

**Learning and Sharing Points  
Medical Education Round  
7 Dec 2006 7.30am CRC Auditorium**

**"Accreditation of Basic Medical Education – Why, What and How?"**

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**Definitions of Accreditation**

- A quality assurance process in which the evaluation report of the institution/program is submitted to an accrediting authority.
- Purpose: to certify whether an institution or program qualifies for a certain status.
- status may have implications for the institution itself (example permission to operate) and/or its students (example eligibility for grants ) and /or its graduate (example for certain employment).

**Accreditation procedures**

- Building data collection system for periodic institutional self study & analysis
- Institutional report on areas of strengths, concerns & opportunities & actions being undertaken
- External validation of internal self study, collegial approach in conducting visit; discuss with relevant stakeholders: students, faculty, administrators; visit facilities
- Objective reporting, summary on public domain

**Accreditation Decisions**

Accreditation is usually conferred when the accrediting authority is confident that:

- The academic standards have been attained
- The learning opportunities offered to students are of commendable quality
- The institution has demonstrated good management of the standards and quality

**Responsibilities Of Medical Schools**

- desire of medical schools to self-impose quality standards that are higher than national or international norms.

- Accreditation process of the professional body is viewed as a validation exercise of the internal QA system of the school
- continuously monitor and adjust performance to meet self imposed increasingly higher standards
- willingly submit to external scrutiny and international benchmarking at any time in the spirit of transparency and mutual trust.

#### **Learning Points from Q & A**

1. Privately funded Medical Schools in Malaysia are given provisional accreditation. For research purposes, they have to apply for research funds or enter into a joint-collaboration.
2. Benchmark of accreditation might not be so ideal because of doctors moving out of 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries to 1<sup>st</sup> world countries to work.