Session 2: Lessons from the evolution of competence based approaches to regulatory function

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Health professional regulation - facing challenges to acting in the public interest
Jamaica Perspectives

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“...experience of approaches (including competence-based approaches) to measuring & regulating safety & quality of practice – challenges & successes.”
Outline

1. Regional movements of all categories of health personnel
2. Accreditation agencies
3. Regulatory Councils, Jamaica
4. Measuring & regulating safety & quality of education & practice
5. Successes & challenges
The Caribbean
Caribbean (2)

1. 3 mainland states + islands
2. Population: approx. 7 million people
3. National laws
4. Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) last point of appeal for some countries, others still use the UK Privy Council
5. Fairly homogenous region
Health workforce

1. Traditional
   - Professional groups
   - Auxiliary or assistant groups

2. Education institutions
   - Colleges
   - Universities
The CARICOM Single Market & Economy (CSME)

- 1989 CSME established
- Free movement of goods, services, & of labour
- Harmonising social services (education, health, etc.)
- Harmonising standards for accreditation & equivalency

http://www.caricom.org/jsp/single_market/single_market_index.jsp?menu=csme
CSME (2) Movement of People

Regional Accreditation Agencies

1. Assess qualifications for equivalency, complementary to the free movement of persons
   - Caribbean Association of Medical Councils, 1998 (camcouncils.org)
   - Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medicine & Other Health Professions, 2003 (caam-hp.org)

2. Accreditation for vocational skills
   - Caribbean Association of National Agencies (CANTA, 2003)
   - Awards the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) Certificate
   - The CVQ is based on a competency-based approach to training, assessment & certification
CSME (3) Movement of People

Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENR), 1990

- Regional examination for registering graduates of approved Schools of Nursing
- Common set of competencies
- Managed by national Nursing Councils
Regulatory Councils, Jamaica

1. Dental
2. Medical (National & Caribbean Association of Medical Councils)
3. Nursing
4. Pharmacy
5. Professions Supplementary to Medicine
   - Audiology
   - Dietetics/Nutrition
   - Medical Laboratory Technology
   - Occupational Therapy
   - Public/Environmental Health Inspection
   - Physiotherapy
   - Radiography
   - Speech & Language Pathology
6. Veterinary Medicine
Regulatory Councils, Jamaica (2)

1. Mandate
2. Process
2. Structures
   - Governance & Management

Same Template
Quality Indicators/Pathways to the Registers

Education Institution Examination & Internship – endorsed by Council → REGISTERS → Council Examination

Education Institution Examination--endorsed by Council
Measuring & Regulating Safety & Quality of Education & Practice (2)

Accreditation Agencies

- Ministry of Health
  - Regulatory Councils

- Ministry of Education
  - National Council on Technical & Vocational Education & Training (NCTVET)

Accreditation
1. Institutions
2. Programmes
3. Professions
Measuring & Regulating Safety & Quality of Education & Practice (3)

Accreditation Process

‘...assures society & the health professions that graduates of accredited schools meet the education requirements for further training & the health care needs of the people in the Caribbean.’

Prescribed Standards & Criteria

1. Structure
2. Function
3. Performance

http://www.caam-hp.org/
Measuring & Regulating Safety & Quality of Education & Practice (4)

Accreditation Process

1. Review Period – 4-5 years (varies)
2. Self-study
3. Peer Review
4. Accreditation States (CAAM-HP)
   - Accreditation without Conditions
   - Initial Provisional Accreditation
   - Accreditation with Conditions
   - Accreditation on Probation
   - Accreditation Withdrawn
   - Not Accredited
5. Appeal Process
Measuring & Regulating Safety & Quality of Education & Practice (5)

Accreditation Status

Varies

- Accredited/Approved
- Completing Accreditation/Approval cycle
- In survey process
Successes

1. Regulation of all health professions
2. Single regional mechanism for registration & monitoring of the practice…merging of competences for some professions across the region
3. National & regional education accreditation bodies
4. Accreditation of parent education institutions & programmes
5. Mutual Recognition Agreement for physicians & nurses
6. Competency-based curricula
7. Mandatory competence assurance programme for periodic professional re/certification
Challenges

1. Legislation & regulation current …

2. Resourcing Councils …

3. Balance of Council members: regulated & the public, & competence of members …

4. Greater inter-councils collaboration …

5. Fitness to practice & management of risks…
Challenges (2)

6. Dynamic accreditation system---
   a. Evidence of the relevance of curricula output …
   b. Evidence of the impact of scopes of practice, continuing professional education on health outcomes
   c. Compliance of the regulated with mandatory competence assurance process …

7. A managed accreditation system for health care facilities…

8. Licensing of foreign qualified graduates

9. Conflict of interest???
Thank you

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The Caribbean