



INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND ACCREDITATION THINK TANK

Summary of 1st session held on March
11th, 2021

Danielle Blouin, MD, FRCP, MHPE, PhD

4 Themes


1. **Concept of Social Accountability**
2. **Accreditation Process**
3. **Social Accountability and Accreditation**
4. **Social Accountability Metrics**


1. Concept of Social Accountability

- **Social accountability (SA) is understood and applied differently across/within countries**
 - Geopolitical contexts
 - Languages
 - ?Links to other concepts such as EDI, community service

1. Concept of Social Accountability

- SA must infuse all activities of medical schools
- SA explicitly expressed in schools' mission statement

 SA principles are universal; must be recognized and applicable universally

 A practical definition of SA must be agreed upon with defined mechanisms to ensure medical schools apply the definition

2. Accreditation process

- Accreditation / QA processes vary between / within countries
- Country owning of accreditation system = easier adaptation of SA standards
- Accreditation is only a tool, often UGME-centric
 - ➔ Culture of program evaluation needed
- Political, governmental, institutional, and programmatic leadership can strongly influence education curricula, accreditation, and SA

2. Accreditation process

- **External (international) parties play an important role; change though must come from national bodies and implemented within institutions, driven by internal and external stakeholders.**
- **Internationalization of accreditation seems opposite in focus to the SA goal to serve the needs of defined, local populations.**

3. Social Accountability and Accreditation

- Accreditation standards: essential for serious consideration of SA
- A SA lens should permeate all standards
- SA (and thus accreditation) reflects evolving needs.

3. Social Accountability and Accreditation

- **Importance of engaging**
 - Pentagram actors
 - Civil society
 - Students
- **How to do authentically?**

4. Social Accountability Metrics

- **What SA metrics to use?**
 - Importance of contextualization
 - Impact on health priorities
 - Impact on health status
- **Accreditation metrics to reflect**
 - Concrete achievement
 - Broad intent of standards
 - Feedback loops served by the chosen metrics



EN ROUTE TO
SESSION 2!