

SHORT REVIEW

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About: Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Medical Genetics. Professional field 7.1. Medicine, Higher Education Area 7. Healthcare and Sports. for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

Information on the competition procedure

By order № PK38-601 / 16.12.2020 of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" I have been appointed a member of the Scientific Jury for conducting a Competition for "Associate Professor" in Medical Genetics, Professional field 7.1. Medicine, Field of Higher Education 7. Healthcare and Sports, for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", announced in SG no. 88 of 13.101.2020.

One candidate applied for the competition and was admitted to participate - Dr. Radoslava Vasileva Vazharova, MD. The present procedure and the documents and materials related to it presented to me are in accordance with art. 4, para 25 of the Act for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB) and art. 57, para 1 and para 2 of the Regulations for implementation of ADASRB, of art. 108, para 1 and para 3 of the Rules on the conditions and the order for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Education and career development

Dr. Radoslava Vasileva Vazharova graduated in Medicine at the Higher Medical Institute, Sofia, in 1994. Initially, she worked as a general practitioner. From 1995 to 1999 she was an intern in Medical Genetics at the Department of Medical Genetics, Medical University - Sofia. Since 2000 she is board certified in "Medical genetics". From 1995 to 2008 she was an assistant and chief assistant at the Department of Medical Genetics, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University - Sofia. From 2008 to 2012 she worked as a specialist in medical genetics at University Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynaecology "Mother's Home" and a lecturer as an assistant and chief assistant at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University, Sofia. Since 2012 she has been a lecturer at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", initially as an assistant, since 2017 she has been a chief assistant at the Department of Biology, Medical Genetics and Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine. She has been working as a specialist in medical genetics from 2012 to 2017 at Gynaecology and Assisted Reproduction Hospital "Dr. Malinov", and since 2017 at the Laboratory of Medical Genetics and Molecular Biology of University Hospital "Lozenetz". In 2016 she acquired a PhD degree in Genetics with a dissertation on "Analytical approach for the detection of genetic abnormalities in rare diseases through next generation DNA sequencing".

Research interests

Dr. Vazharova's research interests are related to research in the following areas: Rare diseases - mechanisms of occurrence, approaches to genetic diagnosis, screening and prevention; Genetic characterization of rare monogenic / chromosomal conditions, malformative syndromes; Modern methods for genetic diagnostics - microarray, massive parallel sequencing in various genetic diseases; Genetic predisposition to psychiatric illness; Genetic factors for longevity.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Scientometric data:

Group A

Indicator 1 – 72,61 points

- **Dissertation** – for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" – **50 points**
 - 3 publications (1 with IF) in connection with the thesis – **22,61 points**

Group B

Indicator 4 – 121,38 points

- **Habilitation work** – **121,38 points**

As a habilitation paper are presented 10 publications in referenced and indexed editions with IF or SJR, dealing with problems in the field of rare chromosomal and monogenic diseases in humans and approaches to the diagnosis of these diseases prenatally and postnatally.

Group G - 278,71 points

Indicator 7 – 82,82 points

- Publications in peer-reviewed and indexed in the world database of scientific information (12 pcs.) – 82,82 points

Indicator 8 – 195,89 points

- Publications in non-indexed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes (26 pcs.) – 195,89 points

Group D - 3110 points

Indicator 10 – 3105 points

- Citations or reviews in peer-reviewed and indexed journals in the world database of scientific information or monographs and collective volumes (207 pcs.) (206 citations of publications with IF or SJR + 1 citation of one non-indexed publication)

Indicator 12 – 5 points

- Citation or review in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review (1 citation) – **5 points**

Group E - 70 points

Indicator 15 – 40 points

- Acquired medical specialty – **40 points**

Indicator 18 – 30 points

- Leadership of a national scientific or educational project (1) – **30 points**

Scientific papers of Dr. Radoslava Vassileva Vazharova and general characteristics:

Dissertation work / Abstract

Total number of actual publications in scientific journals – 51 pcs.

- *Actual publications (PhD thesis) - 3 pcs. /1 with IF/*
- *Actual publications for participation in the competition - 48 pcs.*
(excepting those for the acquisition of PhD degree)
 - Publications in journals that are peer-reviewed and indexed in the world database of scientific information - 22 pcs.
 - Presented as a Habilitation Work - 10 pcs.;

- Others (excepting the Habilitation Work)- 12 pcs.
- Publications in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review - 26 pcs.
 - In international journals with scientific review - 5 pcs. ;
 - In national medical journals - 21 pcs.
- ***Sole or first author (in actual 48 publications)– 4 pcs.***

Citations – total 208 citations

From scientific publications authored and co-authored by Dr. Radoslava Vazharova - 13 publications (12 of them in journals with IF or SJR) are cited in a total of 208 scientific publications, of which 207 citations are in publications referenced and indexed in world-famous databases data (SCOPUS) and 1 - is in an unreferrred scientific publication.

Impact factor (of the actual publications for participation in the competition) - total IF - 37,756

Research contributions

I accept the author's reference of Dr. Radoslava Vazharova for the contributions from her research activity. These contributions are in various scientific fields: rare monogenic diseases; rare chromosomal diseases; infantile epileptic encephalopathy type 13; genetic predisposition to psychiatric illness; hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and cardiovascular disease; approaches for genetic prophylaxis - prenatal screening and prenatal diagnosis of chromosomal abnormalities. In my opinion, among the most important scientific contributions of Dr. Vazharova are those related to the application of modern methods for genetic diagnostics - microarray, massive parallel sequencing.

The habilitation extended reference, related to the 10 articles in the Habilitation work, is not presented in the form required by the Regulations for implementation of ADASRB (App. 3).

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

Participation in scientific forums (beyond those for the acquisition of PhD degree) – 33 pcs.

- In international scientific forums - 29 pcs.
- In national scientific forums - 4 pcs.
- Published abstracts – first author of 8 of them

Research projects – 4 pcs.

- Member of the research team in national scientific projects - 3
- Project leader of national scientific projects - 1

Membership in scientific organizations and societies – 4

Bulgarian Medical Association; Bulgarian Society of Human Genetics and Genomics; Bulgarian Alliance for Precise and Personalized Medicine; European Society of Human Genetics

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

- **Total experience as a teacher - over 20 years.**

CONCLUSION:

With the attached evidence, the candidate Dr. Radoslava Vasileva Vazharova exceeds the scientometric criteria set as minimum requirements in ADASRB and the regulations of the Medical Faculty of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski for awarding the academic position "Associate Professor". She is a qualified specialist in medical genetics, an experienced teacher and an established researcher with interests in various scientific fields of human genetics.

I give a positive opinion and I strongly recommend to the members of the Scientific Jury to vote for awarding Dr. Radoslava Vasileva Vazharova to the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Medical Genetics, for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

26.01.2021

Prof. Katya Stefanova Kovacheva, MD, PhD

