



Global Directories of Education Institutions for Health Professions

- A partnership of WHO and the University of Copenhagen

The AVICENNA Directories will be a publicly accessible database of schools, colleges, and universities for education of academic professions in health. The database will, in sequence, include medical schools, schools of pharmacy, schools of public health and educational institutions of other academic health professions. For medical educational institutions, this will replace the World Directory of Medical Schools published by WHO since 1953.

Readers should know that the organisations and institutions responsible for the AVICENNA Directories have no authority to grant any form of recognition or accreditation to educational institutions and their programmes. Such procedures and decisions remain the exclusive prerogative of the national government concerned.

Where and how - and how well - the world's health professionals are educated

Why a new database?



The mission of the AVICENNA Directories will be to facilitate transparency in understanding of the human resources for health, and of the educational background of health professionals. Fundamental information will support improvement of the quality of education, especially by providing information on the quality of education and training and by guiding users to other sources containing more specific and detailed information.

The objectives of the AVICENNA Directories are primarily

- to be comprehensive
- to have a broad coverage
- to contain reliable and up-to-date information
- to be open and easily accessible

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Listing your institution

The new AVICENNA Directory for Medicine is now being established. Discussions concerning the Directories for the other academic health professions, such as pharmacy, and public health are progressing but are at an early stage.

Details on how to list academic institutions for other academic health profession will be included on this website as plans progress.

For medical schools

The AVICENNA Directory for Medicine will include educational institutions providing a complete or full programme of instruction leading to a basic medical qualification, that is, a qualification that permits the holder to obtain a license to practise as a medical doctor or physician. Not to be included are institutions teaching only specialised programmes, such as military medicine, osteopathic medicine and paediatrics if these specialised programmes differ significantly from a programme in basic medical education and do not lead to license to practise as a medical doctor or physician. Institutions teaching only stomatology and institutions teaching only unorthodox, traditional or alternative medicine are not to be included. To be listed in the Directory, schools must meet specific criteria, described in the policy document. Click [here](#) to access the policy document.

Up-to-date and additional information about the world's medical schools is being collected through an online questionnaire. To view the questionnaire for medical schools, click [here](#). The questionnaire is in English and it is not available in other languages.

The AVICENNA Secretariat is contacting national authorities to begin a systematic data collection process.

Institutions that meet the criteria for inclusion may register for and gain access to the online questionnaire.

When you click on the link to the registration page, you will be asked to provide your email address, name of institution and name of country. Upon submission you will receive an email with detailed instructions and a unique link for your institution to the online questionnaire.

Should you have difficulties completing the questionnaire online, please contact the AVICENNA Secretariat and we will arrange for a paper copy to be sent to your school.