Updates on International Activities: ECFMG, ACGME, ACGME-I, and ABMS-I
September 26, 2018

Ronald R. Blanck, DO
Chair, Board of Trustees, ECFMG
Chairman and Partner, Martin, Blanck & Associates
Today’s Topics

• About ECFMG® & FAIMER®
• Enhancing Medical Education
  o FAIMER’s Education Programs
  o ECFMG’s Accreditation 2023 Initiative
  o ECFMG’s GEMx
• Enhancing Evaluation of Physician Qualifications
  o ECFMG’s Electronic Portfolio of International Credentials (EPICSM)
• Questions & Discussion
Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates + Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research

Partnersing to Improve Medical Education and Health Care Worldwide
About ECFMG

• Non-profit
• Private, non-governmental
• Established in 1956
• Founded to evaluate international medical graduates (IMGs) for entry into U.S. graduate medical education
  o “ECFMG Certification”
• Enhances medical education and promotes quality health care worldwide
About FAIMER

• Non-profit foundation of ECFMG
• Established in 2000
• Enhances world health through education
  o Trains health professions educators
  o Conducts research
  o Builds data resources on medical education
• Supports ECFMG in enhancing medical education and promoting quality health care worldwide
About ECFMG & FAIMER
Areas of Expertise

ECFMG

• Physician credentials related to medical education, training, and licensure
• Primary-source verifying authenticity of credentials
• Assessing clinical skills

FAIMER

• Medical education systems
• Education methods and assessment
• Accreditation
• Migration of physicians
• Contributions and quality of IMGs
Enhancing Medical Education: FAIMER Education Programs

Approach

• Develop effective model

• Partner with educators to share model

• Create opportunities for local experts to adapt, apply, and share knowledge
Enhancing Medical Education: FAIMER Education Programs

- For health professions educators
- Regional Institutes catalyze and sustain local curricular improvement
- Distance Learning in accreditation and assessment, in partnership with Keele University and CenMEDIC in UK
- Fellowships to earn master’s degrees in health professions education
- Alignment of educational programs to create pathways for development of outstanding leaders

~1,600 health professions educators trained worldwide
Enhancing Medical Education: FAIMER Education Programs

• Regional Institutes
  o Latin America, launched April 2018, Chile
  o Egypt, launches January 2019
  o Indonesia, launches February 2019
• FAIMER-Gulf Medical University, UAE, target launch September 2018
  • Two-year, distance learning MHPE program
• Saudi Commission for Health Specialties
  o Accreditation and assessment of all postgraduate training
  o 21-week, distance learning certificate program for staff
A program to facilitate educational exchange in medicine and other health professions

- Supports exchanges at global and regional levels
- Provides international perspectives in medical education
- Web-based system for applications and program management
- A network of participating institutions means more exchange opportunities for many students
- No cost to students
Enhancing Medical Education: ECFMG’s Accreditation 2023 Initiative
ECFMG 2010 Board Resolution

Applicants for ECFMG Certification must graduate from a medical school that has been “appropriately accredited,” and the accrediting agency must be “recognized.”

Takes effect in 2023

“Accreditation 2023”
Enhancing Medical Education: Accreditation 2023

Goals

• Catalyze international accreditation efforts
• Develop universally accepted standards for evaluating undergraduate medical education internationally
• Enhance quality of medical education
• Protect the public
Accreditation 2023
Process to Satisfy ECFMG Requirement

Meaningful Recognition Program

Recognition of Accrediting Agency

Accreditation of Medical School

Graduate Eligible for ECFMG Certification

World Federation for Medical Education (WFME)

Example:
Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medicine & Health Professions
• 10 agencies recognized as of June 2018

Example:
Saint Georges University, Grenada
Accreditation 2023
Phased Implementation

Phase 1 - 2018
ECFMG Web Resource to Help Students Make Better/More Informed Decisions on Medical School Selection

Phase 2 - 2020
World Directory
Includes the Accreditation Status of the Medical School

Phase 3 - 2021
Student/Graduate Reports Include Information on the Accreditation Status of the Medical School

Phase 4 - 2023
Eligibility for Certification is Tied to the Accreditation Status of the Medical School
Accreditation 2023
Phased Implementation

Phase 1-2018
ECFMG Web Resource to Help Students Make Better/More Informed Decisions on Medical School Selection

- Link to Accrediting Agencies recognized by WFME
- Link to NCFMEA listing of schools eligible for U.S. federal loans
- “Tips” on selecting a medical school
Accreditation 2023
Phased Implementation

Phase 2-2020

*World Directory*
Includes the Accreditation Status of the Medical School

- Medical Schools that are accredited by an organization recognized by WFME will be annotated in the *World Directory*
Accreditation 2023
Phased Implementation

Phase 3-2021
Student/Graduate Reports Include Information on the Accreditation Status of the Medical School

- Reports to residency programs, employers, state boards, and MRAs will include a statement on the accreditation status of the medical school. For example, “This Medical School was Accredited in [Year] by an Organization Recognized by WFME”
Accreditation 2023
Phased Implementation

Phase 4-2023
Eligibility for Certification is Tied to the Accreditation Status of the Medical School

- ECFMG will only certify graduates from a medical school accredited by an organization recognized by WFME
WFME Recognition Programme

• “Recognizes” accrediting agencies
  o WFME does *not* accredit medical schools
• Agencies include
  o Government entities
  o Entities authorized or recognized by the government
  o Entities authorized or recognized by a professional or scientific association
WFME Recognition Status of Accrediting Agencies

• 10 accrediting agencies recognized

• 5 accrediting agencies in process of WFME review

• 5 accrediting agencies recently initiated process

• 5 accrediting agencies close to application/in discussion with WFME

• 11 accrediting agencies in discussions with WFME, but with more distant plans
Enhancing Evaluation of Physician Qualifications

Electronic Portfolio of International Credentials (EPIC)

• Primary-source verification (PSV) of medical credentials for the world’s medical regulatory authorities (MRAs)

• **NO COST** to MRAs

• Helps ensure that physicians who migrate are qualified

• Web-based platform

• Brings ECFMG’s PSV expertise to organizations and physicians worldwide
Enhancing Evaluation of Physician Qualifications

A life-long career portfolio for physicians

• Secure, centralized, electronic storage of their primary-source verified credentials

• Ability to request copies of credentials and verification reports demonstrating their authenticity for organizations worldwide:
  o MRAs
  o Potential employers, such as hospitals or academic institutions

• Affordable: Physicians pay for services only when they need them
Enhancing Evaluation of Physician Qualifications

Credentials Verified

- Final Medical Diploma
- Alternate Graduation Document
- Final Medical School Transcript
- Student Medical School Transcript
- Pre-graduation Internship Document
- Postgraduate Medical Education Credential
- Specialist Qualification
- Advanced Degree in the Medical Sciences
- Medical Registration Certificates / Licenses to Practice Medicine
Enhancing Evaluation of Physician Qualifications

International MRA Clients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Australasia</th>
<th>North America &amp; The Caribbean</th>
<th>Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Canada*</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sint Maarten</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Swaziland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Canada uses a custom developed software program and not EPIC.
Questions & Discussion

Information

www.ecfmg.org | Facebook | Twitter | LinkedIn