

REVIEW

By

Associated Professor Dr. Aleksandar Oskar, MD, PhD

Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, MU-Sofia

Member of the scientific jury appointed with Order No 3188/01.12.2020 of the Rector of Trakia University, Stara Zagora for a competition for the filling of the academic degree **Associate Professor** in the area of higher education: **7. Health care and sport**, professional field: **7.1. Medicine** and scientific specialty: **Ophthalmology** for the needs of the Branch of Haskovo under the competition announcement in State Gazette, Iss. No 86/06.10.2020.

The review of the materials presented for the competition is based on the minimal national requirements as well as the Regulation for Development of the Academic Staff in Trakia University – Stara Zagora.

For participation in the competition, one candidate submitted documents: **Dr. Daniela Tosheva Mitova, MD, PhD**

Professional development:

Dr Mitova graduated in medicine from the Medical University-Varna Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov in 1999.

In 2004, Dr Mitova acquired a diploma of recognized specialty in Ophthalmology after specializing in the Specialized Eye Hospital to the MU-Varna and in 2013, she obtained a Master degree in Health Management from the Medical University-Varna Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov.

In 2006, she obtained the educational and scientific degree of PhD in the scientific field of Ophthalmology 03.01.36 from MU-Varna. The topic of her thesis was *The Influence of Exfoliative Changes in the Eye on Character and Course of Exfoliative Glaucoma*.

Teaching activity:

In 2003 – 2013 Dr. Mitova was an assistant in the Ophthalmology and Visual Science Department to the MU-Varna. Since 2010, she has been carrying out training of post-graduate students at the Eye Clinic “St. Petka” in Varna (a MU-Varna base until 2019 and currently, Trakia University – Stara Zagora base).

Dr. Mitova has been a scientific supervisor in the ophthalmology specialization of 3 post-graduate students. She has participated in 15 organized courses in the field of ophthalmology and she also took part with chapters in textbooks meant for medical and dental students as cited above.

Research activity:

Dr. Mitova participates in this competition with 66 publications total. Out of these, 45 are in specialized scientific journals outside her thesis: 6 in impact factor journals (with IF/IR), 17 in peer-reviewed journals without impact factor and 22 publications in edited non-peer-reviewed journals. Fifteen of the publications are related to her thesis.

Dr. Mitova has authored two monographs, one of which is solely hers and the other one – a collective work with co-authors.

According to the academic transcription attached about the citations by foreign and Bulgarian authors drawn up in the MU-Varna Library on the basis of the automated information by foreign databases Web of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar, Dr. Mitova has **208 citations overall:**

- 127 citations or reviews in scientific journals, peer-reviewed and indexed in universally known databases with scientific information or monographs and collective tomes
- 2 citations in monographs and collective tomes with scientific reviewing;
- 79 citations or reviews in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific reviewing.

According to the academic transcription attached about the impact factor of the publications drawn up in the MU-Varna Library, Dr. Mitova has 4 publication with total IF **4,533**. Among Dr. Mitova's publications, the one in British Journal of Ophthalmology stands out. It presents the results of a research on concentration of endothelin -1 in the anterior chamber fluid in patients with exfoliative syndrome. Some considerable scientific value is also found in her research on visual function and eye microsaccades in relation to the reading ability in cerebral palsied patients (International Journal of Neuroscience, 2006; Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics, 2007), as well as her research on photorefractive keratectomy for correcting residual

refractive mistakes after radial keratotomy (Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde, 2019).

As to her publications in peer-reviewed journals (with IF/IR), Dr. Mitova is a sole author in one of them and in the other 5 publications she is third, fourth or fifth coauthor. In her publications in peer-reviewed non-impact factor journals (17 in total), Dr. Mitova is the first author in 15. In her publications in non-peer reviewed edited journals (22 in total), Dr. Mitova is the first author in 13. Dr. Mitova has 7 participations with chapters in textbooks for medical and dental students.

Dr. Mitova has studied in detail clinical manifestations and therapeutic possibilities in diabetic retinopathy by developing and applying innovative methods for treatment of diabetic macular edema (author monograph – *Diabetic Retinopathy*, 2014, presented at WOC 2020; Bulgarian Review of Ophthalmology 2020).

Dr Mitova is the sole author of the publication in Medical & Clinical Research, 2020, dealing with the application of combined therapy for exudative form of age-determined macular degeneration. Also, she applies innovative methods for treatment of dry form of age-determined macular degeneration (*Medical Review* 2019; *Medinfo* 2019).

Dr. Miteva has 58 participations with reports at Bulgarian medical congresses and symposiums and 19 participations with presentations or posters at international congresses and symposiums. She has been a guest lecturer in 2018 at a symposium of the World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC, 2018) in Barcelona, in 2019 – at a Filatov Memorial Lecture Odessa, Ukraine and in 2020 – at the World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC, 2020).

Conclusion

Dr Daniela Mitova is an expert of proven merit with wealth of clinical experience. With her undoubted qualities and the verified scientometric indicators that she presented, she fully meets all requirements of Trakia University, Stara Zagora, Branch of Haskovo, for the filling of the academic position *Associate Professor* in the scientific field Ophthalmology.

I vote positively – YES – for conferring the academic degree *Associate Professor* in Ophthalmology on Dr. Daniela Tosheva Mitova, MD, PhD

11.01.2021

Associated Professor Dr. Aleksandar Oskar, MD, PhD

