

## **Review**

### **of the scientific papers**

### **of Natalia Petrova Petrova, PhD**

**Applying for the position of "Associate Professor"  
in the domain of High education 7.Healthcare and sport,  
Professional direction 7.4 Healthcare (kinesitherapy)  
for the educational purpose of the Medical Faculty  
of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski"  
as announced in the Official Journal N 67 dated 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2020**

**By Associate Professor Georgi V.Hadjidekov, MD, PhD**

**From the Department of Physics Biophysics and Radiology of the Medical  
Faculty of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski"**

**Jury member According Sofia University Rector's Order № ПД 38-510/22.10.2020**

In the concourse procedure for the position of "Associate Professor" in the domain of High education 7.Healthcare and sport, Professional direction 7.4 Healthcare (kinesitherapy) for the educational purpose of the Medical Faculty of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski" the only candidate presented is Mrs Natalia Petrova Petrova, PhD.

#### **1. Personal data**

Mrs Natalia Petrova Petrova is graduate as bachelor in Kinesitherapy at the Southwestern University of Blagoevgrad in 1999, graduated as magister in "Theory of education management". In 2015 she obtained PhD Degree "Doctor in Pedagogy" in the speciality of "Theory and methodology of physical education and sport training".

Mrs Natalia Petrova has been employed as assistant professor at the Southwestern University of Blagoevgrad and practices actively Kinesitherapy methods. From 2017 she is working as assistant professor at Medical Faculty of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski" to an outdoor basis teaching students in Medical rehabilitation and Kinesitherapy.

#### **2. Research activities**

Applying for the actual cited position Mrs Natalia Petrova presents 23 (twenty three) full text papers. Twenty two out of them are eligible for reviewing as one is related to the PhD

thesis subject. 16 out of them are published in scientific journals (one abroad), the remaining in full text Proceeding books. In 5 out of 22 papers Mrs Petrova is first or only author. Papers appear in the following journals: *Кинезитерapia, Педагогика, Физикална медицина, рехабилитация, здраве, Спорт и наука, Превенция и рехабилитация, British journal of science, education and culture.*

Subjects of the research deal with a) kinesitherapy and ergotherapy of the musculoskeletal system, b) anthropology in childhood and adolescents c) innovation in kinesitherapy and ergotherapy methods, d) other.

The a) group encompass studies on discal hernia treatment, the operated knee and knee arthrosis, shoulder pain, arm tendovaginitis, rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondilitis

In the b) section are considered those on anthropologic parameters of students, childhood obesities, sport activities of students, physical exercises to one year age.

Section c) comprise the introduction of own variant of combining Diklac gel within the treatment of discal hernias, Kinesitaping in shoulder pain and after knee surgery, anterior arm tendovaginitis treatment combined with Allga San mobil creme.

Scientific journal Mrs Petrova papers are publish in and referred in national data bases. Five papers are published in indexed journal. No information for the remaining ones is available.

An certificate issued by The Central Medical Library at the Medical University of Sofia confirm papers to be cited 30 times.

Mrs Petrova participates in three Scientific projects – two of them supported by the Minister of Education and Science.

### **3. Papers contributions**

The main contributions of Mrs Petrova research papers are the introduction of the innovative method of kinesitherapy treatment, methods for evaluating quality of life, strategy of management of scoliosis in children, kinesitherapeutic method for recovering in some joint diseases.

#### 4. Teaching activities

From 2017 is assistant professor at Medical Faculty of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski" to an outdoor basis teaching students in Medical rehabilitation and Kinesitherapy, fulfilling teaching hours amount requirements.

#### 5. Critical notes

Following critical notes could be considered

- a. The presented papers fulfilled the quantitative national minimal requirements for the position of associate professor. But no one is referred in world known data base (like Scopus, or Web of Science or Thomas Reuters) as require the annex to art. 1 of Decree 122 of 29 June 2018.
- b. Bachelor, Magister and PhD degrees are obtained in three different specialties.
- c. No sufficient level of foreign languages fluency is declared.
- d. The electronic presentation of related material is not optimal, some missing, some in non-suitable format for facilitating reviewing.

#### 6. Conclusion

Mrs Natalia Petrova is an experienced kinesitherapist. The presented papers of the candidate show practical contributions to ergo- and kinesitherapy medical practice. They fulfilled the quantitative national minimal requirements. Despite of the critical notes, to my understanding, Mrs Natalia Petrova could obtain a positive vote for the position of for the position of "Associate Professor" in the domain of High education 7.Healthcare and sport, Professional direction 7.4 Healthcare (kinesitherapy) for the educational purpose of the Medical Faculty of the Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski" – position needing high practical and teaching skills, and I give mine.

Reviewer:

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**Georgi Hadjidekov, PhD**

**Associate professor of Radiology**

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Sofia