.

P.31. Abstracts of the submitted publications in Bulgarian and English

P.32. Current reference for Hirsch Index (h-index) in the scientific field of the competition (Appendix 1 to these Regulations)

P.33. Other documents - positions held, qualification courses, certificates, memberships, etc.

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Mihov Dermendzhiev, MD, graduated from medicine in 1988 at the Medical University - Plovdiv with excellent results. His professional path began as a workshop therapist at the LZP - KT, Karlovo, where he worked for 2 years (12.1988 - 12. 1990). In 1991, after winning a competition, he started working as a research associate in the toxicology department at the Clinic of Occupational Diseases, which was later restructured into the Clinic of Occupational

Diseases and Toxicology. In 2006, he moved to work at the KPZ, where in 2007 he was appointed Head of the Clinical Allergology Sector. In 2010, after winning a competition, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev was appointed Head of the Department of Occupational Diseases and Allergology. Since 2021, he has been Head of the Clinical Toxicology Clinic at the University Hospital "St. George" - Plovdiv, combining the position of Head of the Department of Occupational Diseases with clinical allergology activities.

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has acquired 4 clinical specialties: internal diseases (1994); clinical toxicology (1996); clinical allergology (2006) and occupational diseases (2008). He is constantly improving his postgraduate qualifications, as evidenced by his participation in many postgraduate training courses (P.33.9.2), as well as in courses for performing specialized and highly specialized activities (P.33.9.1). Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a member of the specialized commission for work with the National Health Insurance Fund for replacement therapy of patients with hereditary immunodeficiency conditions at the University Hospital "St. George" - Plovdiv and of the National Expert Medical Board for "Clinical Allergology" (P.33.2.2).

#### ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev graduated from the Faculty of Social Professions at the University of Medical Sciences-Plovdiv in 1988 and acquired the social profession "Lecturer". He won a competition for "research associate" and started working at the Medical University - Plovdiv from 1.01.1991. He successively held the academic positions of "Assistant" (1991 - 1996) and "Chief Assistant" (1996 - 2010). In 2010, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev became a "Master" in "Health Management", and in 2014, he held the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the Section of Occupational Diseases and Toxicology at the Second Department of Internal Medicine of the Medical University - Plovdiv (P.4.3.). In 2023, after winning a competition, he held the Academic position of "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas (P.4.4.). From 2012 to 2024, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev was the head of the Section of Occupational Diseases and Toxicology. He was also responsible for research activities and responsible for postgraduate education in the Section, as well as a member of the Faculty Quality Committee at the Faculty of Medicine (P.33.1.1). After the establishment of the Department of Occupational Diseases, Clinical Allergology and Toxicology, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev was elected and confirmed as the head of the department (P.2.4.). From 2009 to 2010 he is a member of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University - Plovdiv, and since November 2023 He is a member of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine of MU-Plovdiv.

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has successfully defended 2 dissertations and acquired 2 scientific degrees:

- 1) In 2012 acquired the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy after defending a dissertation on the topic: "Comparative analysis of allergic diseases of a general and occupational nature for a 10-year period in the Plovdiv region" (P.4.1.).

2) In 2020, acquired the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" after defending a dissertation on the topic "Angioedema - epidemiology, etiology, pathogenesis, forms, clinical course, diagnostic and differential diagnostic criteria, therapeutic approaches" (P.4.2.).

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a member of 5 professional and scientific national organizations (P.33.7.): Bulgarian Medical Union, Bulgarian Society of Allergology, Bulgarian Society of Clinical Toxicology, Bulgarian Scientific Society of Occupational Diseases, Bulgarian Medical Homeopathic Organization.

Since 2018, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has been the Chairman of the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Occupational Diseases.

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a member of 3 international scientific organizations: European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI), World Allergy Organization (WAO), International Association of Rare Diseases (ICORD).

He is a member of the editorial board of the journal "Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs". Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev was appointed by order of the Minister of Health as a member of the examination committees for taking the state exam for acquiring a specialty in "Clinical Allergology", "Clinical Toxicology" and "Occupational Diseases". He is a scientific supervisor and scientific consultant of doctoral students, and head of the theoretical and practical training of specialists in "clinical allergology" and "occupational diseases". He conducts a module on "Allergology" for doctors from a number of specialties.

#### Conclusion:

The entire professional path and academic development of Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendzhiev have been marked by continuous growth and development. The acquired professional qualification and the development achieved by him in scientific research, educational, methodological and expert activities characterize him as a brilliant specialist, scientist and teacher of national and international importance.

#### EVALUATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKS IN THE OVERALL ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANDIDATE AFTER ACQUISITION OF THE ACADEMIC POSITION "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR"

Assoc. prof Dermendzhiev has attached complete lists of publications (P.33.4), of which:

- abstracts (in Bulgarian and English) for the award of the National Scientific Council "Doctor of Sciences", (P.8.2, P.8.3);
- 7 monographs, of which 1 collective and 1 based on habilitation work for the acquisition of the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" 1 published chapter of a collective monograph P.10, P.14);
- participation in 2 published university textbooks and 5 university manuals (P.23, P.24);

- 20 publications in refereed Bulgarian and international journals, of which 5 with IF in 12 publications - first author (60%), in 4 publications - second author (20%), in 4 - after third author (20%) (P.12);

- 60 publications in non-refereed publications, in 7 publications he is the sole author (11.67%), in 20 publications - first author (33.33%), in 26 - second author (43.33%), in 7 publications - third and subsequent author (11.67%) (P.13);

The candidate has attached to the competition documents an up-to-date citation reference in [www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com) and [www.webofscience.com](http://www.webofscience.com) (P.14.1.,P.16, P.17) after the 37 citations prepared in international license databases for the period 2020 - 2024 (P.15.1) and 1 review in a journal with IF (P.15.3).

- 14 citations in non-refereed publications (P.17.1, P.17.2)

- 2 citations in peer-reviewed monographs (P.16)

The h-index generated by the prepared citation reference is 4 (P.32).

Conclusion:

The scientific production presented by the candidate in terms of volume and content is impressive. The two successfully defended dissertations, the published monographs and published articles give me every reason to highly appreciate the achievements of Associate Professor Dermendzhiev in the field of medical science. The broad professional qualifications and extensive clinical experience acquired by him enable him to study and publish on a wide range of topics and problems of medicine in general, as well as in the areas in which Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a proven specialist.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE PUBLICATION ACTIVITY AND SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

The scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions of the two dissertations and the abstracts of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev are justified and successfully defended before the Scientific Jury, and do not require comment. The contributions of the published monographs, textbooks and teaching aids are reflected and evaluated in the appendices to the scientific works reviews. After reviewing and analyzing the evidentiary material presented by the candidate, I confirm the contributions of the articles published in publications, referenced and indexed in international databases [www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com) and [www.webofscience.com](http://www.webofscience.com), (attached in a list under P.33.3.3. of the application) after acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor". They can be grouped into the following areas and directions:

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology"

1. On topics and problems related to bronchial asthma (publications No. 3,4,7,11,12,30,32 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

2. On topics and problems related to angioedema, including hereditary angioedema (publications No. 5,6,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,17,18,19,23,27,29,30,31,33 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

3. On topics and problems related to urticaria (publications No. 6,15,23,29,30 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

4. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of immunopathology and allergology (publications No. 1,3,5,6,7,11,15,17,18,19,23,27,29,30,31,33 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the field of occupational diseases

1. On topics and problems related to occupational allergic diseases (publications No. 3,6,7,11,12,18,27,29,32 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

2. On topics and problems related to other occupational diseases - of the respiratory system, of the peripheral nervous system, of the musculoskeletal system, of the skin and mucous membranes, etc. (publications No. 6,7,11,16,17,18,20,22,26,27,28,29 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

3. Rare diseases and immunoallergic pathology associated with exposure to harmful factors from the working environment - description of clinical cases (publications No. 1,3,5,6,7,11,15,17,18, 19,23,27,29,30,31,33 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the field of social medicine, healthcare organization, healthcare economics and healthcare management (publications No. 2,10,14,21,25 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in other areas of medicine (publications No. 20,21,22,24,26 from the attached list under P.33.3.3.)

The contributions of the articles published in non-refereed publications (attached in the list under T.33.3.4. of the application) after acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor" can be grouped into the following areas and directions:

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the scientific specialty of immunopathology and allergology

1. On topics and problems related to bronchial asthma, incl. professional (publications No. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 44, 46, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 72, 73, 74 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

2. On topics and problems related to angioedema, including hereditary angioedema (publications No. 5,6,7,8,11,14,19,20,22,27,32,34,38,39,47,50,51,53,55,57,58,59,60,62, 63,64, 69,72, 73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

3. On topics and problems related to allergic rhinitis (publications No. 2,28,29,30,31,33,39,68,72 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

4. On topics and problems related to urticaria (publications No. 2,7,8,9,10,13, 14,39, 44,47, 49,50, 64,65,67,68,69,73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

5. On topics and problems related to hypersensitivity pneumonitis and immunoallergic vasculitis (publications No. 5,24,54,56 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

7. On topics and problems related to drug allergy (publications No. 9,10,20,22,23,32,57, 59, 60, 65 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

8. On topics and problems related to the therapy of allergic diseases (publications No. 11,19,22,27, 57, 74 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

9. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of immunopathology and allergology (publications No. 2,4,5,6,7,8,13,14,17,18,21,23,24,26,32,34,37,39,44,46,47,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,58,63,64,65,67,68, 69, 72,73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the field of occupational diseases

1. On topics and problems related to occupational allergic diseases (publications No. 1,2,4,13, 18,21,24,25,26,29,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,49,52,54,58,63,64,68,72,73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

2. On topics and problems related to other occupational diseases – pulmonary, peripheral nervous system, musculoskeletal system, etc. (publications No. 3,13,18,24,25,26,29,31, 33,34,35,41,42,63,64,75 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

3. Rare diseases and immunoallergic pathology associated with occupational diseases - description of clinical cases (publications No. 5,6,7,13,14,17,18,21,26,32,34,37,39,44,45,47, 49,50,51,52,53, 54,55,58,63,64,65,67,68,69,72,73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the field of social medicine, healthcare organization, healthcare economics and healthcare management, Publications No. 4,25,28,29,31,35,36,40 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in the field of clinical toxicology

1. Contributions to the theory and practice of drug intoxications (publications No. 12,23,43,76 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

2. Contributions to the theory and practice of intoxications and toxoallergic reactions with metals and pesticides (publications No. 48,49,52,61,63,70,71 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

3. Contributions to the theory and practice of toxoallergic reactions with mucocutaneous toxoallergic syndrome (publications No. 47,50,58,63,64,65,67,68,69,72,73 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

4. Contributions to the theory and practice of professional intoxications and poisonings with household poisons (publication No. 66 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

5. Combined pathology, rare diseases and description of clinical cases with original contribution to the theory and practice of clinical toxicology (publications No. 12,16,43,44 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.)

- Contributions of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied nature in other fields of medicine Publications No. 1,2,4,14,17,18,21,24,26,42,75 from the attached list under P.33.3.4.

Special attention deserves the publications of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev in journals with IF (attached under No. 1, No. 2, No. 16, No. 17 and No. 18 in the list under P.12). They reflect the wide spectrum of scientific research and directions in which he works as a specialist and researcher. The description of original and rare clinical cases is a contribution to the theory and practice of immunopathology and allergology, of rare diseases, as well as to the study of a number of profile clinical specialties of internal diseases - occupational diseases, nervous diseases, toxicology, dermatology, etc. As a co-author of some of the mentioned articles, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has contributed to the theory and practice of a number of other interdisciplinary problems associated with microbiology, infectious diseases, ophthalmology, social medicine, health economics and health management.

**Conclusion:**

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev presents a list of 80 publications under the procedure, 20 of which are referenced and indexed in international databases Scopus/Web of Science, and 60 outside of them. Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is the author of a total of 11 monographs and 1 chapter of a collective monograph. He is the author and co-author of the writing and publication of a total of 9 textbooks. He is a participant in 82 scientific congresses and conferences, of which 41 are international and 41 national. According to the approved and recorded in Appendix 1 of the Regulations of MU-Plovdiv indicators by groups, presented in TABLE II.1 DIRECTION 7.1. MEDICINE (for units with clinical activity) and 7.5. HEALTH CARE, with a minimum required points of 1240, Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendzhiev, MD has a total score of 6877.9 points (P.27. Reference - self-assessment according to the template for fulfilling the specific scientometric requirements of the main units of MU-Plovdiv).

<b>Table I. Minimum required points by groups of indicators according to the Regulations of the Medical University - Plovdiv. II.1 DIRECTION 7.1. MEDICINE (for units with clinical activity) and 7.5. HEALTH CARE</b>				
<b>Group of indicators</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>number of points</b>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>of points</b>

<b>A</b>	1. Dissertation for the award of the PhD "Doctor"	50		50
<b>B</b>	2. Dissertation for the award of the National Assembly "Doctor of Sciences"	100		100
<b>C</b>	3. Habilitation thesis - monograph	100	none presented	0
	4. Habilitation thesis - scientific publications /not less than 10/, in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information	60/n for each publication	none presented	0
<b>D</b>	5. Published monograph that is not presented as the main habilitation thesis	100	7 monographs, of which 1 collective and 1 based on habilitation work for the acquisition of the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences"	525
	6. Published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the PhD or the DSc	40	1 monograph based on a dissertation for the acquisition of the scientific degree	40
	7. Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information	60/n or distributed on the basis of a contribution protocol	20 publications, of which 5 in IF journals	321.4
	8. Publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes	30/n or distributed on the basis of a contribution protocol	20 publications	622.8

	9. Published chapter of a collective monography	20/n	1 published chapter from a collective monography	5
<b>E</b>	10. Citations or reviews published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes	15	37 citations in referenced and indexed databases and 1 review in the Journal of IMAB with IF	570
	11. Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review	10	citations in a monograph with scientific review	20
	12. Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals with scientific review	5	A search by the CMB found 12 citations in non-refereed publications. 2 citations were found in 2024	70
<b>F</b>	13. Obtained scientific degree "Doctor of Science"	40		40
	14. Supervision of a doctoral student /n is the number of co-supervisors of the respective doctoral student/	40/n	2 PhD students - 2 scientific supervisors, 1 - scientific consultant, 9 postgraduates	40
	15. Acquired medical specialty	40	4 majors acquired	160
	16. Participation in a national scientific or educational project	15	12 national projects	180
	17. Participation in an international scientific or educational project	20	2 international projects	40
	18. Supervision of a national scientific or educational project	30	12 national projects as author and supervisor	360

	19. Management of an international scientific or educational project	40	2 international projects as a leader	80
	20. Published university textbook or textbook used in the school network	40/n	2 university textbooks published	26.7
	21. Published university textbook or textbook used in the school network	20/n	5 university manuals published	85
	22. Training of interns, postgraduates and doctoral students /seminars and practical classes/	30		30
<b>G</b>	Teaching activity:			
	Course load - lectures and tutorials	200 (for the last 2 years X 1 point (hour)	2412 hours	2412
	Academic position	200 (associate professor 100 points for 1 year)	11 years	1100
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>6877.9</b>

The achievements of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev in the theory and practice of medicine are of high value. In the years after his habilitation as an "associate professor", he continues to work tirelessly and marks upward development in the field of medical science. The high publication activity, numerous participations in international and national scientific forums, the written monographs, articles, textbooks, test collections, educational and doctoral programs, academic standards, the acquired 4 clinical specialties and the high professional qualification of a clinician, give me reason to place Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev at the forefront of education and science in Bulgaria. The undeniable contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev in the field of theory and practice of the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" is complemented by his achievements in other fields of medicine. This is evidenced by his high publication activity on topics and problems related to occupational diseases, clinical toxicology, social medicine, healthcare organization and healthcare management.

Based on the above arguments, I give an extremely high assessment of the contributions of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev to the theory and practice of medicine.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATE'S PROJECT ACTIVITY

The documents reflecting the project activity of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev are described and attached in folders numbered P.19, P.20, P.21 and P.22. in the list attached to the application. The relevant evidentiary material is also attached to them. Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is the author of 12 national projects, of which he is the leader and executor. After taking up the position of AD "Assoc. Prof.", he participated as a leader and mentor in 2 international projects (P.20, P.22)

As a particularly valuable achievement in the project activity of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev can be assessed for his participation as an author, manager and implementer of the national projects with which the team led by him applied in the procedure for collecting proposals for financing activities on diagnostics of occupational diseases from the Working Conditions Fund at the MLSP on the basis of Art. 10 and Art. 11 of Regulation No. 8 of 26.11.2007. The contributions of the author's national projects of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev, listed in the list under P.19 and P.21 of the application, are reflected in T.26. Reference for the original scientific contributions with evidentiary material.

#### Conclusion:

The analysis of the evidentiary material presented by the candidate gives me reason to give a very high assessment of the achieved scientific research, expert and economic efficiency from the implementation of the projects, prepared, managed and implemented with the participation of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev.

#### EDUCATIONAL, METHODOLOGICAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITIES

The academic report on the candidate's academic workload submitted with the documents for the procedure shows that it significantly exceeds the minimum requirements for hourly workload (P.6.). Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is the author of two successfully accredited curricula at MU-Plovdiv. One is for teaching "Clinical Allergology" to students majoring in "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine, and the second is for the subject "Food Toxicology", which is taught to students from the Medical College majoring in "Dietary Nutrition Instructor". Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a co-author of the curriculum in "Occupational Diseases and Toxicology" for training students majoring in "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine, as well as of the curriculum in "Occupational Diseases" for teaching students majoring in "Dental Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine of MU-Plovdiv. Associate Professor Dermendzhiev is a leading lecturer in the above-mentioned academic disciplines. He is also the author of the academic standards of the above-mentioned academic disciplines (P33.3.1.). He has developed tests for practical exercises in occupational diseases, clinical toxicology and allergology with students of the specialty "Medicine", as well as tests for practical exercises in occupational diseases with students of the specialty "Dental Medicine", Food Toxicology and Occupational Diseases with Toxicology for students of the specialties "Public Health Inspector" and

"Dietary Nutrition Instructor" at the Medical College. Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is the author of the successfully accredited by the NEAA doctoral program in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" for acquiring the PhD at MU-Plovdiv (P.33.3.3).

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has published 2 textbooks and 5 teaching aids in Bulgarian and English (P.23. and P.24.). He is a member of scientific juries on procedures for occupying academic positions and acquiring scientific degrees at medical universities in our country (P.33.1.3.).

Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a scientific supervisor of 2 doctoral students and a scientific consultant of 1 doctoral student (P.25.1). He is the head of the specialization in "Clinical Allergology" of 9 residents, of whom 4 have successfully passed the State Examination for acquiring a specialty, 3 are training, 1 has completed the full course of theoretical and practical training in the specialty, and one resident is about to take the state examination for acquiring a specialty (P.25.2.). Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev conducts the theoretical and practical training in the modules "Allergology" and "Occupational Diseases" of doctors specializing in other specialties.

#### Conclusion:

Based on the evidence presented by the candidate, I give an excellent assessment of the educational, methodological and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev, MD. The curricula developed by him, approved and included in the curriculum for teaching in a number of specialties at MU-Plovdiv contribute to increasing the quality of educational activities and the rating of MU-Plovdiv among its related higher education institutions in our country and in the EU. As the author of the doctoral program in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" and a scientific supervisor and consultant to doctoral students, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has made a great contribution to the development of the scientific research and expert activity of the Faculty of Medicine. With his high professional competence, he contributes to the training and growth of qualified personnel for the needs of medical education and science.

#### PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

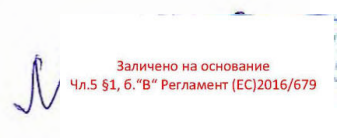
My personal impressions of Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev are from our joint diagnostic-therapeutic, educational-teaching and administrative work. In addition to the great professional merits that he possesses, he is distinguished by very valuable purely human qualities - good upbringing, responsiveness, goodwill, a sense of personal and collective responsibility, and great work capacity. Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev is a proven specialist and scientist, a very good administrator and manager. The qualities he possesses, his dedication as a teacher and professional motivate the students and young doctors he has trained to develop and build themselves as future specialists. With the acquired professional qualifications, knowledge and clinical experience, Assoc. Prof. Dermendzhiev has established himself as one of the most respected clinicians in the entire country. He is a specialist sought after by patients, a teacher loved by students and residents, a supervisor respected by his colleagues, and a scientist and expert highly valued among the scientific community in our country.

## CONCLUSION

Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Dermendzhiev, MD, meets the mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators according to the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for Academic Development at the Medical University of Plovdiv for holding the academic position of "Professor". Based on the analysis and evaluation of the documents submitted during the procedure, as well as my personal impressions of Associate Professor Dermendzhiev, I give my positive vote for awarding the academic position of "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Immunopathology and Allergology" to Assoc. Prof. Svetlan Mihov Dermendzhiev, MD.

05/21/2025.

Prepared the review:



Plovdiv Prof. Dr. Mariela Geneva-Popova, MD