

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Dimitar Konstantinov Gospodinov , MD , PhD
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Subject: competition for the academic position of "Professor" in "Dermatology and Venereology" in higher education 7. "Health and Sports", PN 7.1. "Medicine" for the needs of the external organization "ASMP - Group Practice in Dermatology - Clinic Evroderma" OOD, Sofia, announced in the State Gazette, issue 106 / 17.12. 2024.

Based on a decision of the Scientific Council of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD" with Protocol No. 55/28.11.2024 and Order No. 15-05-32 /11.02.2025, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for conducting a competition for the academic position of "professor" in dermatology and venereology. I have been appointed to prepare an opinion at the first meeting of the Scientific Jury. The only candidate who submitted the documents was Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva-Tsankova, MD, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Sofia. 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. Brief biographical data of the candidate:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Kazandjieva was born in the town of Lovech. She graduated from the German Language High School in the town, and her higher education – a Master of Medicine at the Medical University of Pleven in 1985 (diploma No. 001053/1985). She acquired a speciality in skin and venereal diseases (diploma No. 39016/15.01.1992). She graduated with a Master of Health Management at the University of Stara Zagora in 2021 (diploma No. 350521/reg.6811).

After successfully passing a competition in 1985, Dr. J. Kazandjieva began working as an assistant professor at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology, MU - Pleven, and the following year, she joined the City Skin Dispensary - Sofia as a resident physician. After a competition in 1994, she became an assistant professor at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at MU-Sofia. She has completed numerous specializations in the country and abroad (Vienna, 1992; Zurich, 1999, etc.). In 2005 Dr. Jana Kazandjieva defended her dissertation on "Exogenous pigmentary disorders - dermatological aspects and therapeutic possibilities".

As of the date of the competition, she works as an associate professor at the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at MU-Sofia and the first section of the Clinic of Skin Diseases at UMHAT Aleksandrovska.

He is fluent in written and spoken English, German and Russian.

II. Scientific activity of the candidate

After acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor", the scientific research activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Kazandjieva includes 281 published scientific papers in Bulgarian and foreign refereed and indexed periodicals (251 scientific articles, one independent monograph, participation in 17 chapters of monographs, seven chapters of textbooks and five teaching aids and

manuals) and 462 participations in scientific forums with lectures and posters, of which over 70 presentations as an invited speaker.

For this opinion, an assessment of the candidate's publication activity has been made based on publications in specialized scientific journals that do not repeat those submitted for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "doctor" and for holding the academic position "associate professor".

1. Scientometric criteria:

- ✦ 79 publications in international scientific journals in the WOS/S databases;
- ✦ 171 publications in Bulgarian refereed scientific journals from the NACID list;
- ✦ 1 independent monograph;
- ✦ With authorship in 17 chapters of monographs, of which 13 are in English;
- ✦ Co-authorship of 7 textbook chapters and five teaching aids, of which one textbook in English

He is the sole and first author of 102 scientific works (16 foreign articles, 52 Bulgarian articles, one monograph in the country, six chapters in monographs abroad, three chapters in monographs in Bulgarian, 1 chapter in a textbook in English, 23 chapters in Bulgarian textbooks and manuals), and the last (senior) author of 10 foreign and 16 Bulgarian publications.

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, 1728 in Scopus and 2206 in Web of Science.

2. Scientific activity:

A list of 462 participations in scientific forums with lectures and posters at national and international congresses and conferences is attached – 72 oral presentations as an invited speaker at European and world congresses and conferences, international academies of cosmetic dermatology; 87 participations with poster presentations (with nine abstracts published in journals with an impact factor indicated above); 182 lectures at national forums in Bulgaria and 121 presented casuistic cases.

Assoc. Prof. J. Kazandjieva is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Union (member of the Ethics Committee of the Bulgarian Medical Union - Sofia for 2016-2018); member of the Board of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society (BDS, Head of the Dermato-allergology Section and the Vascular Malformations Section), member of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV, Board member in the period 2012-2018 and member of the Ethics Committee of the EADV for the period 2011-2015); member of the German-Bulgarian Dermatological Society (scientific secretary of the society 2001-2012); member of European Organization for the Prevention of Occupational Skin Allergies (EPOS); member of ESHDV (European Society of History of Dermatology and Venereology). She is a Honorary member of the Serbian and Macedonian Dermatological Societies.

Member of the editorial boards of the journal "Dermatology and Venereology" ISSN 0417-0792; Academic Edition Dermato-Oncology, ISSN 2815-4223; Serbian Journal of Dermatology, ISSN 1821-0902; Clinics in Dermatology, Guest editor (2019, 2015 and 2014), ISSN 1879-1131. He

is a member of the editorial boards of the journals "GPMedic" and "Medic Art" for issues related to dermatology (both on the NACID list).

He is the editor of the monographs "Atopic Dermatitis", 2021, "Atopic Dermatitis - a Book for Parents and Patients" (part 1) and "Atopic Dermatitis: Aetiology, Clinical Picture and Treatment" (part 2), ISBN 978-619-92791-0-6, 2024.

She is a reviewer of two dermatology and venereology textbooks for medicine, dentistry and pharmacy students – one in Bulgarian (2020) and one in English (2018). She has been a member of scientific juries with reviews for the award of scientific degrees (19 in total) and six for academic positions.

In the period 2009-2024, Assoc. Prof. J. Kazandjieva is the organizer of 13 symposia, two conferences and three schools in Dermatoallergology and immunomediated inflammatory diseases. She is also the organizer of the 16 consecutive annual campaigns for testing of patients with allergic skin diseases (2008-2024).

3. Contributions information: I accept the attached report on the contributions of Assoc. Prof. Dr J. Kazandjieva considering the results in the following areas to be the most significant:

- ✓ Dermatoallergology – She is the leading specialist in the country, and she has contributed to studies on Contact Dermatitis, Atopic Dermatitis, Chronic Urticaria, and Angioedema. As chairman of the Dermatoallergology section at the Bulgarian Dermatological Society, she initiated the development and publication of national consensuses on Contact Dermatitis, Hand Eczema, Atopic Dermatitis and the Standard of medical care for patients with AD;
- ✓ Infantile hemangiomas – first and lead author in the first National Consensus on the Treatment of Hemangiomas in Infants and Young Children (2017), jointly prepared by the Bulgarian Dermatologic Society and the Society of Pediatrics;
- ✓ Skin diseases as systemic - a summary of the spectrum of dermatoses with systemic manifestations and associations within three issues of the Journal "Clinics in Dermatology", as a guest editor, namely Atopic dermatitis, Urticaria, Drug reactions, Angioedema, etc.
- ✓ COVID-19 in dermatology – studies on contact reactions when using disinfectants, side effects related to vaccination, and hair problems in patients.
- ✓ Drug-induced dermatoses – dermatoses provoked or aggravated by drugs (psoriasis, lupus, acne), skin manifestations in targeted oncology therapy (Recall dermatitis after treatment with paclitaxel, first in the scientific literature in Bulgaria)
- ✓ Skin complications in temporary and permanent tattoos - for the first time in the world, describes skin changes in tattooing using the "Skin Cryobranding" method, as well as the description for the first time in Bulgaria of cross-reactivity of pigments with azo dyes.

III. Teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandjieva

According to a certificate issued by MU-Sofia for the last five academic years, the candidate's academic workload is 4272 hours of exercises and lectures to university students in Bulgarian and English and participation in the CME. Assoc. Prof. Kazandjieva also participates in the training of specializing dermatologists in the organized introductory courses and leads the one-month specialization in Dermatoallergology for Allergology residents. She is the scientific supervisor of 5 successfully defended doctoral students and the head of the specialization in skin and venereal diseases of 5 young colleagues.

She participates in the authoring teams of 7 university textbooks and five teaching aids for medical education needs.


IV. Diagnostic and therapeutic activities

Assoc. Prof. Dr Jana Kazandjieva, an actively practicing dermatologist with 30 years of experience in the speciality. She has implemented new diagnostic methods in the Dermatoallergology field and new therapeutic approaches in her practice. Organizer of 16 annual national campaigns for diagnosing and preventing allergic skin diseases (2008 - 2024). She is the main initiator and most active participant in developing the adopted BDS Consensus on the diagnosis, clinic and treatment of atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, and hand eczema. These facts support the opinion that Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandjieva is excellently theoretically prepared, sufficiently innovative, and has extensive clinical experience.

Conclusion:

Assoc. Prof. Jana Kazandzjieva - Tsankova, MD, PhD is an established scientist and clinician. On a national scale, she is the specialist who has best developed the problem of allergic skin diseases, infantile hemangiomas and adverse skin reactions after tattooing in a scientific and practical aspect. The works presented in the competition fully meet the criteria and indicators for holding the academic position of "professor", many times exceeding the required minimum state requirements for holding the academic position. I vote positively with conviction and recommend that the Honorable Scientific Jury award the title "professor" to Assoc. Prof. Jana Stoyanova Kazandjieva-Tsankova, MD, PhD

Prepared the opinion:


(Prof. Dimitar Gospodinov, MD, PhD, DSc)