

## WRITTEN STATEMENT

by prof. Zlatka Dimitrova Dimitrova, MScPharm, PhD, DSci, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Educational and Scientific Laboratory of Social Pharmacy, Department of Physical Chemistry, member of the Scientific Jury, appointed by order № 728-156/05.04.2021 of the Rector of the Trakia University- Stara Zagora.

**Subject:** competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Social Medicine and Organization of Health and Pharmacy" in the professional field 7.3 "Pharmacy", higher education field 7. Health and Sports for the needs of the specialty "Assistant Pharmacist" at the Medical College, Trakia University- Stara Zagora, announced in SG no. 15 / 19.02.2021 and on the website of the Trakia University.

In the announced competition participates, as the only candidate, Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva, MScPharm, PhD. The scientific jury in its meeting of 22.04.2021 from 11.00. decided that she would allow the candidate to conduct a scientific evaluation and that I would submit an opinion on the announced competition. This statement has been prepared in accordance with the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff (PPZRAS) and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Trakia University- Stara Zagora, incl. Annex 8.3 Medical Faculty.

*I. Career development of the candidate:* Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva graduated as a Master of Pharmacy in 2005 at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University - Sofia. From September 2002 to March 2005 she worked as a pharmacist in a community pharmacy. After graduating from April 2005 to December 2015, she works in international pharmaceutical companies, initially as a medical representative at Astellas Pharma and subsequently as a product specialist, product manager and senior product manager at Sanofi. From January 2016 until now she has held the position of Marketing Manager for Southern, Eastern and Central Europe; Consumer Health Care Department; Sanofi (Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia). She is responsible for the development and implementation of the overall marketing strategy, strategic planning and innovation development (9 countries, 25+ brands, 50+ Product forms, 20+ M € turnover) with main focus in the categories: Pain, Cough, Cold, Allergy, Liver health, Vitamins, Minerals and supplements, Antispastic agents, Insomnia treatment, Food supplements and Medical devices. She guides, monitors and trains a team of product managers and specialists in the 9 countries of southern, eastern and central Europe. She is President of the Bulgarian Industrial Pharmacy Association (BIPA), a full member of the EIPG and has been a delegate to the General Assembly of European Industrial Pharmacists Group since May 2007 and currently. She has won many awards from the BPhU in various categories.

She has recognized two post graduate specialties in "Organization and economic of distribution and pharmaceutical practice" in May 2012 after 3 years of specialization in the Faculty of Pharmacy at MU-Sofia and in "Health Economics " in December 2017, after 2 years of specialization in the Faculty of Public Health at MU-Sofia and has received a Diploma in Professional Marketing (Level 6) from Chartered Institute of Marketing - London, UK in 2019.

She has completed 2 two-years master's degrees: in business administration at the Faculty of Economics and Business administration, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", in 2008 and in Public Health and Health Management at Faculty of Public health, MU-Pleven, in 2014.

Since September 2013 and at the moment she is a part-time lecturer at MC, MU-Pleven and at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

In 2017 she defended a PhD dissertation at the Faculty of Public Health, Medical University-Sofia, on the topic: "Economic impact of the process of changing the regime of prescribing and dispensing drugs on public health" and received the educational and scientific degree "PhD" in "Social Medicine and Organization of healthcare and pharmacy".

*II. Research activity:* The overall scientific production of Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva, MScPharm, PhD includes 48 papers, distributed as follows:

- 14 publications published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information;
- 31 publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes;
- 1 full-text published report in a collection of conference in MC at MU-Pleven
- 1 published book on the basis of a defended dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor";
- 1 collective monograph.

Of all submitted scientific publications for participation in the competition, only 1 publication is in print.

Her scientific publications, divided at the time of publication, are: until the acquisition of PhD degree - 19, related to the acquisition of PhD degree - 4 and after the acquisition of PhD degree - 22.

Her author's share in the scientific works is as follows: first author - in 6 articles, second author - in 18 articles, third and next author - in 21 articles. Out of 45 scientific publications - 6 are in English and 39 in Bulgarian.

The main topic of the publications is medical-social, it completely falls within the scope of the scientific specialty of the announced competition and confirms the reference for the author's contributions. The main part of the research is oriented in the following areas: Social medicine and health economics - 18; Organization of healthcare and pharmacy - 21, which relate to Pharmacotherapy of socially significant diseases, Clinical and hospital pharmacy, Drug safety; National drug policy, Drug regulation, Good practices in the pharmaceutical sector, etc.; Pharmacoeconomics and Health technologies assessment, etc.; History of Medicine and Pharmacy-6. The scientific research of Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva, MScPharm, PhD have an indisputable contribution in various fields of social medicine and pharmacy, as evidenced by the report on citations, including a total of 26 citations on the scientific output of the candidate, 5 of which are in foreign scientific journals. In my opinion, it has focused on the new scientific directions of social pharmacy, which are rapidly being developed and implemented in pharmacy services worldwide and in Europe and thus will support the practical implementation of specialists in clinical and hospital pharmacy in our country, where it is seriously observed lagging behind developed countries. I accept the author's reference for the contributions of her scientific research in scientific-theoretical and applied aspect. Her participation with poster reports at scientific forums / 17 in total / has made available to the pharmaceutical and medical community the results of her research.

My personal impressions of her as a student and during her professional development so far are wonderful. I know her as a correct researcher, ambitious and demanding specialist, built and established in the pharmaceutical industry marketer and I am fully convinced that after her habilitation she will involve her students in research and implementation of research projects. If not less than 440 points are required, the presented scientific production of Valentina Belcheva corresponds to 1173.1 points.

*III. Conclusion.* Based on my analysis, set out above, I give my positive assessment of the research and teaching activities of the candidate in this competition. I believe that Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva, MScPharm,PhD is a well-established lecturer and researcher and far exceeds the minimum requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor", approved by the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), The Regulations for application of the Law for development of the academic staff (PPZRAS) and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Thracian University of Stara Zagora, and the additional requirements in Annex 8.3 Medical Faculty of the Thracian University of Stara Zagora. I strongly recommend the esteemed Scientific Jury and the members of the College Council at the Medical College, Trakia University- Stara Zagora to vote for the award of the academic position "Associate Professor" to Valentina Yovcheva Belcheva, MScPharm,PhD in the scientific specialty "Social Medicine and Organization of Health and Pharmacy" in professional field 7.3 "Pharmacy", field of higher education 7. Health and sports, for which I will personally vote "Yes".

19.05.2021  
Sofia

Signature: .....  
/ Prof. Zlatka Dimitrova, DSci /