

External Evaluation Report

of the „GJILANI College“

Programme Evaluation of the Bachelor Programme General Nursing

Site visit on the 8th of May 2017

Expert Team

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Coordinators of KAA

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The Task: “College “Gjilani” is applying for the accreditation of Nursing Bachelor program.

The site visit was on the 8th of May 2017 at the college in main campus in Gjilan. The site visit started in the morning with meeting with the management of the college at 9.00-9.30; the meeting with responsible persons for the study program at 9.30-11.30; the ET and KAA consultation at 12.30-12.45 and closing meeting with management. After that it was tour to facilities.

The report is based on:

- Self-evaluation report (submitted April 6, 2017)
- Meeting with the Management of College and extensive discussion between the responsibility persons of program and the expert team, and representatives of KAA
- The Code of good practice and guidelines for site-visit, provided by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency
- Site-visit of the facilities
- The comment of „GJILANI College“draft report

The College Gjilani submitted a detailed Self-evaluation Report (SER 1) as the central document for the accreditation of the study programme of General Nursing. The Self-evaluation report is 135 pages. On pages from 17 to 71 there is the description of general Nursing program in bachelor level. The other part of the report is general information about college. The SER enabled the expert team to get understanding of the current situation in the college rather than focusing in nursing.

The expert team would like to express its gratefulness to the management of the College „GJILANI“ in Gjilan and to the representatives of the study programme for organization of the visit. Also, the experts warmly thank the KAA and especially Ms Furtuna Mehmeti and Mr Shkelzen Gerxhaliu for their outstanding support and cooperation before, during and after the visit.

Introduction

The College „GJILANI“ in Gjilan was established in 2006 as a Private Higher Education Institution. Institution in the quality of judicial subject is registered at the Ministry of Trade and Industry / Kosovo Business Registration Agency, Certificate of Registration No. 70372764 on 02.08.2006 (date of incorporation 27.01.2010): College “Gjilani” - Limited liability company .

BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMME IN GENERAL NURSING

Mission Statement

Academic Nursing Programme is not correspond to the institution’s mission. The mission statement addresses the importance of higher education for youth and scientific research on a national and also international level with its impact on the society of Kosovo. The mission statement is very general and does not relate to the nursing area. During the site visit it was emphasized that mission is to have more students.

Academic Programme and Student Management

The management College „GJILANI“ in Gjilan and academic staff clearly described why the Bachelor of nursing programme is needed and how the program would contribute to higher education in Kosovo and especially in region where the College is located. It is argued in self-evaluation report and during the site visit that there is in municipality of Gjilani and in the region of Anamorava university and college but any of them does not offer nursing program. It is obvious that there is insufficiency of the nursing staff with bachelor degree as well as the need for upgrading their formal competencies to the degree in Bachelor of General Nursing.

The aim of nursing program is prepare a new generation of high level nurses who are able to respond the needs of health care to conduct of general nursing. The main objective is to offer a modern curriculum and to create high quality conditions for theoretical and practical studies. The aim of program itself is appropriate for degree of Bachelor in Nursing. However, the content, aims and learning outcomes of courses are not very well focused on nursing. They are more medically orientated than nursing orientated.

Structure of the Program

The program is divided into six semesters (each with 60 ECTS) and the duration of study is three academic years, equivalent with 180 ECTS. All courses carry ECTS points (at least 3 ECTS each) and 1 ECTS is equivalent with 30 hours. In program it is

allocated correct number of hours for clinical training, theoretical studies and students' self-study. The numbers of ECTS fulfill the criterion.

According to European Directive and Bologna process-nursing program in bachelor level should have at least 4600 hours (2300 hours for clinical part/1/3 theoretical part and students' self-study). European directive requires that there should be at least 50% of clinical training with direct contact with patients, which means at least 2300 hours. The program fulfills this requirement. In program, there is clinical training in the first year 795 hours, second year 1080 and third year 1065 hours (total 2940 hours). However, in the first year there is only 30 hours for laboratory training which is too less to prepare students to practice in clinical area. This is also patient safety issue. The students must be well prepared for the first clinical training with direct contact with patients. During the site visit it was argued that there is enough clinical mentors but we did not get evidence of that.

There should be 18 ECTS (10%) elective subjects according to European Directive and its amendment. The program includes that number of elective subjects. However, the content of elective subjects cannot be for example such like nursing practicum, hygiene and infection control principles, nursing care in operation block and nursing care in neurology. Those need to be obligatory. Also other elective subjects than mentioned here should be changed according to requirements which subjects have to be obligatory and which can be elective.

The most of the literature is old and need to be updated. There is a lot of relevant updated literature available for nursing program. In College there is electronic books and library where is nursing books available.

The plan is to take 50 students each year.

Recommendations:

1. Nursing program should be prepared according to the European Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications (2005/36/EC, with amendment 2013/55/EU) and according to EFN (European Federation Nurses competences) and Bologna process.

Didactic concept - teaching and learning methods

Forms of teaching are lectures, exercises, presentations, assignments, role play, seminar works, group discussions, quiz and study cases. These all are proper methods for nurses' education. However, in the curriculum it is used in all courses those teaching methods. We wonder if it is critically considered which are the best methods for each courses. Evaluation methods (assignment, exam and active participation) and passing criteria are clearly indicated in the self-evaluation report.

Recommendation:

1. It should be critically considered which teaching and learning methods are the best for each course from the both perspectives teaching (teachers) and learning (students) to achieve learning outcomes.

Staff

Any of program staff has PhD or MA degree in nursing. Only one has bachelor degree in nursing. 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 nursing program must have the teaching staff who are nurses (master degree in nursing or health sciences) as well as the director of the program has to be a nurse with academic title (PhD degree in nursing or health sciences). These criteria are not fulfilled.

On comments of „GJILANI College“ from the Draft of External Evaluation Report it is argued that there is at least 6 members of the academic staff who have a bachelor degree in nursing and a masters in medical management. But during the site visit there was any evidence of this even all staff and qualifications were checked one by one.

Recommendation:

1. Qualifications of academic staff must fulfill the criteria mentioned above.

Research

There is mentioned the following three research topics in nursing program: 1) Basic concepts on the individual health, disease and the role of the nurse in basic care, 2) The functioning of the health information system in the identification and surveillance of infectious disease in Kosovo and 3) stress management in work. These topics are important from the perspective of nursing. There is also presented proper budget for these research topics. The institution has research strategy. Nursing research projects are supposed to be as a part of that research strategy. It is also planned that students will do their diploma work in these research projects which is very good.

Space and Equipment

The School provides sufficient and proper spaces for theoretical teaching and learning. All infrastructure for theoretical part for example such as lecture rooms, computer lab and library are good.

The Laboratory for Practical Training is located in one room. There are four beds with two manikins for general nursing and two for emergency medicine. There are also many other models.

Quality Management

The school has a well-organized and defined Quality assurance system at the college level. Academic council has a fundamental role to assure quality. There is named role of a quality officer, governing body, management board and heads of programs to

develop and assure the quality of education. All academic staff and students are also involved to evaluate the quality and to give feedback of it. In self-evaluation report it is clearly described the procedures for reviewing study programs and their quality.

Conclusion – recommendation by the Expert Panel:

Accreditation Decision: The program for Bachelor in General Nursing is not recommend accreditation. The qualifications of academic staff does not fulfill to European standards (2005/36/ES) EU requirements, law and KAA.

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