

OPINION

From Assoc. Prof. Maria Yordanova Dimitrova, Ph.D.

Member of a scientific jury for conducting a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation"; field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional field 7.3. Pharmacy, scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation" for the needs of the specialty "Assistant Pharmacist" - one in 0.5 staff, at the Medical College, Thracian University, Stara Zagora (State Gazette, issue 61 / 10.07.2020)

I. For the competition

In the competition for associate professor of Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation at the Medical College, Thracian University, Stara Zagora, two candidates have submitted documents – master pharmacist Nikolai Gerasimov, Ph.D. and master pharmacist Anna Mikhailova, Ph.D. The opinions for the two candidates are sorted by incoming number of the submitted documents.

When reviewing the documentation submitted by the two candidates, I did not find any gaps in the documents of master pharmacist Nikolai Gerasimov. In my opinion, it meets the requirements of the regulations of the Thracian University of Stara Zagora and the state requirements for holding an academic position in the field of education.

In the documentation of master pharmacist Anna Mihailova I found many inaccuracies related to the lack of evidence for the candidate's contribution to her participation in one of the monographs and incorrect presentation of journals as such with impact factor or impact rank, or referenced in the scientific databases of Scopus, Web of Science and NACID and the related incorrect calculation of the points in relation to indicator D item 7, which I have indicated in the subsequent analysis.

II. Biographical data

1. Nikolai Gerasimov

Nikolay Gerasimov graduated in pharmacy in 1994 at the Faculty of Pharmacy, MU-Sofia. In 2001 he acquired a specialty in "Organization and Economics of Distribution and Pharmacy Practice" at MU-Sofia. In 2016 he obtained a doctorate in pharmacy with a dissertation on "Medical devices in the pharmaceutical nomenclature - legislative and social aspects of their provision in Bulgaria."

Over the years, the candidate has gained practical experience as a master pharmacist in a hospital pharmacy in MHAT-Dobrich AD, where he has managed and controlled the staff, as well as the compliance with the requirements of Good Pharmaceutical Practice, the cooperation with physicians in terms of refining therapeutic regimens and drug use, the

preparation of drug lists and the participation in tenders. The candidate has also worked as a regional manager and warehouse manager for TE. He has also participated in the implementation of standard operating procedures. He is currently the manager of a pharmacy to serve the population in his hometown, Dobrich. The candidate's work experience also includes practical experience as a teacher - in the period 1997-1999 Nikolay Gerasimov was a part-time assistant in pharmacology at the Medical College of MU-Varna in Dobrich, where he conducted practical exercises in pharmacology for students majoring in " nurse ", and in 2013 he was a part-time assistant at MU-Varna, where he conducted practical exercises and lectures for students of pharmacy.

The candidate has excellent communication, organizational and computer skills. Fluent in written and spoken Russian, and English and German at level B1. He is a member of BFU, BNDF and ISPOR.

2. Anna Mikhailova

Anna Mihailova acquired a specialty in rehabilitation in 1995 at the Medical College Plovdiv. Until 2004 she successively obtained bachelor's degrees in administrative and health management (1998 in University of Plovdiv) and in health care (2000 in Plovdiv Medical University). In 2004 she completed a master's degree in public health and health management at MU-Sofia, and in 2008 she obtained a master's degree in pharmacy at MU-Plovdiv. In 2018, the candidate defended her doctoral thesis on "Epidemiological and pharmaco-economic study of corticosteroid prevention of hyaline membrane disease in premature infants", which earned the degree of "Doctor of Pharmacy". Anna Mihailova has 24 years of work experience, during which she worked as a rehabilitator at the University Hospital "St. George" (1996-1997), and from 1997 until the moment with a main employment contract she holds the position of "senior lecturer" at the Medical College, MU Plovdiv for specialty "assistant pharmacist" (11 years of work experience), to which for the period 2009-2010 she was also a manager. Since 2008 Anna Mihailova has a management contract with Kanto Pharma EOOD Pharmacy, where she holds the position of Pharmacy Manager. In this regard, I find an ambiguity related to the candidate's workplace, where she is on an 8-hour working day, as according to the requirements of the Law on Medicinal Products in Human Medicine, pharmacy managers are appointed on a basic employment contract and are on 8-hourly working day at the pharmacy. The candidate has good computer skills and is fluent in writing and spoken English (level C1), and Italian and Russian - conversational.

III. Evaluation of the submitted monographs

1. Nikolai Gerasimov

Master pharmacist Nikolay Gerasimov has developed a 206-page monograph on "Medical devices - legislation and economic aspects", reviewed by Prof. Genka Petrova, Ph.D. and Assoc. Prof. Miglena Doneva, Ph.D. In the monograph the author touches on current topics in the field of European and national legislation on medical devices. Two sections of the monograph examine the principles of application of health technology assessment as a tool for ensuring financial market access and various economic studies of the use of medical devices in the treatment of Parkinson's patients and the use of hernia sheets. A significant place is also dedicated to the world legislation in the field of medical devices, as well as the application of

MI in the conditions of COVID-19. The monograph is a natural continuation of the candidate's doctoral dissertation, which I know, as it is defended in the department and reflects the legislative changes in the field of medical devices since the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 of the European Parliament and the Council of 5 April 2017 for medical devices. The monograph also includes new scientific research of the candidate conducted after his defense, which is why I believe that it is an independent monographic work.

2. Anna Mikhailova

Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova presents a monograph on "Good pharmaceutical practice in the training of assistant pharmacists", reviewed by Assoc. Prof. Desislava Bakalova, MD and Assoc. Prof. Stanislav Georgiev, Ph.D. In the monograph the author touches on important aspects of the application of Good Pharmaceutical Practice in the daily practice of pharmacists and especially the need for training of future assistant pharmacists who have the opportunity to choose the discipline "Good Pharmaceutical Practice" as an additional elective within MU-Plovdiv.

Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova also presented in the documentation a participation in a joint monograph on "Health and economic evaluation of the costs of premature babies with respiratory complications" co-authored by Dr. Nikoleta Parahuleva, MD reviewed by Assoc. Prof. Stanislav Georgiev, MD and Prof. Ekaterina Uchikova, MD . The monograph examines important clinical and economic aspects of an extremely topical and socially significant problem in Bulgaria - premature birth, focusing on respiratory complications in premature babies. For this monograph, however, **the contribution of the candidate cannot be adequately assessed, as there is no separation protocol in the submitted documentation, certifying the volume of her participation.** Judging by the content of the monograph, the chapters with pharmaco-economic and pharmaceutical orientation, which are in the scientific competence and professional direction of Anna Mihaylova, amount to about 70 pages, but they also contain a lot of clinical information, which does not allow me to accept this labor.

IV. Evaluation of scientific activity

1. Nikolai Gerasimov

Master pharmacist Nikolay Gerasimov is applying for the current competition with 14 published publications outside of his doctoral dissertation and 2 in print. 9 of the publications are in scientific peer-reviewed and indexed journals in world databases and 5 - in non-refereed journals with scientific peer-review. It is noteworthy that all publications with which the candidate participates in this competition are entirely focused on pharmaceutical regulation and pharmaco-economics and are related to the legislative and economic aspects of medical devices, cost assessment and quality of life in socially significant chronic diseases such as COPD, hernia, cardiovascular disease. The correctness regarding the presentation of the documentation, the lists of publications and the calculation of the points is impressive, as all national requirements are observed, as well as the correspondences with the submitted reports for impact factor and impact rank. The candidate has attached documents from the Medical Library of MU Sofia and excerpts from the public register of NACID for impact rank

and review of the journals in which he has published, which in my inspection, correspond to the official data.

The author has 4 citations in referenced and indexed in world-famous databases and 9 citations in other foreign databases, as well as 6 citations in Bulgarian sources, as shown by a reference from CMB.

The candidate has participated in 5 scientific national and international events, all of which are related to the regulatory and economic aspects of the application of medical devices.

Nikolay Gerasimov also took part in a project entitled "Assessment of the safety of hernia sheets by studying their mechanical compatibility with tissues and the quality of life of patients."

I accept the scientific contributions of the candidate Nikolay Gerasimov, as all publications with which he applies in this competition meet his needs and are in the field of pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics.

It is also noteworthy the consistency of research and the focus on legislation and economic aspects of the application of medical devices and their importance for the treatment and follow-up of chronic diseases.

2. Anna Mikhailova

Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova applied in the current competition with 41 publications, but in their presentation according to the national requirements defined in the Law for development of the academic staff, I found a number of inaccuracies related to misrepresentation of publications as impact factor when they do not have (according to the database of Web Science and Scopus), as well as those that have been published in medical journals as referenced in scientific databases (Web of Science, Scopus, NACID), but were not found there during the inspection. The presentation of some of the articles according to the requirements does not correspond to the reference submitted in the candidate's documentation by the Central Medical Library of ThU - Stara Zagora, which clearly shows the inaccurate presentation of some of the publications in the "List of publications" submitted by Anna Mihaylova (This reference only presents journals Pharmacia, Folia Medica and Biomedical Research until 2018). In this regard, I do not fully agree with the reference submitted by the candidate for compliance with the minimum national requirements and additional requirements set out in the rules of ThU, in which in my opinion the points on indicators D and E are calculated incorrectly due to inaccuracies in the publication. Also presented and included in the total number of points are publications with which the candidate has applied for the acquisition of ONS "Doctor of Pharmacy", which should not be taken into account in this competition. According to the state requirements, the calculation of points is done according to the formulas $120 / n$ (for articles with impact factor), $60 / n$ (for articles referenced and indexed in world-famous scientific databases) and $30 / n$ (for non-refereed articles). According to the submitted list of publications, the candidate has no articles with an impact factor (however some of those included in the list are calculated according to this formula), and those that are noted to be referenced were not found in the Scopus databases, Web of Science or NACID and I believe that the points for them are also incorrectly calculated.

The scientific potential and contribution of Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova is really big and focused in many different areas, including a number of clinical specialties (obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedics, dentistry), and the field of rehabilitation. However, I consider that some of the publications (without questioning their scientific contribution in the relevant field) submitted in the documentation do not meet the needs of this competition for associate professor in the field of "Pharmaceutical Regulation and Pharmacoeconomics" for the specialty "Assistant Pharmacist". The following table describes the publications that I believe **should not be included** in this competition and those that I believe do not meet the needs of the competition.

Publication	Comment
Published monograph, which is not presented as a major habilitation thesis	
Health Economic Estimation of the Costs for Premature Babies with Respiratory Complications, Anna Mihailova, Nikoleta Parahuleva, Monograph, Ed. FastPrintBooks, 2020, 267 pages, ISBN 978-619-236-207-2	The documentation does not provide a protocol for the contribution of Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova, as well as information about the volume of the monograph the candidate participated in. Upon reference to the content of the monograph, the chapters with pharmacoeconomic and pharmaceutical orientation amount to about 70 pages, which is below the required minimum of 100 pages.
Publications in connection with the dissertation	
<p>1. Mihaylova A, Uchicova E, Parahuleva N, Gueorguiev S, Use of corticosteroids to prevent complications in preterm birth, PHARMACIA,, vol. 63, No.4 p. 42-51, 2016 ISSN 0428-0296</p> <p>2. Mihaylova A, Gueorguiev S, Parahuleva N, Karaslavova E, Sandeva M, Petkova-Gueorguieva E, Ivanova S, Ivanov K, Uchicova E, Frequency of HMD in preterm newborns after prenatal corticosteroid therapy, Biomed Res 2018, Volume 29, issue 6, p.1115-1119</p> <p>3. Mihaylova A, Uchicova E, Parahuleva N, Parahuleva M, Prevention of hyaline membrane disease (hmd) in Preterm infants, World journal of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, Volume 5, Issue 4, 09-16. 2016, Review Article ISSN 2278 - 4357</p>	These are publications in connection with the dissertation and should not be taken into account in this competition - reference Abstract - https://muplovdiv.bg/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/%D0%90%D0%B2 % D1% 82% D0% BE% D1% 80% D0% B5% D1% 84% D0% B5% D1% 80% D0% B0% D1% 82-% D0% 90% D0% BD% D0% BD% D0% B0-% D0% 9C% D0% B8% D1% 85% D0% B0% D0% B9% D0% BB% D0% BE% D0% B2% D0% B0.pdf
Publications that do not meet the needs of the competition and do not correspond to the direction "pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics"	
Petleshkova P, Krasteva M, SDragusheva, D Bakova, B Tornyova, Mihaylova A, Parahuleva N - Factors affect ing the severity of procedural pain in newborns, Biomedical Research, volume 29 issue 10, p.2049-2052	The article has nothing to do with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics. The article is important for the daily work of obstetricians and gynecologists in terms of monitoring pregnant women and the prevention of risk factors associated with pain, but does not affect the specific role of pharmacists in this case.
Kasnakova P, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Comprehensive rehabilitation of herniated disc in the lumbar section of the spine. Biomedical Research ISSN 0970-938X, 2018; 29 (14): 3002-3005	The article is relevant for the daily work of rehabilitators and physiotherapists, which corresponds to the competencies of the candidate, but has no relevance to the current competition and the training of assistant pharmacists.
Kasnakova P, Ivanova S, Ivanov K, Petkova-Gueorguieva E, Gueorguiev S, Madzharov V, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Conservative therapy options for the treatment of coxarthrosis in the early	The article is important for the daily work of rehabilitators and physiotherapists, which corresponds to the competencies and education of the candidate, but is not relevant to the current competition and the

stage of the condition. Biomedical Research 2018; 29 (14): 2997-3001	training of assistant pharmacists.
Kasnakova P, Mihaylova A, Analysis of the recovery of patients with stroke, PHARMACIA, vol. 65, no. 3/2018 p.35-40	The article touches on important aspects related to the approaches to recovery of stroke patients, but the results obtained would be important for the work of rehabilitators and physiotherapists, which has nothing to do with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics.
Bakova D, Davcheva D, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Dragusheva S, Tornyova B, Semerdjieva M, Study of the attitude of Bulgarian society towards surrogacy. Biomedical Research ISSN 0970-938X, 2018; 29 (21): 3835-3841	The article touches on an important public issue related to fertility, but has nothing to do with the current competition and the training of assistant pharmacists.
Mihaylova A, Parahuleva N, Petkova-Gueorguieva E, Gueorguiev S, Epidemiology and risk factors for premature birth., Knowledge - International Journal, December 2018, Vol. 28.2, pp. 629-636	The article concerns the medical and social aspects of preterm birth and the epidemiology and risk associated with it, but has no connection with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics
Mozakov T, Kasnakova P, Mihaylova A, Application of physical exercises for prevention and treatment of scoliosis. Knowledge - International Journal, .2019, Vol.30.4, pp.1001-1006	The article is important for the daily work of rehabilitators and physiotherapists, which corresponds to the competencies and education of the candidate, but is not relevant to the current competition and the training of assistant pharmacists.
Kasnakova P, Todorovska Y, Madzovska S, Mihaylova A, Health care in late complications of diabetes - neuropathic diabetic foot. Knowledge International Journal, .2019, Vol.30.4, pp.765-770	The results reported in this publication are relevant and important to the health care that rehabilitators apply to patients with diabetes, but are not relevant to the current competition and the training of assistant pharmacists.
Buttigieg GG, Mihaylova AA, Uchikova EH, A 50 year old myth: The relationship of intra-partum cardio-tocographic monitoring to cerebral palsy at clinical and medico-legal level. Knowledge International Journal, 2019, Vol.32.2, p.221-229	The results published in this article have nothing to do with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics and the training of assistant pharmacists
Kasnakova P, Mihaylova A, Traykova N, Petleshkova P, A study of the effect of a physiotherapeutic program with therapeutic fit balls in cases of chronic pain in the lumbar area. Biomedical Research 2019; 30 (2): 238-240, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-018	The article is important for the daily work of rehabilitators and physiotherapists, which corresponds to the competencies and education of the candidate, but is not relevant to this competition and the training of assistant pharmacists
Dzhambazov K, Zheliazkov H, Stoyanov G, Rouev P, Traykova N, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Markov S, Endonasal endoscopic sinus surgery with rhinobasis resection due to esthesioneuroblastoma: case report. Biomedical Research 2019; 30 (2): 248-252, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-024	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection with the pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics has been found
Kasnakova P, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Traykova N, Tornyova B, Purposeful physical activity - basic strategy for the prophylaxis and treatment of diabetes and diabetic polyneuropathy. Biomedical Research 2019; 30 (2): 346-350, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-100	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics
Petleshkova P, Krasteva M, Gencheva D, Anesteva-Ivanova N, Grozdanova L, Parahuleva N, Mihaylova A, Poland syndrome: two cases of newborns with left-sided chest defect and dextrocardia. Biomedical Research 2019; 30 (2): 362-365, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-112	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with the pharmaceutical regulation and the pharmacoconomics.
Parahuleva N, Uchikova E, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Parahuleva MS, Anti-Mullerian hormone in young female with different phenotypes of polycystic ovary	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics

syndrome without additional risk factors for atherosclerosis in Bulgarian population. Biomedical Research 2019; 30 (2): 357-361, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-111	
Shopova D, Mihaylova A, Petleshkova P, Bakova D, Study of dental specialists 'awareness of additive manufacturing in dental practice. iomedical Research 2019; 30 (3): 410-412, DOI: 10.4066 / biomedicalresearch.30-19-104	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics.
Mihaylova A, Uchikov P, Uchikova E, Parahuleva N, Prevention of thrombophilia and the following pregnancy complications. Knowledge - International Journal 2020, Vol. 38.4, p.679-684. GIF	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with the pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics
Kasnakova P, B. Tornyova, Mihailova A, Stankova A, Stimulation of the immune potential in preschool children through ultraviolet prophylaxis. Mr. Health Policy and Management, 2019, Volume 19, Issue 2, pp. 87-90	The article does not meet the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics
Buttigieg GG, Micallef Stafrace K, Mavrov M, Mihaylova A, Uchikova E, Medico-legal and obstetric challenges of recent demographic increases in Malta. Scripta Scientifica Medica, 2019; 51 (2) 7-14	The article does not correspond to the needs of the competition, as no connection has been found with pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics

There are five publications related to pharmaceutical science and published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. There are 17 publications of the candidate in non-refereed journals, but for some of them the scientific contributions are more in the field of phytochemistry (3 pcs.), pharmaceutical analysis (2 pcs.) and drug technology (2 pcs.). In other words, the publications that have a focus specifically on pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics and meet the needs of this competition for me are 15 - 5 in referenced specialized publications and 10 - in non-referenced.

In regard of the citations, I believe that citations of articles for which scientific contributions are not in the field of pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics should be excluded from the documentation. During the reference, 3 citations were found in referenced scientific journals and 15 in non-refereed scientific journals, of which 3 citations in monographs and 2 citations in scientific theses.

The candidate has 34 scientific papers from participation in national and international events, of which 13 are scientific papers from foreign forums and abstracts published in international journals and proceedings, some of which are related to the training of assistant pharmacists and their professional development and pharmaceutical regulation. , but also those related to studies mainly in the field of rehabilitation and obstetrics and gynecology.

The candidate has acquired a specialty in medical pedagogy, which is also not on the topic of the competition, and currently specializes in "Organization and economics of distribution and pharmacy practice."

The candidate has participated in 3 projects, 2 of which are in the field of operational program "Science and Education for Smart Growth 2014-2020", in which she was an academic mentor to students, and the actual participants are students. Anna Mihailova is a leading researcher in a project of MU-Plovdiv, related to the application of immunostimulatory methods to improve the quality of life of children from 4 to 7 years of age.

The candidate has participated in a published university textbook on medical devices and in 3 textbooks in the field of pharmaceutical care and training of assistant pharmacists.

The scientific contribution of Master pharmacist Anna Mihailova is really big, but it is noteworthy that she is focused in many different areas, including those that have nothing to do with pharmaceutical regulation. In this regard, I accept the candidate's scientific contribution only in relation to those publications, citations and participation in scientific events that are related to pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoconomics and that would meet the needs of this competition.

V. Evaluation of teaching activity

1. Nikolai Gerasimov

Nikolay Gerasimov has a working experience as a part-time lecturer over the years at MU-Varna and Medical College in Dobrich, MU-Varna, where he has lectured students of pharmacy and students majoring in "nurse", respectively. In addition, the candidate was a leader of state pre-diploma internship of 5th year students in 2018 and 2019.

2. Anna Mikhailova

The teaching activity of Anna Mihailova is in the specialty of assistant pharmacist, as in the reference provided for the last 3 academic years the total workload amounts to 2451.6 hours, of which 1435 hours are in the field of teaching practice.

VI. Assessment of the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements of the candidates according to the reviewer's assessment and the above aspects.

Indicator group	Indicator	Points required	Achieved by the candidate Nikolay Gerasimov	Achieved by the candidate Anna Mihailova
A (indicator 1)	Dissertation for awarding educational and scientific degree doctor	50 p	50	50
B (indicator 3)	Habilitation work - Monograph	100p	100	100
D (indicators 5,7 and 9)	5. Published monograph, which is not presented as the main habilitation work		0	0
	7. Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information	200p	277.8	188.2
E (indicators 10 to 12)	10. Citation in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases 12. Cited in non-refereed journals with scientific review	50p	135	135
E (indicator 13 to the end)	15. Acquired medical specialty; 22. Management of state pre-diploma internship of 5th year students in 20018 and 2019	40 p (item 15)	40 60	40 (not in competition) 60

Total		662.8	593.2
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VII. Conclusion

The scientific achievements of the candidates are of exceptional contribution in the respective fields, but for the needs of the present competition I consider that the achievements with which Nikolay Gerasimov applies are more purposeful and entirely in the field of pharmaceutical regulation and pharmacoeconomics. The scientific potential and contribution of Anna Mihailova is great and diverse, but I believe that in the current competition there are fewer publications that correspond to the field.

Based on the evaluation of the submitted documents for a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation"; field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional field 7.3. Pharmacy, scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation" for the needs of the specialty "Assistant Pharmacist" - one in 0.5 staff, at the Medical College, Thracian University, Stara Zagora, I rank the candidate Nikolay Gerasimov in the first place.

Date

Prepared the opinion

Assoc. Prof. Maria Dimitrova, Ph.D.