



January 21 2019

**Re: Recognition of Overseas Medical Studies by the Ministry of Health.**

**Due to the tendency to maintain adequate level of medicine in israel, and accordingly – to incentivize medical students to study in medical schools of adequate standard, the medical students and those who are to study medicine overseas are advised to practice the profession in the country, because when they are to choose a medical school overseas, they are to take into consideration the following specified details.**

**This document is in addition to the required standards in order to obtain approval for taking the licensing exam for those who have studied medicine overseas as specified earlier. ([see here](#))**

As will be specified later in the extent of the overseas studies evaluation procedure, prior to providing approval for taking the exam, it has been decided to put a significant emphasis on meeting the medical schools accreditation procedure requirements and the hospitals in which the studies have been carried out. It has been decided to distinguish under this context between those who have already begun their studies and those who have yet to do so. Further more it has been decided to add a clinical chapter to the licensing exam to the entirety of candidates.

**A. Background – accreditation to schools and medical schools and to the hospitals.**

**Accreditation of medical schools** – as of 2018 the accreditation process has been implemented into the accreditation process of medical schools worldwide in the initiative of WFME (World Federation for Medical Education). The objective of the development is to guarantee the standard of teaching in medical schools. In this



extent, medical schools worldwide will be able to go through a recognition procedure by the academic bodies authorized by the WFME in their country.

**Accreditation of hospitals providing clinical teaching** – the objective of the hospitals' accreditation procedure is to improve and guarantee the hospitals' standards. The accreditation procedures are carried out by various bodies, and they are not identical as far as their content and quality are concerned.

Following is the list of organizations recognized by the Ministry of Health to carry out overseas hospital accreditation concerning the clinical training recognition of those hospitals:

- USA- (JOINT COMMISSION INTERNATIONAL) JCI
- Canada (ACCREDITATION CANADA) AC
- England (HEALTH & CARE STANDARTS) CHKS
- Australia (THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF HEALTH CARE STANDARTS) ACHS
- Germany DNV GL

### **B. Those expected to begin the medical studies as of 2019 and onwards**

Overseas medical students commencing their studies as of 2019 and onwards, will be able to apply for taking a governmental medicine exam in israel, provided they studied all the medical studies years in medical schools meeting on of the following standards:

1. The medical school is located in one of the OECD countries;
2. The medical school has gone through a WFME accreditation process, and the school in which the clinical studies have been conducted has gone through accreditation by a recognized body as specified in the aforementioned chapter A.



As a general rule, a student commencing his studies as of 2019 and onwards in an overseas medical school which does not meet at least one of the aforementioned standard requirements, and will apply for a governmental medical exam in Israel, his application will be rejected out of hand.

The head of the health professions licensing department in the Ministry of Health is authorized to make an exception from the aforementioned rules as specified in the following:

- To recognize a medical school not meeting one of the requirements specified above, provided he has come across special circumstances indicating that the standard of studies in it meet the acceptable standard in Israel.
- Not to recognize the medical school despite it has met one or more of the aforementioned standards, and this provided reasonable concerns rise concerning the studies standard in the school does not meet the acceptable standard in Israel. An exception as stated is to apply to those who have commenced their studies in the aforementioned school in the year following to making the exception.
- Exeptions as stated will be published in the Ministry of Health website.

### **C. Those who commenced their medical studies prior to 2019**

Concerning overseas medical school graduates who have commenced their studies prior to the 2019 school year, their files will be examined according to the current acceptable standards and are published on the Ministry of Health website as stated. Additionally, provided and the medical school or hospital in which the clinical teaching is taking place have successfully gone through an accreditation process, whether prior to the school commencement or whether during – it will be taken under consideration at the time of granting approval for the graduate to take the governmental medical exam in Israel.



#### **D. The governmental medical licensing exam**

As of 2019 the clinical portion in the licensing exam will be expanded and this to ensure the overseas medical school graduates are meeting the adequate clinical standards as customary in Israel's health system, and this concerning the entirety of examinee.

Sincerely,

Prof. Shaul Yatziy,

Head of the Medical Professions Licensing Department,