

Ref. number: 07.14.290.044

(Doc. 400.2.1)

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND
ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

**EVALUATION - ACCREDITATION
OF THE PROGRAM OF STUDY**

IN GREEK: Πτυχίο Ιατρικής (6 έτη, 360 ECTS, Πτυχίο)

IN ENGLISH: Doctor of Medicine (MD) (6 years, 360 ECTS, Bachelor)

**OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION
University of Cyprus**

This Final Report was prepared on the basis of Article (20) (2)(f) (i) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019 [N. 136 (I) / 2015 to N.35 (I) / 2019].

THE PROCEDURE:

On 12 October 2018, the legal representative of the Higher Education Institution **University of Cyprus** submitted an application (Doc. 200.1), based on Article (17) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019, for the evaluation-accreditation of the program of study:

IN GREEK: Πτυχίο Ιατρικής (6 έτη, 360 ECTS, Πτυχίο)

IN ENGLISH: Doctor of Medicine (MD) (6 years, 360 ECTS, Bachelor)

This application is registered in the file with the reference number: **07.14.290.044**

In the framework of competences conferred on it by the relevant legislation, the Council of the Agency has constituted an External Evaluation Committee (EEC) which, after initially examining the institution's application for program evaluation and accreditation, performed an on-site visit at the institution on **24 and 25 June 2019**.

The EEC met with the Head of the institution, the Dean of the Medical School, the program's coordinator, members of the academic staff and members of the administrative staff, students and/ or their representatives and the Internal Quality Assurance Committee.

Additionally, the EEC examined the institution's facilities and the Medical School's premises (library, computer labs, research infrastructures, etc.), various documents presented and/or requested by the EEC, the School's structure, the curriculum, methodology and equipment used in teaching and learning, the CVs of the teaching staff and their relationship to the institution as teachers in regard to any other duties and teaching in other programs of study.

The EEC also examined clinical core clerkship rotation sites affiliated with the Medical School.

The EEC has documented its findings and recommendations and drew up the External Evaluation Report for Basic Medical Education in the Doc. 300.1.1/1.

CYQAA Council's Decision

The Council of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education, during its **48th Summit on 2 and 3 December 2019**, on the basis of Article 20 (2)(f)(i) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019 [N. 136 (I) / 2015 to N.35 (I) / 2019], and on the basis of the External Evaluation Committee's report, the reply of the institution on the report and the final feedback report from the External Evaluation Committee, where the EEC approved the Medical School's new policy which will be applied from the academic year 2020 – 2021 **decided that the program is accredited to be delivered in Greek.**

Based on the article 16 (2) (f) which provides that:

'if there are recommendations for action or the subsequent preparation of an action plan is required, the relevant procedure for the monitoring and re-evaluation of the institution shall be stated in the text of the External Evaluation Report and shall be consistently applied by the Agency and the institution under evaluation'

The Agency requires the Medical School to report on the implementation of the developed and approved policies, identified in the following assessment areas 2, 3 and 5, which will be applied from the academic year 2020-2021.

The reports will be submitted to the CYQAA at the end of the Winter semester and at the end of the Spring semester of the academic year 2020-2021.

Assessment area 2: Educational programme

“The Studies Committee will convene in a regular meeting at the end of each academic year, beginning from June 2020, to re-evaluate the curriculum and consider programme modifications in response to opinions from the students, administration staff, medical community, patients and the society. The Studies Committee and its Subcommittees may also convene in additional meetings throughout the year depending on the needs that may arise.”.

Assessment area 3: Assessment of Students

“The standardization method(s) of choice for OSCEs and oral exams will be discussed with the programme Committee, the student representatives and the School stakeholders, prior to a final discussion and decision by the School Council.

Due to the important role of standard setting in the quality of assessment, the School aims to implement a pilot application of standard setting in the OSCEs and oral exams of this year’s examination period, in May 2020. The product of these discussions and the final decision of the School Council will be reflected in the reviewed Student Handbook for the academic year 2020-2021.”.

Assessment area 5: Academic Staff/Faculty

“The School will apply by the academic year 2020-2021, developed relevant strategies concerning the sub-areas 5.1: Recruitment and selection policy and 5.2: Staff activity and staff development, which are in compliance with the international policies.”.

The current accreditation begins in the Spring semester of the academic year 2019 – 2020 and ceases to be in effect at the end of the Winter semester of the academic year 2024 – 2025.

On the basis of Article (4) of the relevant Legislation, it is noted that "the above accreditation is valid for the period provided by the provisions of the Law and is repeated every five (5) years and that the procedure starts at the request of the institution which must, and shall be submitted at least sixteen (16) months before the expiry of the previous accreditation".

On the basis of Article (17) (3) (f) during the period of validity of the Accreditation, the Agency acting of its own motion, may examine whether the criteria continue to be met and if they are not met, then the Agency shall revoke the Accreditation, and immediately inform the institution concerned.

Additionally, the Medical School should pay attention and improve all the assessment areas included in the final feedback report, based on the EEC's recommendations marked with 'should'.

(Professor Mary Ioannidou-Koutselini)
President of the Board of the
Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in
Higher Education

Date: 11 December 2019