

Document Title: Hospital Accreditation Policy	Ref No: HRD/HRS/FRU/002
Ownership: Health Regulation Department- Health Regulation Section	Effective Date: April 2014
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1. Purpose:

- 1.1. To align with the Dubai Health Sector Strategy goal on Quality; Strategic Objective 3.1: To maintain and improve quality standards at health facilities.
- 1.2. Ascertain safety and quality of health care services provided to the community members of Dubai.
- 1.3. Ensure compliance with the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) Hospital Regulation.
- 1.4. Ensure that all governmental and private hospitals in Dubai obtain and maintain international accreditation.
- 1.5. Ensure safety and quality of hospital services provided in the Emirate of Dubai.
- 1.6. Promote the reduction of risk to patients and healthcare professionals.
- 1.7. Promote Medical Tourism in the Emirate of Dubai through achieving international accreditation.
- 1.8. Ensure that all governmental and private hospitals in Dubai maintain continuous healthcare improvement programs in their respective organizations.
- 1.9. Accreditation results shall be used to identify opportunities to improve Dubai health care system and assist with evaluating the effectiveness of national quality and safety strategies.

2. Scope:

- 2.1. Hospitals subject to licensure under the DHA establishment law, including government, semi-government, private and hospitals operating in free zone areas excluding Dubai Healthcare City Authority (DHCCA).

3. Policy Statement:

- 3.1. DHA adopts the accreditation process for hospitals in the Emirate of Dubai as a tool to promote

quality and safety.

- 3.2. DHA continues to support the strategic objective of Dubai Strategic Plan 2015 that encourages international accreditation for hospital with the aim of improving the quality of health care services and health status of the population.
- 3.3. Government, semi-government, private and hospitals operating in free zone areas and licensed by DHA are required to be accredited by ISQua accredited organizations officially published on the ISQua website <http://www.isqua.org/accreditation/iap-awards>. The list is an example and not conclusive:
 - 3.3.1. Joint Commission International , JCI
 - 3.3.2. Accreditation Canada International, ACI
 - 3.3.3. Australian Council for Healthcare Standards International, ACHSI
- 3.4. Hospitals which fail to achieve accreditation status must cease to provide services as a hospital.
- 3.5. Hospitals that fail to achieve accreditation are encouraged by DHA to obtain accreditation by corresponding with the decision makers of the respective hospitals.
- 3.6. If the facility fails to obtain accreditation as a hospital by the accrediting bodies, there is an option of being downgraded to a Day Surgical Center or an Outpatient Center, depending on the criteria that is met.
- 3.7. DHA will take appropriate action in case accreditation of the hospital is not obtained after a certain time frame that is granted to the hospital to do so.
- 3.8. The hospital has to undergo renewal of the accreditation based on the validity of the accrediting agency.
- 3.9. Accreditation results are to be used to identify the various opportunities to improve Dubai's health care system and assist with evaluating the effectiveness of national quality and safety strategies.

4. Procedure and Responsibility:

- 4.1. N/A

5. Definitions:

- 5.1. ACI: Accreditation Canada International
- 5.2. ACHSI: Australian Council for Healthcare Standards International

- 5.3. DHA: Dubai Health Authority
- 5.4. DHCCA: Dubai Healthcare City Authority
- 5.5. HRD: Health Regulation Department
- 5.6. ISQua: International Society for Quality in Healthcare
- 5.7. JCI: Joint Commission International

6. Tools and Attachments:

- 6.1. N/A

7. References:

- 7.1. Dubai Strategic Plan Objective 2015; International Accreditation Program (IAP) awards by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua).
- 7.2. Quality and accreditation in health care services, A Global Review, Evidence and Information for Policy, Department of Health Service Provision, World Health Organization, Geneva Switzerland, <http://www.who.int>
- 7.3. Joint Commission International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals 3rd Edition 2007 by Joint Commission International Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois USA,
- 7.4. <http://www.jointcommissioninternational.com>