

## STATEMENT

from: Prof. dr. Anna Naydenova Tolekova, PhD

director of Medical college, Trakia university

subject: competition for "Professor"

field of higher education: 7. Health care and sport

professional direction: 7.1. Pharmacy

scientific specialty: "Technology of dosage form",

In the competition for 'professor', announced in SG no. 99/13.12.2022 for the needs of the "assistant pharmacist" specialty at the Medical College of the Trakia university, Stara Zagora, documents were submitted by the only candidate from KRUM STEFANOV KAFEDJISKI, associate professor at the same specialty.

### **1. General presentation of the received materials**

The presented set of materials on paper and electronic media by the candidate Associate Professor Krum Kafedjiiski is in full compliance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law and the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff at the Trakia University.

### **2. Biographical data**

The candidate graduated from the Master degree of Pharmacy in 2003 at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University, Sofia. In the following period, he developed a dissertation on the topic "Research and evaluation of new excipients for multifunctional drug delivery systems" at the Leopold Franzens University, Innsbruck, Institute of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology. He defended his PhD thesis of Natural Sciences at the same university. He was recognized by VAK in 2007 in the scientific specialty - Technology of dosage forms. From 2008 to 2011 he was a Post-doc at Novo Nordisk, Copenhagen, Denmark. He acquired the academic position of "associate professor" in 2015 and until 2022 he worked at the Medical University, Pleven, Faculty of Pharmacy, and in 2022 he started working at the Medical College, TrU. In 2022, he obtained a diploma in the specialty of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy. Fluent in 4 languages: English, German, Danish, Russian. He has extensive experience in clinical trials, as evidenced by his consulting activities and positions held as head of clinical teams in a number of pharmaceutical companies.

### **3. General characteristics of the applicant's activity**

#### *Educational activity*

In his capacity as a doctoral student, Assoc. Prof. Kafedjiski conducted practical classes with students of Technology of Pharmaceutical Forms and Biopharmaceutics, Leopold Franzens University, Innsbruck, Institute of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology. He also served as supervisor of graduates in Pharmaceutical Forms Technology and Biopharmaceutics at the same university. After acquiring the academic position, associate professor leads lecture courses on Technology of dosage forms at MU-Pleven, Faculty of Pharmacy, and from the beginning of the academic year 2022/2023 at the Medical College of the Trakia University.

#### *Research activity*

Prof. Kafedjiski 's research activity is dedicated to a number of innovative issues in the field of pharmaceutical technologies, related to the creation of new innovative dosage forms. A number of his developments are devoted to the development of original thiomers technology for Drug Delivery Systems based on the use of thiolate polymers, thiomers. They are distinguished by improved mucoadhesive properties, an increased permeation effect, the ability to provide controlled drug release and the ability to block efflux pump systems. These features greatly increase the potential of the new technology as well as improve the efficacy of various non-invasively delivered drugs. The importance of the second direction with an original scientific-theoretical character is no less significant. Among them is the impressive development of a new dosage form of insulin for oral administration. Various insulin complexes have been developed for oral use, which show an encouragingly high bioavailability of the order of 38%. There is also a large spectrum of developments of a scientific and applied nature, a number of which are currently on the market. A new stabilizer was used for the nootropic agent L-alpha-glycerolphosphorylcholine in order to reduce its hygroscopicity and create new dosage forms in the form of capsules and powder, protected by two patents. The stability of metamizole sodium in aqueous solution, which is commercially available under the name Dialgin, has been improved. A new product has been created for the symptomatic treatment of GERD with the trade name Gastroprotect Raft oral suspension. With the help of an acceptable stabilizer and an unpleasant taste masking substance, an oral solution containing Acetylcysteine - AceCys 200 mg powder for oral solution and AceCys acute 600 mg powder for oral solution was created. A gastro-resistant tablet has been created with the release of a low dose of 100 mg acetylsalicylic acid in the intestinal tract - Acessal

Protect. The composition of Isoprinosine was optimized and a production permit was issued under the trade name Ino-Protect 500 mg tablets. The development of Ino-Protect 1000 mg tablets is in the same direction. Ino-Protect 100 mg/ml syrup has also been developed. It contains a double dose of the active ingredient.

For the purposes of the competition, he has submitted 26 publications dedicated to the issues I described in the previous paragraph. Of these, 14 are in foreign journals, of which 13 have an impact factor. Fifteen are indexed in Scopus and hold SJR. It is noteworthy that in 18 of the presented publications, he is the first author.

Objective proof of the quality and significance of Prof. Krum Kafedjiski's scientific production is its high citation rate - 680 citations found in Scopus. The criterion for the impact of the citations of Prof. Krum Kafedjiski's publications is the h-index calculated by Scopus is 11.

#### *Additional scientific activity*

Prof. Krum Kafedjiski is the author of 4 patents in the field of drug technology. For the competition, he also presented a habilitation thesis on "ORAL DELIVERY OF THERAPEUTIC PEPTIDES NEW FORMULATION APPROACHES". Prof. Kafedjiski participated in the development and implementation of a number of projects, the majority of which are international and national. He has participated in 15 international scientific forums, of which he is the independent author of 13.

#### *Scientific metrics*

The evidentiary material submitted by Assoc. Prof. Kafedjiski for the competition procedure not only meets the required scientific-metric indicators for acquiring the academic position "Professor" (550 points), but exceeds them many times over (8463 points).

#### **Conclusion**

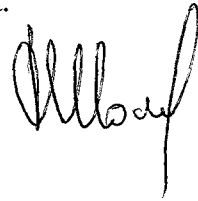
The candidate has presented publications in which his contributions in scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied direction are clearly outlined. In his scientific work, there are a number of contributions of an original nature that have received international recognition, a significant part of which has been published in prestigious journals with an impact factor.

Based on the above, I express my convinced statement that Assoc. Prof. Krum Kafedjiski meets all the requirements of the ZRASRB, the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB and the Criteria for occupying academic positions and acquiring scientific degrees at the Trakia university.

I strongly suggest to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to award the academic position "PROFESSOR" to Prof. Krum Kafedjiski, in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy, scientific specialty "Technology of dosage forms" at the Medical College, Trakia university, Stara Zagora.

28. 03. 2023

Prof. d-r Anna Tolekova, PhD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Tolekova', written in a cursive style.