



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

**National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens**

EST. 1837



Quality Policy of the English-Taught Undergraduate Program of the School of Medicine

«Medical Degree English Program»

1. Quality Policy Statement – School of Medicine, NKUA

The Medical Degree English program of School of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) is firmly dedicated and fully committed to implementing a policy that guarantees the provision of high-quality higher education, to the students who choose to study the specific undergraduate program. It designs and delivers a curriculum of high academic standards and substantial added value in English, across all disciplines and fields of medical science. Moreover, the program actively promotes the development of a creative environment that fosters research, encourages the free expression of scientific thought, and supports a productive and inclusive workplace for all its staff.

2. Analysis of the Quality Policy of the School of Medicine of NKUA and Its Implementation in the English-Taught Undergraduate Program “Medical Degree”

The School of Medicine, part of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)—the oldest institution representing the Greek public university system—has developed and implements a specific and officially formulated Quality Assurance Policy, which forms an integral part of its academic strategy. The School's quality policy is fully aligned with the requirements of the University's Internal Quality Assurance System and is closely connected with the legal and regulatory framework governing the operation of both the School and Greek public universities in general.

The pursuit of high-quality higher education—both in Greek and in English—in Clinical Medicine, as well as in all rapidly evolving scientific fields related to medical education (such as Biology, Biochemistry, Medical Physics, Biostatistics, Pharmacology, Psychology, Epidemiology, History of Medicine, Bioethics, Anthropology, Research Methodology, Biomedical Technology, Medical



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Informatics, Health Services, etc.), is a shared commitment of all staff categories and stakeholders involved in the academic mission of the School.

This Quality Policy applies to the implementation and monitoring of the English-Taught Undergraduate Program “Medical Degree”.

It focuses on the pursuit of specific annual quality objectives related to the assurance of quality in the English-taught curriculum offered by the School of Medicine of NKUA. In implementing this policy, the School of Medicine is committed, among other actions, to establishing procedures that will demonstrate the suitability of the structure and organization of the “Medical Degree” program, the qualifications of the teaching staff, and the quality of support services both at the School and at the University (such as the International Student Support Unit), which is staffed with appropriately trained administrative personnel and equipped with the necessary infrastructure to serve international students.

The Administration’s commitment to the effective implementation and operation of the Quality Policy across all aspects of the “Medical Degree” program, aiming at its continuous improvement, is ensured through the following actions:

- Setting objective, measurable, and observable quality targets for the English-Taught Undergraduate Program (ETUP), analogous to those established for the Greek-taught undergraduate program.
- Involving international students of the English-taught program in the quality assurance and evaluation process. Students of the program participate—just like their Greek-speaking counterparts—in the evaluation of courses and academic experience through electronic questionnaires.
- Conducting an annual internal evaluation of the program, carried out by the Internal Evaluation Team (OMEA) in collaboration with the University’s Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP). This internal evaluation will aim not only to identify weaknesses and set improvement actions but



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also to review and refine the Quality Policy applied to the program.

- Submitting annual data and quality indicators of the program to the integrated Information System (OPESP) of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE).
- Affirmation of the importance of continuously meeting the requirements and expectations of the students and members of the School of Medicine,
- Ongoing monitoring of the effective operation of support structures and services available to international students enrolled in the English-Taught Undergraduate Program “Medical Degree”
- Safeguarding academic principles and ethical conduct, preventing discrimination, and encouraging the participation of external stakeholders in quality assurance processes,
- Continuous improvement of learning and teaching, research, and innovation,
- Full alignment with European and International Standards (e.g., the ECTS system),
- Effective organization of administrative, educational, research, and clinical-laboratory services offered, along with the development and maintenance of the necessary infrastructure,
- Provision and effective management of the necessary resources for the operation of the English-Taught Undergraduate Program “Medical Degree”,
- Development and rational allocation of the human resources involved in the “Medical Degree” program.

The ultimate goal of implementing the Quality Policy across all academic programs of the School of Medicine is to maintain and enhance characteristics such as:

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- a)** The recognition and reputation the School has both in Greece and internationally for providing excellent and modern education—something confirmed by the fact that the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), during its 2nd meeting on May 29, 2020, approved the Accreditation Report issued by the Accreditation Panel following the accreditation process of the Undergraduate Program of the School of Medicine (Protocol No. HAHE 16345/23.6.20). According to this report, the Undergraduate Program of the School fully complies with the Principles of the HAHE Undergraduate Program Quality Standard and the Quality Assurance Principles of the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- b)** The high scientific competence, education, academic and professional ethos of its graduates, who are capable of being accepted into top-tier clinical residency programs in Europe and the United States.
- c)** The cutting-edge knowledge and expertise it produces, as well as the high-quality basic, clinical, and specialized health services it provides.
- d)** The School’s clearly recognizable scientific contribution on an international level, through its teaching and research staff.
- e)** Its significant role and participation in shaping public health policies, social welfare initiatives, and public awareness and education on health issues.
- f)** The successful and exemplary transfer of generated knowledge and expertise to society, thereby contributing to its development and progress.
- g)** The strengthening of international outreach and globalization through the organization and implementation of English-taught undergraduate and postgraduate programs, such as the English-language Undergraduate Program “Medical Degree”.
- h)** The effort to cultivate a creative research and working environment for the School’s staff.
- i)** The enhancement of the commitment of the Faculty Members, Special Teaching Staff (EDIP), Special Technical and Laboratory Staff (ETEP), and administrative staff of the School toward the continuous improvement of teaching, research, clinical work, and other services offered in both Greek- and English-taught programs.



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The vision of the School of Medicine is to continue contributing to addressing the social, cultural, research, and developmental needs of the country, with a strong commitment to the principles of scientific ethics, accountability, sustainable development, and social cohesion.

The main pillars - strategic goals in the implementation of this English-Taught Undergraduate Program are the following:

1. Enhancement and continuous improvement of teaching work.
2. Strengthening of External Relations - Internationalization: Increase in student and faculty mobility.
3. Enhancement and promotion of research activities and innovation.
4. Improvement of services and infrastructure to support international students.
5. Development and management of human resources.

The objectives and action planning for the program, as well as the analysis of the above pillars, are presented in detail in Appendix IB.

By adopting, reviewing, redesigning, and redefining the Quality Policy for both the Greek-taught and English-taught undergraduate programs, the School of Medicine commits to achieving even higher performance levels.

In order to confirm the findings of the external evaluators for the English-taught program, the accreditation report for the program states the following:

Specifically, the accreditation panel's report includes the following observations:

"...Overall, the Accreditation Committee's view is that the School of Medicine at NKUA provides a



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vibrant and creative environment that fully achieves its mission regarding educational, clinical, and research objectives. Both the teaching and research staff, as well as the students, are of high caliber and quality, and they are proud of the educational and research achievements of the School. The revised curriculum is well-structured and meets all of the strategic goals of the School of Medicine..."

3. Communication methods of the Quality Assurance Policy

The Quality Policy Statement of the School of Medicine is publicly accessible on the website:

The staff of the NKUA School of Medicine has been fully informed about the quality assurance procedures applied across all academic programs—both Greek-taught and English-taught—and actively participates in them. The teaching and research staff, under the guidance of the Internal Evaluation Team (OMEA) and the University's Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP), implement course evaluation processes involving both students and faculty members. Meanwhile, the Secretariat and administrative staff collect and process all quality-related data and indicators included in the annual quality reports, which are submitted to the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE).

The Quality Statement and Policy are also communicated annually via email to all members of the academic community of the School of Medicine at NKUA.



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