

To

Prof. Dr. Zdravka Demerdjieva, MD, PhD, DSc

Chair of the Scientific Jury,

appointed by Order No. 5-5-32/11.2.25

REVIEW

Prepared by Prof. Dr. Sonya Stoyanova Marina - Kirova, M.D., Ph.D

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State Gazette No. 106 of 17. 12. 2024 announced a competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport in professional field 7.1. Medicine - medical-clinical field and scientific specialty "DERMATOLOGY AND VENEROLOGY".

I have been proposed as a member of the Scientific Jury at a meeting of the Scientific Council of "ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC TOKUDA HOSPITAL" EAD on 28. 11. 2024 (Minutes No. 55/28. 11. 2024) and by Order No. 15 - 05 - 32/ 11. 02. 2025 of the Executive Director and Provost of the Hospital, and than I have been confirmed as a member of the Scientific Jury in the procedure for the academic position of "PROFESSOR" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "DERMATOLOGY AND VENEROLOGY", for the needs of the external organization "Outpatient Clinic for Specialized Medical Care - Group Practice in Dermatology - Euroderma Clinic", Sofia. At a meeting of the Scientific Jury on 12. 02. 2025. I am assigned to prepare a review.

In the State Gazette, No.106 of 17.12.2024 was announced a competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport in the professional field 7.1. Medicine - medical-clinical field and scientific specialty "DERMATOLOGY AND VENEROLOGY". Participation in the competition has been declared, as the only candidate, by Associate Professor Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva - Tsankova, MD, Ph.D. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva submitted her documents within the established deadline. The documents submitted by the candidate meet the requirements of the ZRASRB, the Regulations for its

implementation and the Regulations for the terms and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD".

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva was born on 27. 05. 1960 in Lovech. She graduated as a physician at the Medical University - Pleven in 1985. In the same year she started to work as an assistant in Skin and Venereal Diseases at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at the Medical University - Pleven. In 1992 she successfully passed the examination for the specialty in Skin and Venereal Diseases, while working as a resident at the City Skin Dispensary - Sofia. In 1994, after successfully passing a competition, she started working as an assistant at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at the Medical Faculty, Medical University - Sofia. In 2005 Dr. Jana Kazandjieva defended her dissertation on "Exogenous pigmentary disorders - dermatological aspects and therapeutic possibilities", Diploma № 29702 / 05.05.2005. After winning a competition in 2008 she was elected Associate Professor at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University - Sofia. At present, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva works as a physician - associate professor at the same Department and at the 1st Department of the Clinic of Skin and Venereal Diseases, University Hospital "Alexandrovska" EAD.

II. DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION OF ASSOC. PROF. JANA KAZANDJIEVA

The presented scientific works meet the required national quantitative scientific metric criteria for the academic position of PROFESSOR and the criteria and indicators of the Scientific Council of "Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital EAD".

The total number of scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandjieva covers 361 titles, of which 319 articles in specialized scientific journals and scientific collections (118 in English and 201 in Bulgarian), 19 monographs (2 independent and 17 chapters in monographs, of which 13 in English), 23 contributions to textbooks and teaching aids (1 in English and 22 in Bulgarian).

In the competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" the candidate participates with the publications after holding the academic position " Assoc. Professor " in the period from 2008 to 2025. The scientific production in this period includes 281 scientific works, of which 151 articles in specialized scientific journals and scientific collections (80 in English and 171 in Bulgarian), 18 monographs (1 independent and 16 chapters of monographs, of which 13 in English), 12 contributions to textbooks and teaching aids and and manuals (1 textbook in English and 11 textbooks and teaching aids and manuals in Bulgarian).

In addition, the candidate after holding the academic position of " Assoc. Professor " has 72 lectures delivered as an invited lecturer at prestigious international forums abroad and 87 participations with poster presentations (9 published in journals with impact factor) at international forums abroad.

The attached impact factor report and journal rank, prepared by NACID (Reg. No.: 94-06-3/17.02.2025), certifies that Assoc. Prof. J. Kazandjieva has an H Index of 22 and a total impact

factor of the publications included in the competition 94.988. The Central Library of Medical Sciences report at the Medical University of Sofia (Issue No. 53/08.08.2024) indicates 280 Bulgarian citations.

III. SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

The main contributions are systematized in several main areas - Contact dermatitis, Atopic dermatitis, Drug-induced dermatoses, Systemic nature of skin diseases and Infantile Hemangiomas.

III. 1. Original scientific contributions in the field of Contact Dermatitis

In the field of contact dermatitis Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandjieva has 106 scientific papers of which 97 are after the acquisition of the academic title " Assoc. Professor". Her publications in this field (after obtaining the academic title "Assoc. Professor") include 1 independent monograph, 17 articles in English, 57 in Bulgarian, 4 chapters in monographs in English, 5 posters with abstracts published in journals with impact factor and 13 posters at World congresses and European congresses. She has given 15 lectures on contact dermatitis at prestigious international forums abroad.

In 2021, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva published the monograph "The World of Dermatoallergology", ISBN 978-954-92008-0-5, in which she summarizes her experience in contact allergy, the specificity of individual allergens and the therapy of Contact dermatitis. In the monograph, the theory of "skin diet", which is the main therapeutic strategy in contact allergy, is published for the first time in Bulgaria.

Participation in national consensus: Dr. Kazandjieva is first and leading author in 2 consensus on Contact dermatitis - 2011 and 2023 and 2 consensus on Hand eczema - 2014 and 2024.

III. 2. Original scientific contributions in the field of atopic dermatitis

In the field of Atopic dermatitis, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva has published 30 scientific papers after obtaining the academic title "DOCENT". Publications on the topic include 6 articles in English, 14 in Bulgarian, 1 publication in a textbook and 4 teaching aids - 2 for physicians and 2 for patients. The main publication is "Atopic dermatitis as a systemic disease" with 89 citations (Web of Science), and it is one of the first articles in the world that identifies atopic dermatitis as a systemic disease and discusses the main comorbidities associated with it.

The candidate participates as a leading author in all national consensus and other important scientific documents on "Atopic dermatitis". She is the first and lead author in the first national BDD consensus on Atopic dermatitis, creator and first author in a Bulgarian White Book "Atopic dermatitis - current data on etiopathogenesis, clinic, diagnosis and therapy", 2019, first author in "Therapy of Atopic Dermatitis - BDD Consensus, 2021" and first author in "Standard of Care for Patients with Atopic Dermatitis", 2023. Both the Atopic Dermatitis Consensus and the Standard of Medical Care were adopted at conferences organized by the Dermatologic Allergy Section of the BDD, of which she is the chair and main organizer. Assoc. Dr. Kazandjieva is the editor (together with Assoc. M. Trashlieva) of "Atopic Dermatitis - Part 1"

written for patients and parents of children with atopic dermatitis, and of "Atopic Dermatitis - Part 2", intended for physicians and medical staff. She was a participant in the first school on Atopic dermatitis in Bulgaria and since 2014 actively organizes annually more than 20 schools for training patients and parents of children with this important skin disease.

III. 3. Original scientific contributions in the field of urticaria

On the topic of urticaria and angioedema, Assoc. Prof. Kazandjieva has published 10 scientific papers, 9 of which were published after obtaining the academic title "Assoc. Professor". The main publications on the topic are in English and deal with urticaria as a systemic disease - "Chronic urticaria as a systemic disease" and "Angioedema as a systemic disease", both articles have 31 citations (Web of Science) and 14 citations (Scopus), respectively.

The candidate is the scientific advisor of the thesis of Dr. T. Gancheva at TU - Stara Zagora on "Study of etiological factors and therapeutic behavior in spontaneous urticaria", defended (2022). In the textbook "Dermatology and Venereology" (3rd ed., 2023) she is the author of the chapter "Urticaria". Assoc. Dr. Kazandjieva is the first author in the consensus article "Algorithm for therapeutic management of urticaria", which reflects the main trends in the treatment of the disease.

III. 4. Original scientific contributions in the field of "Infantile hemangiomas"

In the field of vascular tumours and malformations the candidate is one of the leading specialists in Bulgaria. She has 39 scientific papers in the field of vascular dermatoses. Her publications in this field (after obtaining the academic title "Assoc. Professor") include 13 articles in English, 15 in Bulgarian and 1 chapter in a monograph in English. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva is the first and lead author in the first "National Consensus for the Treatment of Haemangiomas in Infancy and Early Childhood", which was established in 2017 and is a joint effort of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society and the Society of Paediatrics. Local treatment of Infantile Hemangiomas is the subject of 5 of the publications (3 in English) and 1 poster published in British Journal of Dermatology. The article on local treatment of childhood hemangiomas with timolol has been cited 55 times (Web of Science) and 59 times (Scopus), indicating the great interest in this topic. The articles on the acquisition of hypersensitivity to topical timolol and propranolol in the treatment of childhood hemangiomas are unique contributions to the side effects in the treatment of Infantile hemangiomas.

III. 5. Original scientific contributions in the field of drug-induced dermatoses

Drug-induced dermatoses have been addressed in 30 scientific works of the candidate, of which 25 are after the acquisition of the academic title "Assoc. Professor". The articles on drug-induced psoriasis, drug induced lupus and drug induced acne have a total of 324 citations in Web of Science and 373 in Scopus. A new classification of acne-inducing drugs has been introduced. Acne-inducing drugs are divided into 3 groups according to the evidence of their ability to lead to acneiform changes. The characteristic clinical features of drug-induced acne are also established.

III. 6. Original scientific contributions on the topic "Skin as a target organ in multisystem diseases"

The skin as a target organ in multisystem diseases has been the subject of 19 scientific papers after the acquisition of the academic title "Assoc. Professor". Dermatoses as a mirror of systemic internal diseases are discussed in 12 publications in English. These publications are among the first in the world to provide precise evidence of the systemic nature of skin diseases. This theory, launched in 2014 and 2015 in the publications of Dr. Kazandjieva, is now accepted as an indisputable statement in immune-mediated inflammatory skin diseases. The importance of the contributions from these papers is evident from the total number of citations - 195 (Web of Science) and 191 (Scopus). The systemic nature of skin diseases is also reflected by contributions to 2 monographs and 1 textbook in English and 4 contributions to textbooks on internal medicine in Bulgarian.

III. 7. Original scientific contributions in the field of rare dermatoses

A number of rare syndromes have been described, some of them for the first time in Bulgaria. Congenital rare syndromes: "Maple syrup disease"; "Ichthyosis Hystrix"; "Berardinelli-Seip Syndrome"; "Acrodermatitis enteropathica - like syndrome in a child with leucinosi". Acquired rare syndromes: "Figurated annular erythema" - review in English; "Red scrotum syndrome"; "Multiple small digital hyperkeratoses"; "Pemphigus vulgaris mimicking toxic epidermal necrolysis". Rare hair disease syndromes: "Tufted hair folliculitis"; "Fibrosing alopecia in a pattern distribution in two brothers with pili multigemini"; "Congenital Generalized Hypertrichosis Terminalis with Gingival Hyperplasia and a Coarse Face"; "Ambras Syndrome". For the first time in Bulgaria a case of Shiitake dermatitis has been described.

III. 8. Original scientific contributions in the field of photodermatoses

There are 3 published articles on the topic - 1 in English and 2 in Bulgarian, 1 chapter of a monograph in "European Handbook of Dermatological Treatments", Springer, 2023 and 1 poster presented at the EADV in 2011, in which the data from the national survey on the use of photoprotection and sunbeds are presented. Contributions in the field of polymorphic light eruption are in the area of immunopathogenesis and therapy. A clinical case of phytophotodermatitis from *Dictamnus albus* and a case of lime dermatitis are described for the first time in Bulgaria.

III. 9. Original scientific contributions in the field of "COVID pandemic and related skin changes"

A total of 13 articles have been published (4 in English and 9 in Bulgarian). The articles in international journals have a total of 75 citations and cover the following topics: 'Vaccine-associated skin side effects' and 'Skin care during the Covid pandemic'. The articles include the most important measures for skin prevention during a COVID pandemic, an algorithm for therapeutic management of patients with hand eczema in the setting of a COVID pandemic, preservation of the skin barrier and prophylaxis in health care workers. Two unique cases related to COVID infection are described: "Aquagenic syringal keratoderma" and "COVID-19 vaccine-related eruption of papules and plaques".

IV. TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

According to the certificate issued by the MF - MU, Sofia during the last 5 academic years the teaching work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kazandjieva in the speciality of skin and venereal diseases includes exercises with students of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy in Bulgarian and English. For the last 2 years (2023 and 2024) the teaching load is 870 hours in total, and for the 6-year period from 2019 to 2024 it is 4272 hours in total.

Assoc. Prof. Kazandjieva is the scientific supervisor of 5 successfully defended PhD students. Dr. Ban Kamuna – MU-Sofia, Dr. K. Gospodinova – MU-Pleven, Dr. K. Semkova – MU-Varna (together with Prof. S. Marina), Dr. J. Velevska – MU-Varna (together with Prof. S. Marina), Dr. B. Kotevska - Tokuda Hospital (together with Prof. Z. Demerdzhieva). She is also a scientific consultant of 2 successfully defended PhD studies (Dr. Gergovska – MU- Pleven and Dr. Gantcheva – TU-Stara Zagora. Currently she is a scientific supervisor of 1 PhD student in the process of defense - Dr. Inaya Mahmud - Tokuda Hospital (together with Assoc. Prof. Dr. I. Bogdanov) and scientific consultant of the PhD student Dr. A. Angelova – MU-Pleven.

V. TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC ACTIVITIES

Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandjieva is an expert in the field of dermatoallergy with many years of experience in clinical, laboratory, diagnostic and therapeutic activities. She is the founder and head of the Bulgarian Dermato-Allergy Network, which includes 10 centers in the country and conducts annual campaigns for diagnosis and prevention of skin allergic diseases. The Dermatoallergy Network works on a number of projects related to contact hypersensitivity and atopic dermatitis, and thanks to the data from all this campaigns in Bulgaria a national database is created, which includes all data on contact hypersensitivity to different allergens.

VI. MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND EDITORIAL BOARDS

Dr. Jana Kazandjieva is a Board member of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society since 1998, Head of the Dermatoallergy section at BDS since 2009 and Head of the section of Vascular dermatoses at BDS since 2012. She has been a member of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) since 2012, a Board member of the EADV (2012-2018), a member of the Ethics Committee of the EADV (2011-2015), a member of the German-Bulgarian Dermatological Society (GBDS), Secretary of the GBDS (2001-2012), and a member of the European Society of Histology of Dermatology and Venereology (ESHDV) since 2005, Member of the European Organization for the Prevention of Occupational Skin Allergies (EPOS) since 2015, Honorary Member of the Serbian Society of Dermatology, Honorary Member of the Macedonian Society of Dermatology, Member of the Ethics Committee of the Bulgarian Medical Association - Sofia (2016-2018) and founder and Board member of the Eczema Foundation - Bulgaria (since 2014).

He is a member of the editorial board of a number of Bulgarian and foreign journals, including Serbian Journal of Dermatology, Guest editor in Clinics in Dermatology for the issues Are Skin Diseases Systemic Ones?: I, II, III, 2019, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Member of the editorial board of the Academic Journal of Dermatoneoncology, 2023/2024 ISSN 2815-4223.

Member of the editorial board of GP Medic and Medical Art for issues related to dermatology. Editor of the monographs. "Atopic Dermatitis - A Book for Parents and Patients" (Part 1) and "Atopic dermatitis: etiology, clinical picture and treatment" (Part 2), ISBN 978-619-92791-0-6, 2024. Reviewer of 2 textbooks on skin and venereal diseases for medical, dental and pharmacy students. "Dermatology and Venereology. Handbook for Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Students.", Medical University of Varna, 2018.

VI. COMPLIANCE WITH THE MINIMUM NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING THE ACADEMIC POSITION "PROFESSOR"

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva convincingly exceeds the criteria for the award of the scientific and academic position "PROFESSOR".

CONCLUSION

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva - Tsankova significantly exceeds the national requirements for the award of the scientific and academic position "PROFESSOR". Her scientific production not only meets but exceeds many times in volume and quality the requirements for a professor in a clinical discipline.

On the basis of the above I recommend the scientific jury to award to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva - Tsankova the academic position "PROFESSOR" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport in the professional field 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialty "Dermatology and Venereology" for the needs of the external organization "ASMP - Group Practice of Dermatology - Euroderma Clinic" Ltd, Sofia, Bulgaria. Sofia.

28. 02. 2025.
Sofia



(Prof. Dr. Sonya Stoyanova Marina - Kirova, M.D., Ph.D)