

English summary

Analysis of selected issues related to the quality of education in the field of Public health in Poland on the example of the Medical University of Warsaw

Mgr Ilona Cieślak

Public health is an interdisciplinary field of study that combines knowledge of the humanities, social sciences and sciences. The multitude of topics covered in the course of study means that a Public health graduate should possess a wide range of knowledge and skills. Currently, there are about 500 institutions offering Public health education worldwide, and according to the Association of Schools of Public Health in European Region (ASPHER), 80 of them are located in Europe and provide about 130 educational programs. In Poland, the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in Public health are currently offered at 26 universities, both public and non-public. Public health education in Poland faces a number of problems on a daily basis, including: lack of legal regulations that would help define the place and role of Public health graduates in the health care system, ineffective organization of student internships, lack of cooperation between universities and Public health professionals, low level of awareness of employers about Public health and the graduates competencies, whether the lack of coherence of Public health education with the labour market.

The aim of this dissertation was to analyze selected issues concerning the quality of education in Public health in Poland on the example of the Medical University of Warsaw. The planned and realized research compared the opinions of Public health graduates from the Faculty of Health Sciences at Medical University of Warsaw on the implementation of educational outcomes and their self-assessment of preparation for employment, the organization and course of summer internships and the impact of the assessment of summer internships on the self-assessment and opinions of students on the realization of educational outcomes of first- and second-cycle studies were evaluated, the level of social, leadership and networking competencies was measured in groups of Public health students, the analysis of future education plans and career path plans of second-cycle graduates was also carried out and determined qualifications of a potential employee expected by employers, by reviewing job advertisements in Warsaw, dedicated to first-cycle Public health graduates. This dissertation concludes the results of a study with analysed the opinions of second year of first-cycle students of Public Health at Faculty of Health Sciences Medical University of Warsaw about studying Public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as a narrative overview of the literature that outlines the expected changes in the programs of Public health studies.

The results of the research constituting the basis of the dissertation indicate an unsatisfactory quality of educational programs that requires improvement in many areas, an insufficient level of learning outcomes realization during summer internships, a need to organize the summer internship program, as well as an insufficient level of key Public health competencies among students.