ESG and WFME standards in accreditation of the medical higher education institution

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Correlation of International Standards

IAAR Standards for the accreditation of higher education institutions were developed based on the ESG, whereas IAAR Standards for the accreditation of medical higher education institutions were elaborated based on the WFME standards, which bear high importance in the medical education system in Kazakhstan. Both international standards (ESG and WFME) are very important for IAAR and the QA system of the country in general.

However, there might be some issues, since all higher education institutions should correspond to the ESG. For the agencies assessing both medical and non-medical higher education institutions and programmes it might cause some difficulties to harmonise their national standards with both the ESG and WFME standards.

Interrelation between ESG Part 1 and IAAR Standards of Institutional Accreditation of HEIs / Medical HEIs

ESG Standards	Evaluation Criteria of Institutional Accreditation of HEIs	Evaluation Criteria of Institutional Accreditation of Medical HEIs
1.1 Policy for quality assurance	Standard 7 «Strategic development and quality assurance» (3 criteria)	Standard 17 «Management and Administration» (1 criteria)
1.2 Design and approval of programmes	Standard 9 «Development and approval of educational program» (8 criteria)	Standard 10 «Mission and Outcomes» (4 criteria) Standard 11 «Educational programs» (11 criteria)
1.3 Student-centered learning, teaching and assessment	Standard 10 « Student-centered system of learning, teaching and assessment» (8 criteria)	Standard 11 «Educational programs» (5 criteria) Standard 12 «Students assessment» (8 criteria) Standard 13 «Students» (2 criteria) Standard 16 «Evaluation of the educational program» (1 criteria)
1.4. Student admission, progression, recognition and certification	Standard 11 «Students» (9 criteria)	Standard 10 «Mission and Outcomes» (1 criteria) Standard 13 «Students» (2 criteria) Standard 12 «Students assessment» (2 criteria) Standard 16 «Evaluation of the educational program» (4 criteria) Standard 18. «Continuous improvement» (2 criteria)
1.5 Teaching staff	Standard 12 « Teaching staff and teaching efficiency» (6 criteria)	Standard 14 «Academic personnel/teachers» (9 criteria)
1.6 Learning resources and student support	Standard 15 «Learning resources and student support system» (5 criteria)	Standard 15 «Educational Resources» (11 criteria)
1.7 Information management	Standard 16 «Information administration and reporting» (6 criteria)	Standard 15 «Educational Resources» (1 criteria) Standard 16 «Evaluation of the educational program» (4 criteria)
1.8 Public information	Standard 17 «Public information» (2 criteria)	Chapter 7 «The principles of the specialized accreditation standards» (1 criteria) Standard 1 «Mission and Outcomes» (1 criteria)
1.9 On-going monitoring and periodic review of programmes	Standard 9 «Development and approval of educational program» (4 criteria)	Chapter 9 «Follow-up procedures» (1 criteria) Standard 1 «Mission and Outcomes» 1.4 Learning Outcomes Standard 3. «Assessment of students» (1 criteria) Standard 6. «Educational resources» (2 criteria) Standard 7. «Assessment of educational program» (2 criteria) Standard 8. «Management and Administration» (3 criteria) Standard 9. «Continuous improvement» (5 criteria)
1.10 Cyclical external quality assurance	Standard 7 «Strategic development and quality assurance» (1 criteria) Standard 17 «Public informing» (1 criteria)	Standard 18. «Continuous improvement» (1 criteria)

As can be seen from the tables, the WFME and ESG Standards are based on common principles, such as the responsibility of higher education institutions for the quality of education provided; support for the development of a culture of quality; accountability of the needs and expectations of students and other stakeholders.

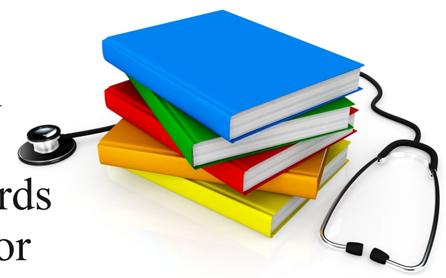
Objectives

This poster gives an example of handling the issues of working with several international standards (ESG and WFME) in the national context. It raises some contradictory elements in the QA system, where the accreditation of medical higher education institutions and programs should take into account both international standards (ESG and WFME).

INDEPENDENT AGENCY FOR ACCREDITATION AND RATING

Content of the ESG, WFME and IAAR Standards

ESG	WFME Standards for Basic Medical Education	IAAR Standards for institutional accreditation of HEIs	IAAR Standards for institutional accreditation of *medical* HEIs
Part 1 Standards for internal quality assurance	1. Mission and outcomes	1. Strategic development and quality assurance	1. Mission and outcomes
1.1 Policy for quality assurance	2. Educational programme	2. Administration and management	2. Educational programme
1.2 Design and approval of programmes	3. Assessment of students	3. Development and approval of educational program	3. Assessment of students
1.3 Student-centred learning, teaching and assessment	4. Students	4. Student-centered system of learning, teaching and assessment	4. Student
1.4 Student admission, progression, recognition and certification	5. Academic staff/faculty	5. Students	5. Academic Staff/Faculty
1.5 Teaching staff	6. Educational resources	6. Teaching staff and teaching efficiency	6. Educational recourses
1.6 Learning resources and student support	7. Programme evaluation	7. Research work	7. Programme evaluation
1.7 Information management	8. Governance and administration	8. Finance	8. Governance and administration
1.8 Public information	9. Continuous renewal	9. Learning resources and student support system	9. Continuous renewal
1.9 On-going monitoring and periodic review of programmes		10. Information administration and reporting	
1.10 Cyclical external quality assurance		11. Public information	



It should be noted that the analysis of the interrelation with the ESG standards indicated that the IAAR criteria for standards of institutional and specialized accreditation of medical education are aligned with the ESG criteria.

IAAR developed a set of standards of institutional and specialized accreditation of basic medical and postgraduate education in accordance with the international WFME standards in 2012 and 2014. IAAR has harmonized accreditation standards and criteria of medical education with the revised international standards of WFME to improve the quality of basic medical education and it also takes into account ESG throughout the accreditation procedures of medical schools.