

**Reaccreditation of Study Programs of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina”**

**Program of Health Care Education (Master)**

**Program of Midwifery (Bachelor)**

**The accreditation process**

An Expert Team (ET) visited University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina” (referred thereafter as UP) on May 23, 2017 to perform evaluations for reaccreditation of the following study programs:

- Midwifery (Bachelor)
- Education in Health care (MSc)

**The Expert Team included:**

- Prof. Dr. Danica Zeleznik/ University College of Health Sciences Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia
- Prof. Dr. Helvi Kyngäs, University of Oulu, Finland

**The Team was supported by members of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency:**

- Prof. Dr. Blerim Rexha, State Quality Council - KAA
- Ms. Furtuna Mehmeti, Acting Director, Expert for Evaluation and Accreditation - KAA
- Mr. Shkelzen Gerxhaliu, Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring – KAA

**Site visit**

The site visit took place on May 23, 2017, at UP, Faculty of Medicine and was organized as follows:

- Meeting with management
- Meeting with responsible persons for the study programs (curriculum, teaching and research)
- Visit of facilities and infrastructure
- Meeting with academic staff
- Meeting with students
- Consultation of expert team with KAA officer

- Closing meeting with UP management

**The report is based on:**

- Self-evaluation report 2017
- Meetings and discussions which took place during the site visit
- The Code of Good Practice, Guidelines for Site-Visit and Guidelines for Experts (academic programs) provided by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency
- Site-visit of the facilities

The Expert Team (ET) wishes to acknowledge the hospitality of the Faculty Management, presentations of the Faculty Management and Programme Organizers and the pleasant and productive working environment.

**Introductory Meeting with Faculty of Medicine Management**

The members of the management committee have been appointed in March 2016. The vision of the new team is to create a medical school of excellence.

**Education in Health Care, Master program**

The program correspond with mission and vision of faculty to educate well-prepared professionals to work as a teacher in health care institutions, in UP, in vocational education schools, in competence centre, in research institutions and as an consultant in health care. There is the need of educated teachers in health care and this program is planned to face that need. It is also argued that other institutions do not have program for teaching educators in health care. To offer high quality education it is needed teachers who have pedagogical education and competencies. The target group of program is the people who have bachelor degree in Nursing, Midwifery and Physiotherapy.

**Academic Program and Student Management**

**Structure of the Program**

The program has 120 ECTS divided into four semester (each 30 ECTS). There is 31,24% of academic studies, 41,66% professional studies and 21% practice. The allocation of ECTS between theoretical and practical studies and independent work is proper. All courses should have at least 3 ECTS. However, there is courses with 2,5 ECTS. With comments of draft of ET report it was sent modified program where all courses carry at least 3 ECTS.

The aim of Master program in Health Care Education is to educate the teachers who have pedagogical competencies. After they graduate they have understanding for example didactic models, law of education, psychology of education, care management, school organization and quality management, competencies to develop curriculum and evaluation and to do research. These all are knowledge which teachers need. There is also teaching training. The students must plan and demonstrate at least 30 teaching hours. The content of program is good and gives to students opportunity to learn important theoretical and practical issues concerning to pedagogical qualifications and teaching.

Practical training is organized in the secondary school. Professional teaching staff in those institutions are mentors of the students. In self-evaluation report it was argued that practical training will be organized in the Kosovo educational institutions in health professionals (third

level). It is important that students are able to practice teaching in the context of health professional education.

The courses descriptions, learning outcomes, learning and teaching methods are very well described. Literature of courses are proper.

The responsibility people of program tell that there is 7-10 students in process to finish master thesis and graduate in September. It seems that program is productive.

**Recommendations:**

1. All courses must have at least 3 ECTS.
2. It is highly recommended to have teaching training in educational institutions in health professionals

**Teaching, learning and assessment methods**

It is mentioned to use variety of teaching methods (lecture based learning, problem based learning, simulation based learning, practice based learning, reflective learning, research based learning and e-learning). These all are modern and commonly used methods. It is used all methods and considered which methods are the best in each courses to support learning outcomes. This was also assured in meeting with teachers. Assessment methods are also well described and they are logical with learning outcomes. It is presented assessment methods and how many per cent each of them are from whole assessment. e.g. exam 50%, homework 30% and group presentation 20%). The evaluation of the most of courses are based on many different assessment practices which is very good. Also, the students told to be very satisfied with teaching and assessment methods.

**Staff**

The responsibility person of program has PhD degree in public health. The teachers of program have qualifications for example in pedagogy, law, psychology, medicine and three in nursing. There is also international teacher. The multi-disciplinary academic staff is needed for this kind of program.

There is one serious concern. The students told to ET that their studies are delayed at least two months because there is not teachers enough. They explained that teachers have other obligations and they do not have time to teach them. Because of this there is not organized teaching training yet even it should be going on already.

**Recommendation:**

1. It must be employed permanent staff to assure the quality of teaching and to organized teaching as it is scheduled.

**Research and international co-operation**

There is not clear research plan. There is international collaborators with whom it is going to be developed international project including the research. It was argued that there is active international collaboration with University of Applied Science Munster.

**Recommendation:**

1. It should be developed research plan focusing in 2-3 research topics for example in teachers' education in health care. The students should be involved in research and they could do their master thesis in those projects. This kind of research also strengthen the evidence based health care teaching in Kosovo.

### **Space and equipments**

The university provides sufficient spaces for teaching and learning. All infrastructure for theoretical part such like lecture rooms, computer labs and library are good enough. There is available databases for journals and books. The students are satisfied with space and equipments,

### **Quality Management**

The Faculty has organized and defined Quality management. It is collected the data by questionnaire each year for all academic staff, other staff and students to evaluate the quality. Also, there is transparent system to develop and evaluate the programs. The students assure that quality management system works well.

### **Expert teams' conclusion:**

**Accreditation recommendation: It is recommended the reaccreditation of master program of health care education for three years.**

## **Bachelor Program of Midwifery – reaccreditation**

The program correspond with mission and principles of faculty of medicine. In Kosovo there is insufficient number of midwiferies. This program is needed from the both perspectives society and development of health care system in country.

During the side visit it was recognized that Albanian and English version of self-evaluation report is different.

### **Academic Program and Student Management**

#### **Structure of the Program**

The program for Bachelor in Midwifery comply with the European Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (20005/36/EC). The program is divided into six semesters (each with 60 ECTS) and the duration of study is three academic years (180 ECTS). All courses carry at least 3 ECTS points. The program includes 10% from 180 ECTS elective courses which are according to recommendation. The ECTS and the number of hours of theoretical studies and self-study hours are allocated correctly.

Clinical training is organized well and students have there some midwives to mentor them. The number of clinical training hours is 1460 which is not correct according to EU directives. There is many subjects where is laboratory practice and responsibility person of program was unable to explain what the students do during those laboratory hours. However, it was pointed out that in Albanian version the hours are different way.

The title of subject are proper. But the content of courses and learning outcomes for program are general level. Teachers who are midwives agree with this. Also, the learning outcomes for clinical training are very general level compared to that what is said in 20005/36/EC. Good point is that it is prepared book for midwifery clinical skills and it is also indicated that book is used to sign the students' clinical skills. This information does not exist

in program but it was told to ET (both teachers and students) and shown to ET the clinical skills book.

With comments of ET report draft it was sent new program where clinical training hours are correct. There is also done corrections the learning outcomes to be more focused on midwifery's necessary skills and knowledge.

### **Recommendations:**

1. The content and learning outcomes of courses should be focused in midwifery knowledge and skills not general knowledge and skills.
2. The number of clinical hours with direct contact with patients must be at least 2300 hours.
3. It should be considered why there is needed laboratory hours in theoretical courses e.g. in English, maintain health, anatomy and anatomic pathology.

### **Teaching and learning**

It is mentioned to use variety of teaching methods (lecture based learning, problem based learning, simulation based learning, practice based learning, reflective learning, research based learning and e-learning). The academic teaching staff argued to use these methods. These all are modern and commonly used methods.

It is presented assessment methods and how many per cent each of them are from whole assessment. (e.g. practical test 10%, finals test 70%, seminars 5% etc). The evaluation of the most of courses are based on many different assessment practices which is very good. The students expressed to be very satisfied with teaching and assessment methods.

### **Staff**

There is lack of staff who are midwives. In program there is three teachers who are midwifery with master degree. There is also 6 clinical mentors who are midwives. According to law and KAA there should be three persons with PhD from field of program. Also, according to European standards (2005/36/ES) the midwifery program must be taught by teaching staff who are midwives (master degree in midwifery or health sciences) as well as the director of the program has to be midwifery with academic title (PhD degree in midwifery or health sciences). These criterion are not fulfilled.

Faculty of Medicine in Prishtina had a Tempus program of Master's Degree in Nursing and Midwifery and it is supposed to graduate 25 people by the end of 2016. But there is any graduated from this program yet. Also, e-learning facilities offer good opportunity to have competent teachers from abroad because they can teach by webinar.

### **Recommendations:**

1. It **MUST** employ the competent staff to fulfill European standards (2005/36/ES) of academic staff qualification.
2. To consider to use actively e-learning facilities to have more competent teachers in program.

### **Research and international co-operation**

There is no research focusing on midwifery. The academic staff who are teaching in program are active in research but they are not doing research of midwifery. The mentor of diploma

work is medical doctor instead of person with background in midwifery. The commentor is midwifery which is good. It is need to develop the research in midwifery area.

There is some international collaboration and via e-learning it is started some teaching collaboration which is good.

**Recommendation:**

1. It should be prepared research plan for midwifery research as soon as possible.
2. It should continue international contracts to assure the development of midwifery program, to get more midwiferies to teach and to develop research.

**Space and equipments**

In general level the university provides sufficient spaces for teaching and learning. All infrastructure for theoretical part such like lecture rooms and computer labs library are good. There is available databases for journals and books. The students expressed to be satisfied with these.

In laboratory the most of beds and manikins are old fashion and they do not cover the areas which are needed to practice midwifery skills in laboratory settings. The management told to ET that university is going to order new manikins and other models which are absolutely needed. Also, the teachers who teach in laboratory midwifery skills expect to have new manikins and models to train students better.

**Recommendations:**

1. The Laboratory Training need new beds, manikins, models and equipments to train skills of midwifery as soon as possible.

**Quality Management**

The Faculty has organized and defined Quality management. It is collected the data by questionnaire each year for all academic staff, other staff and students to evaluate the quality. Also, there is transparent system to develop and evaluate the programs. The students are satisfied with quality management system.

**Conclusion:**

Accreditation Decision: The program for Bachelor in Midwifery **is NOT recommend accreditation.** The qualifications of responsibility person and other academic staff does not fulfill EU requirements. Also, the content of program must be focused on midwifery. There is not proper equipments for laboratory training to train midwifery skills.

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