

# **Quality Assurance in Veterinary Medical Education in Egypt: Current Situation and Its Enhancement for National and International Accreditation**

*Prof Dr Hussein M. El-Maghraby*

Former Member, Strategic Planning Committee of Veterinary Medical Sector, Ministry of Higher Education, Egypt  
Executive Director, Quality Assurance and Accreditation Deanship, Al Jouf University, Saudi Arabia

# VME in Egypt: Profile

- 13 Veterinary Medical Faculties.
- Established between **1935 – 2007**.
- VMF, Cairo University is the oldest one ( since 1827 – joined Foad University **1935**).
- VMF, Sohag University is the newly established one - **2007**.
- Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes ( Diploma, Master, PhD).

# VME in Egypt: Profile

- More than 20000 enrolled students.
- Graduating about 3000 veterinarians annually.
- All of Faculties are running 5 years undergraduate programme ( Veterinarians, General Practitioners).
- Two faculties ( Benha & Zagazig universities) are running also another programme ( Food Hygiene – 2006, Poultry - 2009).

# Establishment of Internal Quality System in VME - Background

- All Faculties engaged in processes of Quality Assurance and establishment of QAU( 4- 7 years).
- Eight Faculties got QAAP projects (2004-2007).
- Capacity Building and training on the concept of quality Assurance and Accreditation.
- Defining of Mission, vision, goals and objectives.
- Preparation of courses' and programmers' specifications and reports and Faculty Annual reports.

# Establishment of Internal Quality System in VME - Background

- DE's to 8 Veterinary Medical faculties ( 62 %).
- None of these Faculties considered ready to receive an accreditation visit from the first visit.
- Faculties engaged with CIQAAP projects , Ministry of Higher Education ( 2008- Now).
- Some Faculties are preparing to apply for national accreditation Agency ( NAQA AE).

# Developmental Engagement Site Visits (DE's)

- QAAP , Ministry of Egyptian Higher Education (2004-2008) - Standards
  - Effectiveness of Quality Management and enhancement,
  - Academic standards of educational programmes,
  - Quality of learning opportunities,
  - Research and other scholarly activity and
  - Community involvement.

(Source: QAAP Handbook, 2007).

**Essential Requirements for Quality  
Enhancement & Accreditation  
in Vet Med Education**

# Curriculum Revision

- There is no way that a single veterinary college can adequately cover all of veterinary medicine or even a large part of it (Pritchard, 1989).
- Most of the veterinary curricula in Egypt needs formal revision.
- The curriculum must be redesigned on the type of graduate we are aiming at producing in Egypt, a clinician, a scientist, a food hygienist, a combination of all three, or something else.



## Curriculum Revision (Continue):

- The design, content and delivery of the current curricula for the programmes should be thoroughly reviewed.
- There is a risk that cumulative minor modifications over a number of years produced substantial changes to veterinary programs without formal review.
- Reduction in teaching of the basic theory with greater emphasis on developing problem solving skills and practical competence.

## Curriculum Revision (Continue):

- Use of multidisciplinary approaches, and emphasis on improved communication skills .
- To ensure that there is no obvious gap between knowledge and skills gained by the students and the needs of the labor market.
- Process of validation of new courses and annual monitoring and periodic review of existing provision should be thoroughly reviewed.

# Students Questionnaires

- Developing of sensing mechanism and negative feedback loops (organization thermostats) to move towards institutional goals.
- Incremental adjustments to the processes and procedures.
- Introduce National graduating student survey.
- Increase awareness among students.
- Staff satisfaction questionnaires and reports should also applied.

# Improvement of QLO - Staff

- Academic staff and technicians numbers and qualifications must be sufficient.
- A comprehensive programme for staff development and evaluation.
- Employment conditions and benefits should be attractive enough to ensure quality and continuity.
- Participation in scholarly activities.

# Improvement of QLO

## - Facilities & Equipments

- Facilities must include:
  - Administrative offices, staff offices and research laboratories.
  - A full-service teaching hospital with appropriate support services.
  - Facilities for the housing of animals for teaching and research.
  - Adequate teaching, laboratory, research and clinical equipments.
  - Safety of personnel and animals must be assured.

# Improvement of QLO - Clinical Resources

- Must include
  - Normal and diseased animals of domestic and exotic species.
  - In-hospital patients, outpatients, field service and herd health/production medicine programmes.
  - Sufficient numbers of medical and surgical patients on campus.
  - Additional extramural experience permissible subject to appropriate supervision.
  - Students must be active participants.
  - Must have effective data retrieval systems.

# Improvement of QLO - Library & Information Resources

- Access to information resources must be available .
- The library must be administered by a qualified librarians.
- Must have human and physical resources for the development of instructional materials.

# Research & Community Service

- Substantial research programmes of high quality that integrate with and strengthen the professional programme.
- There must be outcome measures assessments that ensure that the mission is being fulfilled, and these measures should feed back into programme improvement.



# Summary & Conclusion

- The Vet. Sector, MOHE and national accreditation agency should support establishment of Quality Assurance system.
- Faculty must develop and follow a mission statement
- MOHE and NAQAAE must ensure that Programs and institutions transformed from traditional to modern ones.
- There is a crucial need to reduce the number of the Veterinary Medical Faculties in Egypt - Integration ? , Avoid launching of new ones ?

# Summary & Conclusion

- Designing and implementation of a strategy linked with the labor market is essential.
- The number of the enrolled students in each college should be reduced - equivalent to available equipments & teaching /learning resources.
- Design, content and delivery of the current curricula for the programmes should be modified to ensure that it facilitate the attainment of ILOs.
- Attraction and development of well-qualified and skillful staff members.

# Summary & Conclusion

- The professional competence of the NAQAA should continue to develop and implement QS in VMFs.
- More professional selection of staff engaged in the quality system.
- More clear and specific national academic reference standards are essential to develop VME in Egypt.
- Specific and clear KPIs, benchmarks and quality indicators at the faculty level.
- Effective engagement with students, employers and professional bodies.
- More emphasis on the practical skills is essential.

**QUESTIONS?**

***Thank you***