

# The *World Directory of Medical Schools* –

– how it works, and what does an entry there mean?

WFME Forum

Cartagena, March 2019



**David Gordon, President, World Federation for Medical Education**

1. Introduction to directories of medical schools
  - i. The *World Directory of Medical Schools* and its predecessors
  - ii. The management and governance of *WDMS*: sponsors
  - iii. What *WDMS* includes, and how the information is presented
  - iv. Changes that we have planned or are considering
2. What does listing mean?
3. What does listing not mean?
4. Examples

## For how long have we w “where was this doctor e

- A marketplace in Egypt in Roman times
- A new doctor wishes to use space in the market to open his medical practice
- Examined by the manager of the market. Where was he educated? Who were his teachers? What evidence has he got of his competence?
- (He was writing to his mother)
  - Professor Vivian Nutton





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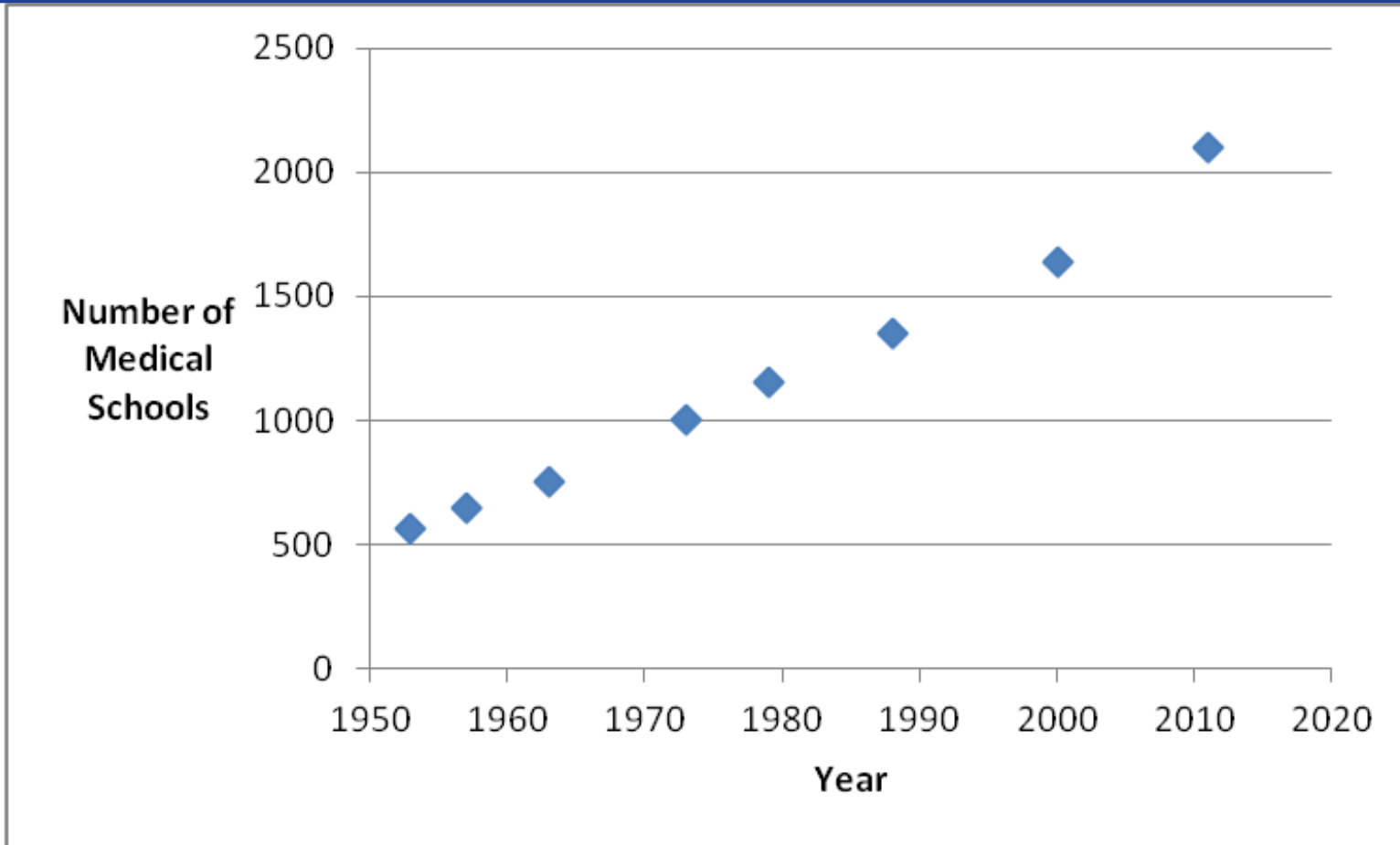
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Fédération mondiale pour l'éducation médicale

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# New schools appear overnight like mushrooms!



## *World Directory of Medical Schools - history*

Why did WHO stop compiling its World Directory?

What did WFME and FAIMER do?

The *World Directory* aims to include all medical schools

(why all medical schools?):

- Offering a complete programme of instruction
- Awarding basic medical qualification
- Recognised by the government of their host country
- Existing and historical
- A joint venture of WFME and FAIMER

## *World Directory of Medical Schools is not -*

### The *World Directory* is **NOT**:

- Accredited schools only
- An indicator of quality or endorsement, by WFME, FAIMER, WHO or anyone
- Therefore, your school may be very bad: but still included in *WDoMS*

### The *World Directory* is a **list of**:

- Medical schools that exist
- OR – that we think exist



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## Management of *WDMS* – WFME and FAIMER

Governance of *WDMS* – the Senior Advisory Committee: regulatory authorities who can promote the development of *WDMS* into what they need



International Federation of  
Medical Students' Associations



ECFMG®



한국의학교육평가원

Korean Institute of Medical Education and Evaluation



1912

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OF CANADA

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# World Directory of Medical Schools

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## Search the World Directory

Country:

Include Non-UN Member States ⓘ

Medical School Name:

City:

Operational:  ⓘ

Search

Clear



## Dubai Medical College for Girls

United Arab Emirates

School Details

Contact Information

Program Details

Sponsor Notes

### Current Programs

● Qualification Title: Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S.)

Year Instruction Began: 1986

Curriculum Duration: 6 years

● Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisite Education: Admission follows completion of secondary education.

Foreign Students: Foreign students are admitted

Genders Admitted: Women only are admitted

Entrance Exam: An entrance exam is required

**Enrollment:** Counts of new students admitted to the program and those who graduated, as reported by the school, are displayed below. "N/A" indicates that no data are available for that year.

Year	Admitted	Graduated
2012	69	55



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[New Search](#)

## Universidad del Sinú Elias Bechara Zainúm Escuela de Medicina

### Cartagena

Colombia

School Details

[Contact Information](#)

[Program Details](#)

[Sponsor Notes](#)

School Type: Private

Year Instruction Started: 1999

Operational Status: Currently operational

School Website(s): [In Spanish; Castilian](#)

FAIMER SCHOOL ID: F0002264



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# Changes that we have planned or are considering

Ongoing challenges confirming new school status

New surveys, translations

Update of core data

how much have we done

how often should we review

Website usage and redesign plan



# Changes that we have planned or are considering (2)

IFMSA sponsor note

IFMSA spreadsheet about national medical education systems

Concerns about specific schools

- Caribbean report

- Use of data from and in relation to WDMS to reduce exploitation of students

- Schools of traditional medicine

  - Potential un-listing of Chinese schools of TCM

  - Korean schools of traditional medicine

Introduction of accreditation information to the Directory, relation to Sponsor Notes



“ ... [about the] Near East University Faculty of Medicine regarding ... the World Directory.

... the school is located in Northern Cyprus and is recognized only by Turkey. The school had been listed as located in Turkey, which I don't think is appropriate considering the UN position on Northern Cyprus. It also would not be accurate to list the school under Cyprus as long as we state that listed schools must be recognized by an appropriate government agency of the country in which they are located (the Republic of Cyprus has not, and probably never would, recognize this school).

... ”

Fronteira et al. *Human Resources for Health* 2014, **12**:63  
<http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/12/1/63>



HUMAN RESOURCES  
FOR HEALTH

RESEARCH

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# The rise of medical training in Portuguese speaking African countries

Inês Fronteira<sup>1\*</sup>, Mohsin Sidat<sup>1,2</sup>, Mário Fresta<sup>3</sup>, Maria do Rosário Sambo<sup>4</sup>, Celso Belo<sup>5</sup>, Cezaltina Kahuli<sup>6</sup>, Maria Alexandra Rodrigues<sup>7</sup> and Paulo Ferrinho<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

**Background:** Medical training has shown to be strategic for strengthening health systems, especially in those countries identified to have critical shortage of human resources for health. In the past few years, several studies have been conducted to characterize and identify major challenges faced by medical schools worldwide, and particularly in Africa. Nevertheless, none has previously addressed medical training issues in Portuguese Speaking





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15 December 2014

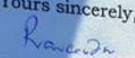
No. Bis/Edu/237/02/2013

**Dear Students,**

This is in continuation of various interactions between the Embassy of India and the Kyrgyz authorities & students of the Asian Medical Institute (AMI) in connection with the present imbroglio in the Institute.

- The purpose of this letter is to inform you that, in a meeting on 20 November 2014, the then Minister for Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic informed the Ambassador of India that, for the AMI students, the only solution to the current impasse is to seek transfer to other universities. Representatives of AMI were present in that meeting.
- In addition to the above, the Ambassador has been told by the then Minister that the process of attestation for AMI will take one-two years.
- Further, the Ministry of Education & Science, vide their letter No. 02-7/7067 dated 17 November 2014 has conveyed that there are only four accredited universities in Kyrgyzstan:
  - (a) Kyrgyz State Medical Academy
  - (b) Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University
  - (c) Osh State University
  - (d) International University of Kyrgyzstan (International High School of Medicine) (MUK)
- In view of the above, the matter has been discussed with the International Higher School of Medicine [International University of Kyrgyzstan (MUK)] and they are willing to admit the students who have completed six years of their study and also those who are currently studying in the sixth year.
- You are, therefore, advised to seek transfer from AMI to any university mentioned above, which is willing to admit you, at the earliest so that you get a degree from an accredited university, after completing your missed study hours and clearing the State Exam.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,  
  
[ Raveendran G ]  
Second Secretary (Education)

All seventh year students of AMI,  
as per the list





## Avicina Medical Academy

Belize

[School Details](#)

[Contact Information](#)

[Program Details](#)

[Sponsor Notes](#)

The information below has been provided by the World Directory's sponsoring organizations.

### **Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG), United States of America**

- Students and graduates of this medical school are not eligible for ECFMG Certification, which also renders them ineligible to apply to ECFMG for the United States Medical Licensing Examinations (USMLE).

## References

- *World Directory of Medical Schools* website <https://www.wdoms.org/>
- A. Opalek, D. Gordon. A data model for medical schools and their programs: structuring data to Inform medical regulation worldwide. *Journal of Medical Regulation* 104, 5-12, 2018