

FAIMER®

Data Resources

building data resources to understand
medical education • accreditation • licensure
around the world

Data Resources

There are many determinants of the quality of health care, including the scope and breadth of medical education that individual physicians receive. Before we can begin the task of improving medical education, we must first understand the world's medical education systems as they exist today. By collecting accurate data on medical education worldwide, we can begin to appreciate how educational capacity and pedagogical processes impact the health of individuals and societies.

FAIMER strives to be the single best source of information on international medical education and international medical graduates. Much work has been done to create, assemble, and maintain high-quality data repositories on medical education and physicians worldwide. Our goal is to provide both current and historical information to medical educators, researchers, policy makers, and organizations concerned with credentialing and licensure. These data are also intended to be an important resource for health care consumers and prospective medical school students.

Together, these complementary resources provide a comprehensive picture of the world's medical education systems, from undergraduate instruction through specialty training.

World Directory of Medical Schools

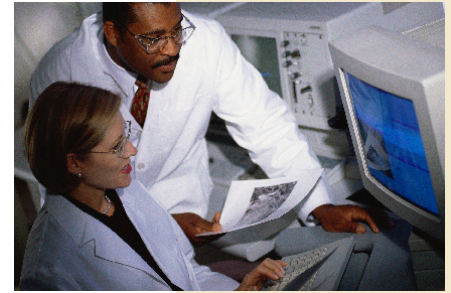
In 2014, FAIMER and the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) launched the *World Directory of Medical Schools*—now available at www.wdoms.org. This new resource is the result of a March 2012 agreement to merge the organizations' respective directories—FAIMER's *International Medical Education Directory (IMED)* and WFME's *Avicenna Directory*—to produce a single comprehensive resource on undergraduate medical education worldwide.

Through this merger, FAIMER and WFME have combined their existing data sets and streamlined their data collection efforts. The *World Directory* offers enhanced information such as enrollment and curriculum data for schools that offer multiple medical programs or tracks. A Subscription Service, launched in 2016, allows regulatory authorities, researchers, and other interested subscribers access to download a wealth of information from the *World Directory* for an annual fee. In the future, additional features, such as information about program recognition or accreditation, will be added to meet the needs of medical regulatory authorities, certifying bodies, and researchers. The availability of current, high-quality information on undergraduate medical education in the form of a centralized resource will advance research on the quality of medical education and efforts to improve medical education, with the ultimate goal of improving public health.

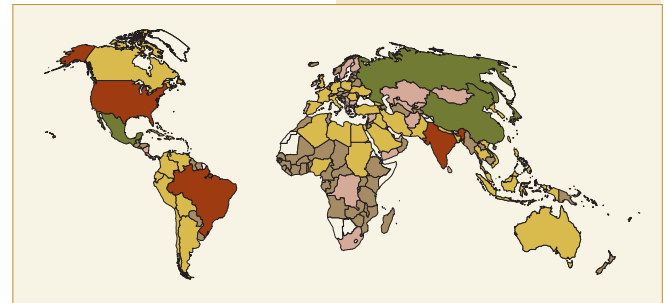
Current sponsors of the *World Directory* include: the Australian Medical Council, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, the Medical Council of Canada, the Danish Health and Medicines Authority, and the Korean Institute of Medical Education and Evaluation. These international organizations support the mission of the *World Directory* and help inform decisions about criteria for inclusion and data collection.

International Opportunities in Medical Education (IOME)

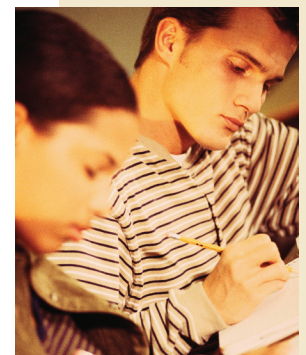
The directory of International Opportunities in Medical Education (IOME) provides information on the extent and nature of international health opportunities available to medical students, residents, and faculty at medical schools around the world. IOME represents the collaborative efforts of FAIMER and the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Our objective is to develop a comprehensive resource that details the myriad programs and opportunities available. IOME is available on the FAIMER website.



*promoting
research on the
effectiveness
of medical
education*



*supporting
development of
indicators of
educational
quality*



Before we can improve medical education, we must first understand it. The collection of accurate and up-to-date data on the world's medical education programs is the key.

Directory of Organizations that Recognize/Accredit Medical Schools (DORA)

As part of our goal to build information resources on medical education worldwide, FAIMER has developed a directory of organizations that recognize, authorize, or accredit medical schools and programs. These organizations are often responsible for the establishment of national standards for medical education and the recognition of medical schools in their countries. The *Directory of Organizations that Recognize/Accredit Medical Schools (DORA)* is freely accessible on the FAIMER website.

DORA includes available information regarding an organization's accreditation standards, evaluation processes, and other details. The directory does not encompass all organizations that have responsibilities related to approving medical schools and/or medical education programs. Interested individuals should verify information directly with the appropriate entity or governmental agency. Recognition by an organization listed in *DORA* does not imply that a medical school will be listed in the *World Directory of Medical Schools*. FAIMER is not an accrediting agency.

Master's and Ph.D. Programs in Health Professions Education

As the number of graduate programs in health professions education increases globally and interest in these programs grows, FAIMER has sought to meet the need for a centralized, readily available source of program information. In conjunction with directors of graduate programs in health professions education, FAIMER developed and disseminated a survey instrument to gather information on health professions education programs around the world. The responses to this survey were published on the FAIMER website. FAIMER has subsequently adapted lists that were developed by Ara Tekian, Ph.D., M.H.P.E., Associate Professor and Director of International Affairs in the Department of Medical Education, and Associate Dean for International Affairs, University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago, to create the lists that appear on the Master's and Ph.D. Programs in Health Professions Education pages of the FAIMER website. Both lists are sorted by country and include descriptive information and a link to each program's website. The pages are updated as new information is received for programs that meet the inclusion criteria.

Postgraduate Medical Education (PME) Project

The Postgraduate Medical Education (PME) Project is a directory available on the FAIMER website that describes postgraduate medical education programs worldwide. It provides country level information on formal medical education and clinical training beyond the basic medical school curriculum, including the duration of studies, trainee selection processes, specialty curricula and licensing authorities, areas of specialization, and regulations regarding specialty education and licensure/certification. The PME Project was developed in partnership with the European Medical Association (EMA). It is intended to be a resource for those who want to learn about postgraduate medical education internationally, and will be especially valuable to those who wish to evaluate, compare, and contrast postgraduate training programs among countries.

Learn More

For more information on FAIMER's data resources or to search its directories, visit the FAIMER website at www.faimer.org.

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