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جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH SPECIALTIES

NIHS Guidance Sheet

Deciding the program capacity (complement) for trainees



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The aim of this information sheet is to advise the specialty programs and their sponsoring institutions on the NIHS criteria in determining program capacity (compliment) for trainees, and to support the accreditation surveyors in recommending to NIHS in this respect. The overall purpose is to ensure safe and effective training experience leading to the production of competent graduates.

The NIHS defines the program capacity (complement) as the maximum number of trainees (interns or residents or fellows) approved per year or per program based on availability of resources. There are both quantitative and qualitative dimensions to deciding on the program capacity or complement. The expert opinion of surveyors is, therefore, critical to support reaching a robust decision on the appropriate capacity. The following is a set of criteria that *combinedly* support the decision of the maximum number of trainees:

- Faculty-trainee ratios based on the stipulated NIHS requirements with consideration given to the effective allocation and implementation of the faculty protected time
- Adequate patient/client load with consideration of the case mix and the appropriate variety; counting for existence of participating sites
- Adequate program resources (counting for the primary institution and participating sites) including clinical and educational facilities, volume of procedures required for training, recurrent resources, and other context-specific realities
- Program stability and resources with consideration for the program leadership, funding, and performance reports
- Existence of other learners including residents from other programs with consideration of the implications on the available resources

Note: the assessment though focuses on identifying the maximum capacity, should also attend to ensuring a minimum number of trainers in line with the stipulated NIHS requirements.



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