

**ATTENTION: MEMBERS OF THE
SCIENTIFIC JURY REGARDING
COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC
POSITION "CHIEF ASSISTANT" IN THE
SPECIALTY "VIROLOGY"**

OPINION

**By Prof. DSc RADKA MLADENOVA ARGIROVA, M.D., virologist at the
Tokuda University Hospital**

**REGARDING: COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POSITION
"CHIEF ASSISTANT" IN THE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALTY
"VIROLOGY" in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and Sports",
direction 7.1. "Medicine" in the scientific specialty "Virology" for the
needs of the Virology Department of the National Center for Infectious and
Parasitic Diseases, Sofia, announced in the State Gazette, issue 115 of
30.12.2025.**

RESPECTED MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY,

Only one candidate has submitted documents for the announced competition – Dr. Petar Krasimirov Velikov, MD. He graduated from Medical University – Sofia, in 2016. Dr. Velikov received a specialty in infectious diseases in 2022, and in 2025 – a master's degree in public health in Japan. The candidate comes with extensive clinical and scientific experience from the Hospital for Infectious Diseases "Prof. Ivan Kirov", Sofia. In May 2025, he successfully defended his dissertation titled "Clinical, epidemiological and laboratory characteristics of COVID-19 in children" and acquired the ONS "Doctor".

Dr. Velikov is an author and co-author of 27 publications – 18 of them in journals with impact factor, 4 - in international and Bulgarian journals referenced in world-renowned databases of scientific information, 2 articles in Bulgarian journals (reviewed) and 3 other publications. He is a participant in 2 scientific projects funded by the National Science Foundation.

The review of the candidate's scientific production presents a young scientist and researcher with promising possibilities and capacity for scientific and educational activities.

The publications and participations presented by Dr. Velikov fully meet the requirements of the national criteria and those of the scientific council of the National Center for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases for holding the academic position of "Chief Assistant" in the scientific specialty of "virology".

I have no personal impressions of the candidate, but his scientific and publication activities, participation in scientific projects, as well as his desire to join and engage with the National Cervical Cancer Screening Program, guarantee the interest and future development of Dr. Velikov in the Department of Virology at the National Center for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases.

With full conviction and wishes for new successes, I will vote "for" Dr. Velikov to occupy the academic position of "Chief Assistant" in the scientific specialty of "virology". I invite the other members of the scientific jury also to support Dr. Velikov.

Sofia, May 16th, 2026

Signature: /s/

(Prof. DSc. Radka Argirova)