

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



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Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat
Royal Government of Bhutan



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat
Royal Government of Bhutan



VISION

EXCELLENCE IN REGULATION OF EDUCATION, QUALIFICATION AND PRACTICE
OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



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STRENGTHEN PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY THROUGH EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS.

ENHANCE THE COMPETENCIES BY SETTING THE HIGH STANDARDS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

PPROMOTE PROFESSIONALISM AND GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE AMONG MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

FOSTER PUBLIC TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.



FOREWORD



The Bhutan Medical and Health Council (BMHC) is an autonomous government agency established in 2002 to regulate the education, qualification and practice of medical and health professionals in Bhutan. It is a very essential element of the quality regulatory system and plays a critical role in promoting competent health human resources contributing towards the growth and development of the health system in the country.

This is the first Annual Report of the Bhutan Medical and Health Council. This report is published to create public awareness on the governance structure, vision, mission, core mandates and functions of the organization. Although, the BMHC was established as early as 2002, there is still poor public awareness about the organization. The annual report is also expected to provide updates to the members of the General Body, Executive Committee and other sub-committees on the progress achieved in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The continued support of these bodies is critical for the efficient functioning of the BMHC. This report also documents the milestones and important events of the organization for institutional memory.

I am hopeful that the annual report will help to create public awareness and foster support and growth of the organization. I thank all the members of the General/Governing Body, Executive Committee and sub-committees for their continued support and guidance. I also thank all those officials who contributed in the development of this report.

Tashi Delek!

(Kinga Jamphel)

Registrar

MANDATES

LICENSE/REGISTER THE UNIVERSITIES/INSTITUTES/COLLEGES FOR TRAINING OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

RECOGNIZE UNIVERSITIES/INSTITUTES/COLLEGES OUTSIDE COUNTRY FOR TRAINING OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

REVIEW AND VALIDATE CURRICULUM FOR NEW PROGRAMS.

REGISTER MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE TRAINED WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

INSPECT AND MONITOR PREMISES (UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES/INSTITUTES) WHERE MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ARE TRAINED.

INSPECT AND MONITOR GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HEALTHCARE CENTRES.

MAINTAIN REGISTRY OF ALL MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND LIST OF RECOGNIZED TRAINING INSTITUTES.

RECEIVE AND INVESTIGATE GRIEVANCES RELATED TO MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

DEVELOP/FRAME PLANS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES.

MONITOR COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

LIAISE WITH INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL AGENCIES/INSTITUTES.

CREATE AWARENESS ON RULES, REGULATIONS, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES.

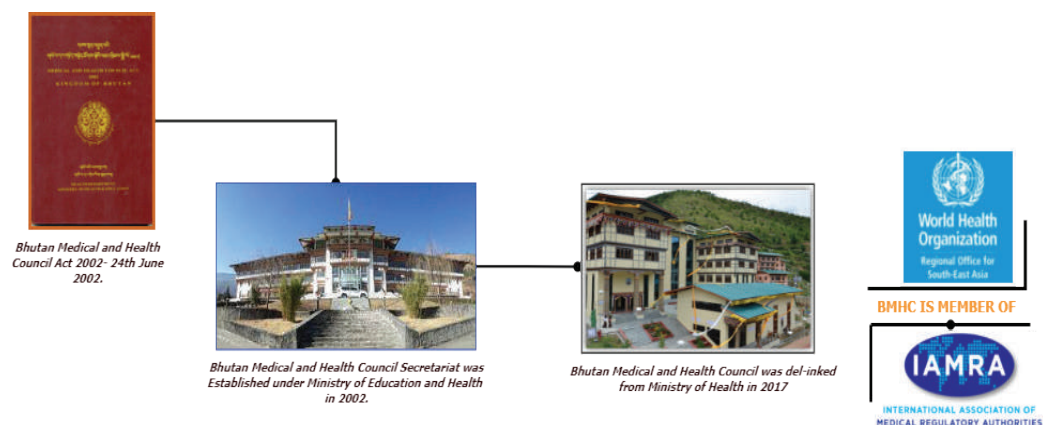


INTRODUCTION

Background

The Bhutan Medical & Health Council (BMHC) is an autonomous government organization that regulates medical and health professionals and related matters. It was established in 2002 under the Ministry of Health as per the Bhutan Medical & Health Council Act 2002 passed by the National Assembly of Bhutan on 24th July 2002. It was later de-linked from the Ministry of Health in January 2017.

The BMHC is a member of the Medical Council Network of the WHO South-East Asia Region and International Association of Medical Regulatory Authority.



OUR VALUES

- ***Integrity & Honesty:***

- We conduct our work ethically and with honesty
- We take accountability for our decisions and actions.

- ***Professionalism:***

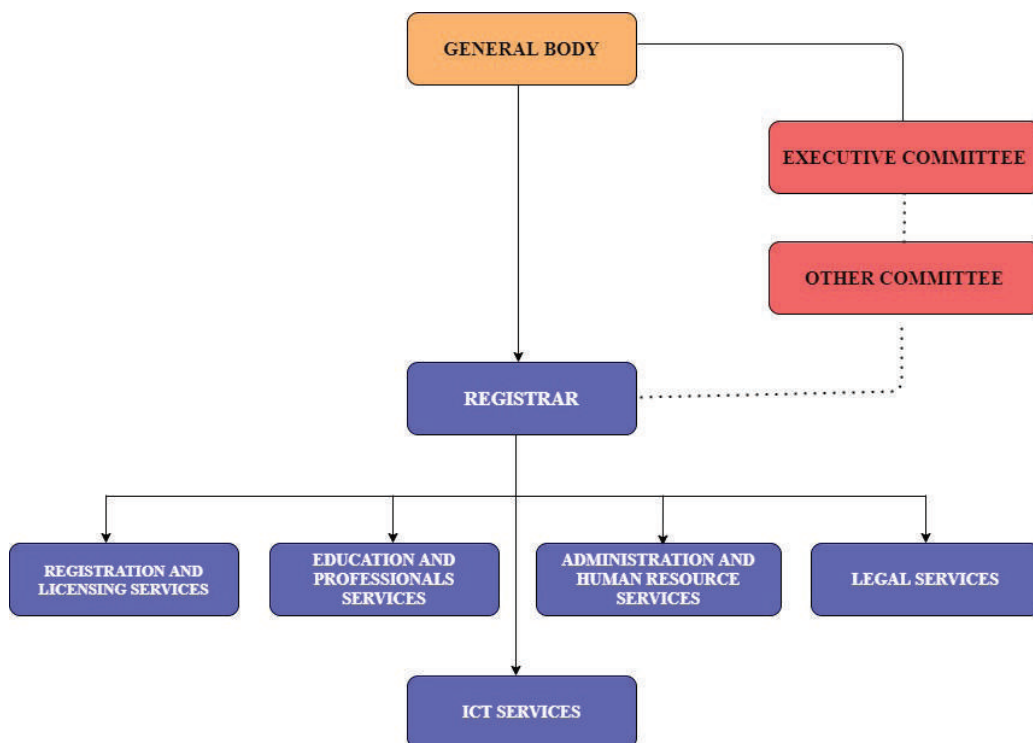
- We deliver our services professionally through positive attitude, actions and comments.
- We demonstrate expertise in carrying out our responsibilities and inspire others through our work.
- We strive towards excellence in our services.

- ***Team Spirit:***

- We aspire and work for the same goal.
- We respect and support each other.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE SYSTEM



The BMHC is governed by the General Body as the apex decision-making Body. The BMHC reports to the General Body through the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee guides and supports the BMHC in the development of standards, guidelines and strategies. The day-to-day management and enforcement of the regulatory provisions are administered by the Registrar who is the Head of the BMHC.

KEY STRATEGIES

In discharging its functions, the BMHC adopts the following strategies:

- Design and develop regulatory strategies that are in line with the changing times.
- Promote quality training of the medical and health professionals by monitoring the quality of faculty, curricula and processes related to the training.
- Promote respect and reputation of the medical and health professionals through public awareness and code of practice
- Promote public health safety and integrity of the medical and health professionals through unbiased investigation of complaints and grievances.
- Enhance quality of healthcare through continuous monitoring and feedback.
- Enhance competency and professionalism through monitoring the award of credits for Continuing Medical Education.
- Enhance effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery through effective stakeholder consultation, feedback system and capacity development.

The BMHC has the following Service Sections:

1. Registration and Licensing Services
2. Education and Professional Services
3. Administration and HR Services
4. Legal Services
5. ICT Services

The Council maintains a register of medical and health professionals who are duly recognized by the Council. The register consists of the following parts:

1. Practitioner of modern medicine
2. Practitioner of traditional medicine
3. Dentists
4. Nurses
5. Paramedics
6. Pharmacists and
7. Temporary and ad-hoc registration.

KNOW OUR MEMBERS

Members of the General Body of the Council



Her Excellency
Lyonpo Dechen Wangmo
Minister of Health
Chairman,
General Body of the
Council

Sl. No.	Category	Name/Agency
1	Vice President	Dasho Dr. Pandup Tshering, Hon'ble Secretary, MoH.
2	Medicine and Allied medical specialties	Dr. Guru Prasad Dahal, JDWNRH
3	Surgery and surgical specialties	Colonel Dr. Tashi Tenzin, KGUMSB
4	Family planning	Dr. Sonam Gyamtsho, JDWNRH
5	Pediatrics	Dr. Mimi Lhamo Mynak, JDWNRH
6	Laboratory Medicine	Dr. Krishna Prasad Sharma, JDWNRH
7	Dentistry	Dr. Karma Tobgyal, JDWNRH
8	Nursing	Mrs. Tshering Dema, JDWNRH
9	Pharmacy	Mr. Thupten Tshering, JDWNRH
10	Health Care Specialist in Environment Medicine	Director of Department of Public Health
11	Paramedical Professionals	District Health Officer, Thimphu
12	Health Administration	Director General, Department of Medical Services
13	Rehabilitation	Mr. Karma Phuntsho, JDWNRH
14	Chief Medical Officer, RBA	Colonel Dr. Pema Tenzing, RBA MH
15	Department of Traditional Medicine	Director General
16	Director, Royal Institute of Health Sciences (Faculty of Nursing and Public Health)	Dr. Chencho Dorjee, KGUMSB
17	Bhutan Kidney Foundation	Executive Director
18	Representative from Private Diagnostic Centre	Dr. Sonam Dukpa

Members of the Executive Committee



Dasho Dr. Pandup Tshering
Secretary,
Ministry of Health
Chairman,
Executive Committee

Sl. No.	Category	Name & Address
1	Chairperson of Medical Board of Directors	Dr. Norbu, Department of Forensics, JDWNRH
2	Nursing Superintendent	Mrs. Tandin Pemo, JDWNRH
3	Allied Health Science, Head of Pharmacy	Mr. Thupten Tshering, JDWNRH
4	Head of Department of Traditional Medicine	Mr. Pemba Wangchuk, DTMS
5	Registrar, Medical University	Mrs. Deki Wangmo, KGUMSB
6	Chief Medical Officer, District Health Services	Dr. Ugyen Wangdi, Paro District Hospital
7	Legal Officer	Mr. Tshering Nidup, Ministry of Health

TYPES OF SERVICES WE OFFER

1. Recognition and registration of training institutes in the country.
2. Recognition and registration of training institutes outside the country.
3. Recognition and registration of medical and health professionals.
4. Monitoring and awarding of credits for the Continuing Medical Education of medical and health professionals.
5. Reciprocal recognition and accreditation of courses within and outside the country.
6. Receive and investigate complaints/grievances against medical and health professionals.
7. Issuance of Letter of Good Standing for medical and health professionals.

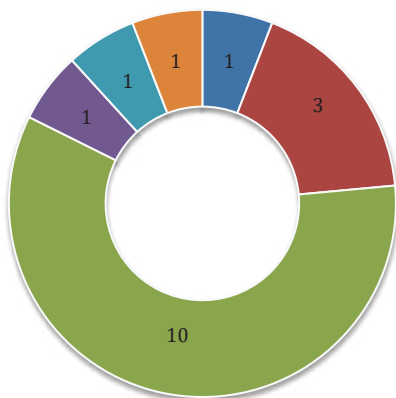
HUMAN RESOURCE

Sl. No.	SERVICE UNIT	STRENGTH
1	OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR	3
2	ADMINISTRATION, HR AND FINANCE	6
3	REGISTRATION AND LICENSING	4
4	EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONALS	2
5	LEGAL	1
6	ICT	1



Employee of Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat

HR BY MAIN OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS



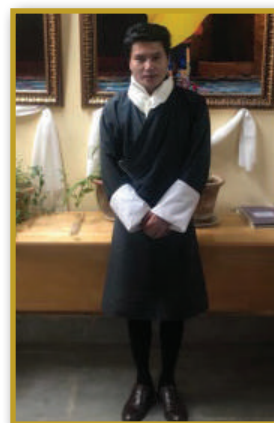
- EXECUTIVE AND SPECIALIST SERVICES GROUP
- MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE GROUP
- ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT GROUP
- FINANCE AND AUDIT SERVICE GROUP
- LEGAL, JUDICIARY AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICE GROUP
- ICT SERVICE GROUP

MEDAL RECEIPT



Mrs. Dema, Accounts Assistant received Service Medal (Bronze medal)

Mr. Karma Tenzin was promoted to Sr. Program Officer



RESIGNATION/TRANSFER

The Bhutan Medical and Health Council extend its sincere appreciation to officials who separated from the BMHC for their valuable and dedicated service rendered to the Council.



Mr. Jigme, Legal Officer
resigned in 1st April, 2020



Ms. Deki Yangzom,
Sr. Program Officer
transferred to DMS, MOH
from 15th May, 2021.



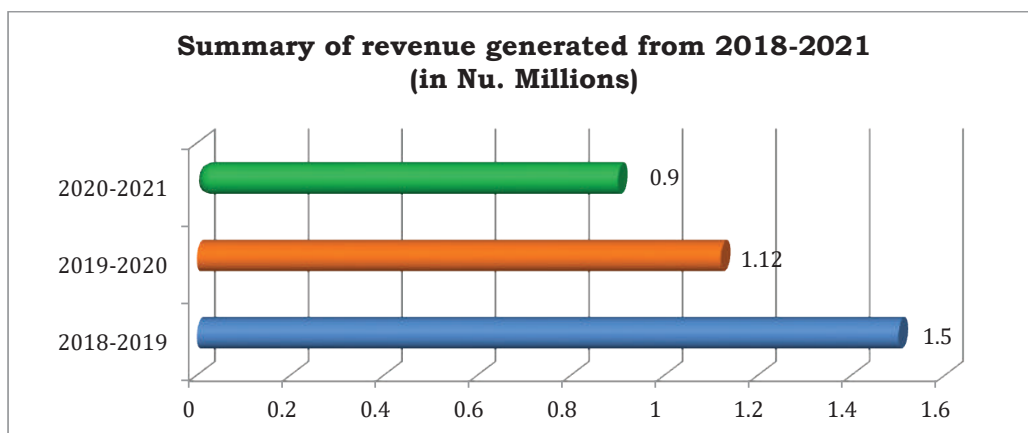
NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Pema Dorji joined as new Legal Officer from 1st January, 2021. He completed his course in Postgraduate Diploma in National Law from Royal Institute of Management in 2020.



FINANCE - REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Sl. No.	Services(Head Details)	Revenue Generated (2020-2021)
1	Registration Fees(Including Institute and teaching hospital registration Fees)	Nu. 455,700.00
2	Registration Renewal Fees	Nu. 137,100.00
3	Medical course Approval Fees	Nu. 200,000.00
4	Certificate of Good Standing Fees	Nu. 76,000.00
5	Additional Qualification Fees	Nu. 37,400.00
	Total	Nu .906,200.00



Approved Budget & Budget Expenditure for Financial Year 2020-2021

2020-2021	Approved Budget	Revised Budget	Expenditure	In percentage (Utilization)
Current Budget	8.685 m	8.351 m	7.960m	95.31%
Capital budget	3.819 m	1.704m	1.390m	81.57 %

NEWS AND EVENTS



Joining of new Registrar

Mr. Kinga Jamphel joined the Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat as new Registrar on 12th July, 2020. Prior to joining the BMHC, he served as the Drug Controller of the Drug Regulatory Authority.



Celebrating the International Nurses Day

The International Nurses Day is observed every year on 12th May to honour Nurses all around the world for their selflessness, kindness, care, and valuable service rendered to the patients and elders. The Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat joined the international community in celebrating the International Nurses Day with the theme “A Voice to Lead – A Vision for Future Healthcare”, to pay respect and tribute to all the Nurses around the world and in appreciation to the two senior Nurses working in the organization.





Registrar with medical and health professionals after receiving their registration certificate



Registrar and the Deputy Registrars during registration certificate award ceremony.



Registrar and Deputy Registrar awarding Registration Certificates to the Armed Force health personnel



Health personnel signing Code of Professional Fidelity before being awarded her registration certificate.

Registrar briefing newly registered health and medical professionals about Code of Conduct and BMHC's roles and functions.



Disclaimer: mask was removed for photo purposes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee supports the Council by providing recommendations on the technical and implementation matters related to the medical and health professionals. During the year three rounds of Executive Committee meetings were conducted.



23rd Executive Committee meeting

The 23rd Executive Committee meeting was held on 4th August, 2020. The committee discussed regulations on minimum qualification requirements for faculty members of medical and health science institutes and various issues related to scope of practice.



24th Executive Committee Meeting

The 24th Executive Committee meeting was held on 7th and 8th May, 2021. The report of the Independent Committee on entry eligibility criteria for admission into Nursing and other allied health courses was discussed in relation to change of entry eligibility criteria for entry into Diploma in Nursing. In addition, review of Internship Program Curriculum for MBBS; accreditation system, revised Rules and Regulations 2021; Code of Conduct and Ethics for medical and health professionals; Standards for Education in Nursing and Midwifery and Guidelines; Standard for Education of Dental Technician and Dental Hygienist; Scope of Practice for various categories; Waive-off program approval fee from Government institutes; eligibility requirement for appointment of Faculty for Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Midwifery and certification of Bhutan Board of Certified Counselors (BBCC) were discussed.



25th Executive Committee Meeting



The 25th Executive Committee Meeting was held on 18th June, 2021. The Council Secretariat presented the report on follow-up of the recommendations of the 24th Executive Committee Meeting for directives. The Committee discussed on issues related to non-registered applicants and increase intake to 100 students for nursing institutes. The committee

also reviewed the revised BMHC Rules and Regulations 2021 and the Council Secretariat presented the challenges and issues currently faced.



KEY EVENTS IN THE YEAR

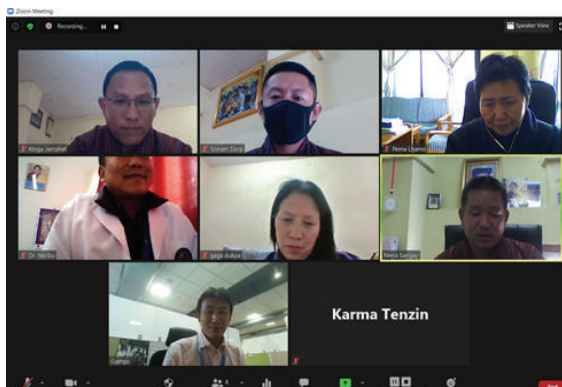
Online Lead Auditor Webinar Training on QMS ISO 9001:2015



Towards developing capacity in quality management in regulatory system, the officials of Bhutan Medical and Health Council attended Lead Auditor Webinar Training for QMS ISO 9001:2015 organized by ISDE Academy India Pvt. Ltd. between 30 October and 7th November, 2020.

Virtual meeting to discuss the draft Bhutan Medical and Health Council Rules and Regulations 2021

In order to gather feedback and comments on the draft BMHC Rules and Regulations 2021, the BMHC Secretariat conducted a virtual meeting on 24th March, 2021. The virtual meeting was attended by a few former Members of Parliament and medical professionals from within and outside the country. The meeting discussed on the need for ensuring autonomy and independence in decision making system; streamlining and strengthening the system for regulation of health services; and facilitating IT enabled meetings for the committees. The meeting recommended for a regulatory system which is forward looking and broader in scope to promote professionalism and quality healthcare services in the country.



Consultation with medical and health professionals on Draft BMHC Rules and Regulations 2021



In order to collect feedback and comments on the draft BMHC Rules and Regulations 2021, the BMHC Secretariat conducted two virtual meetings on 29th April, 2021. The virtual meetings were attended by health and medical professionals from the Eastern Regional Referral Hospital, Monggar and Central Regional Referral Hospital, Gelephu. The discussion and comments were mostly about rights and duties of professionals, Continuing Medical Education (CME), patient consent, scope of practise and protection of professionals.

Consultative meeting with stakeholders on accreditation of medical and health programs and institutions



The meeting was organized to consult with stakeholders on the current accreditation system for medical and health programs and institutions to generate a clear understanding on the role of the BMHC. The members agreed that the objective, purpose and weightage of accreditation have to be clear and BMHC should work closely with relevant agencies towards strengthening the capacity for accreditation.



DOCUMENTS DEVELOPED TO STRENGTHEN THE SYSTEM



Standards for Education

The following documents were developed towards promoting quality education:

- Standards for the education of nursing and midwifery;
- Standards for education of dental hygienist and dental technology;
- Standard for education of *drungtshos* and *menpas*; and
- Minimum standards for recognition of teaching hospital for education in traditional medicine.

These standards shall apply to all institutes providing education and training education for medical and health professionals. The standards are based on the principles such as establishment of quality objectives providing clear direction for the measurement of standards; identification of competencies to build curricula that meet health needs of the population; and provision of adequate resources towards ensuring availability of appropriate facilities for education and learning.

The standards will serve as benchmarks for medical and health education and will promote uniformity in teaching and learning systems. The common seven standards for establishment of medical and health institutes are governance and management, curriculum, assessment, teaching faculty, students, resources and program evaluation and quality assurance.



Professionals from relevant backgrounds and expertise were involved during the development of the standards. The standards will vary in terms of requirement of academic faculties, library resources, equipment and lab requirements. The minimum standards for recognition of teaching hospitals are for verification of health care facilities such as physical facilities, clinical preceptors, administration, case load, clinical department and quality assurance.



Scope of practice for various categories medical and health professionals



In order to delineate the scope within the same categories with different levels of qualification and competencies, the Scope of Practice for various categories of medical and health professionals were developed. The expected outcome of these documents was to segregate the scope based on the level of qualification detailing

job responsibilities, competency, accountability, continuous professional development and delegation to ensure the safe delivery of medical and health services to the public.

To achieve the aforementioned objectives, technical experts from each professional category were in the relevant agencies were involved in the consultative meetings. As per the views from technical experts and reference to the best international practices, the draft documents on Scope of Practice for various categories of professionals were developed. Following Scope of Practice documents were developed:

- Scope of Practice for Pharmacy Professionals
- Scope of Practice for Laboratory Professionals
- Scope of Practice for Nursing Professionals
- Scope of Practice for Dental Technician and Dental Hygienist.



Service standards of the Council Secretariat

"Efficiency of services cannot be gauged without a service standard. It also ensures transparency and accountability of service providers. It is important for all clients to understand and fulfill their obligations."

Anti-Corruption Commission, Bhutan

To create awareness among our clients and general public on the services provided and for promoting efficiency and transparency in the provision of services, the Service Delivery Standards of the Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat was developed. We value all our clients and we are obliged to provide efficient public services.

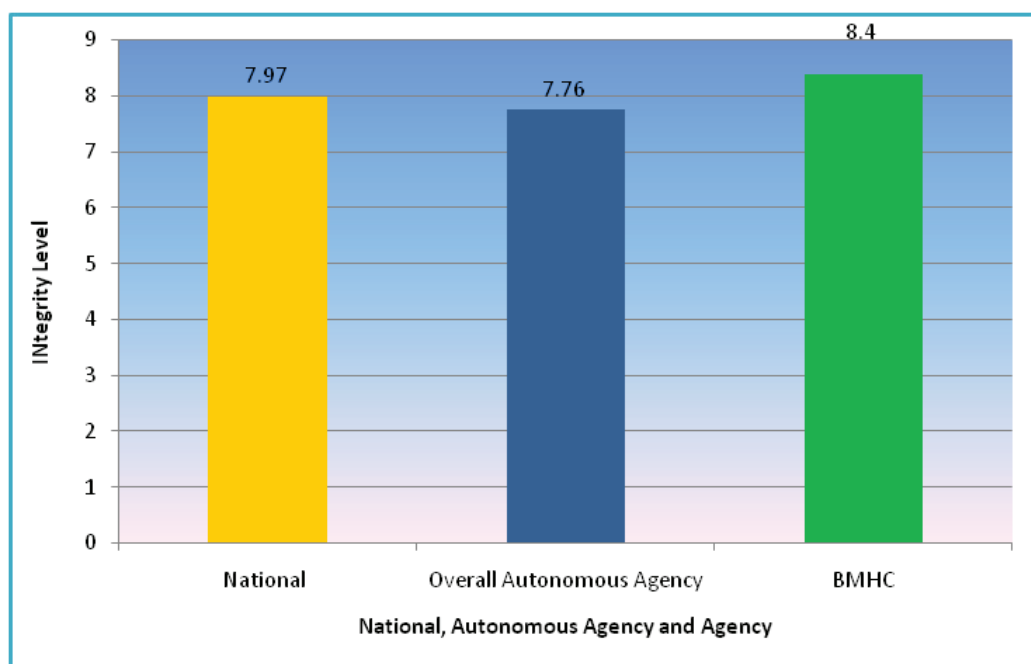


KEY HIGHLIGHTS

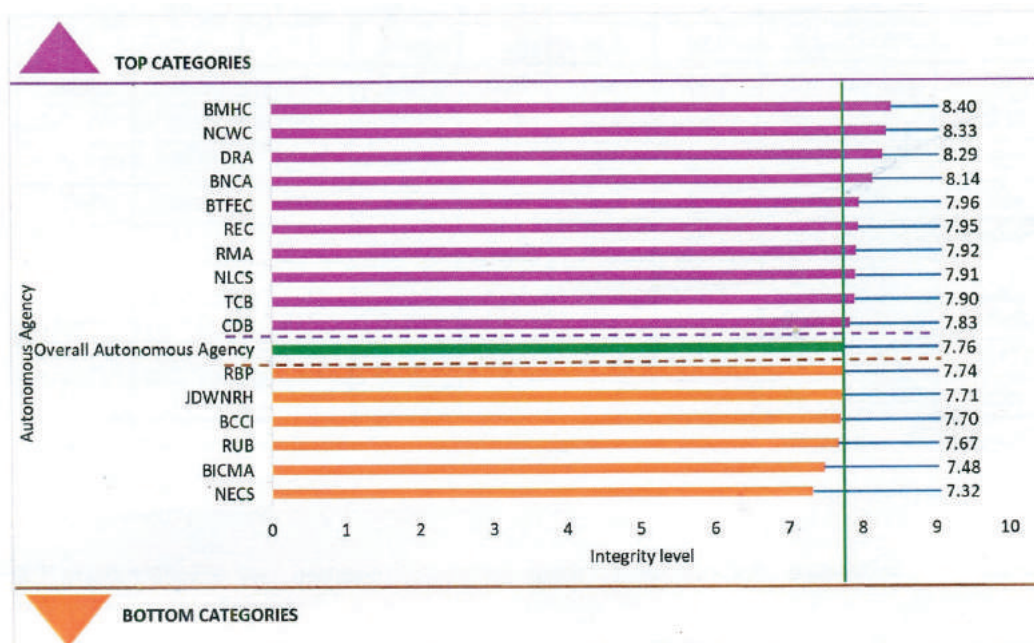
Achievement and Regulatory updates

ACC declares the National Integrity Assessment Report 2019 Agency Report in which Bhutan Medical and Health Council Secretariat's integrity scores are 8.40 which falls in **"Outstanding level"**. BMHC scored high as compared to the national and overall autonomous agency scores.

Figure shows the Agency Integrity Score with the national and overall autonomous agency score.



"Figure below shows the integrity score of 16 autonomous agencies compared to the overall autonomous agency score. The autonomous agency score is 7.76 indicating a satisfactory level of integrity." The BMHC is the top agency that has scored above the overall autonomous agency score as well as has scored more than any other autonomous agency listed in the figure.



Status of active registered medical and health professional as on 30th June, 2021.

Sl. No.	Category	Type of Registration			Total
		Full Registration	Temporary Registration	Provisional Registration	
1	Dentist	115	3	1	122
2	Nurse	2167	22	39	2228
3	Paramedics	1809	10	16	1835
4	Pharmacist	366	4	1	372
5	Practitioner in Modern Medicine	475	14	23	512
6	Practitioner in Traditional Medicine	99	1	0	100
7	Menpa	149	1	0	150
Total					5315

Number of programs approved:

Sl. No	Name of Program	Institute
1	Diploma in Ophthalmic Technology	Faculty of Nursing and Public Health
2	Diploma in Anesthesia Technology	
3	Diploma in Primary ENT Care	
4	Diploma in Primary Orthopedic and Trauma Care	
5.	Diploma in <i>Jong-jod-Lay-Nga</i>	Faculty of Traditional Medicine
6	Diploma in <i>Jamtsub-ched</i>	
7.	Diploma in <i>Men-choe Rig-pa</i>	



Number of Sensitization workshop conducted

Sensitization workshop on risk management, patient safety and ethical issues conducted:

SL. No	Name of health facility
1	Gedu Hospital, Chukha
2	Gidakom Hospital, Thimphu
3	Eusa BHU, Wangduephodrang
4	Punakha District Hospital, Punakha
5	Yebilabtsa Hospital, Zhemgang
6	Zhemgang District Hospital



With health officials of Eusa BHU during sensitization workshop which was conducted on 24th May, 2021. (Disclaimer: Masks were removed for picture purpose)



Number of Certificates issued and renewed

Registration Certificate & Certificate of Good Standing Issued and Numbers of Continuous Medical Education (CME) Programs Approved		
Sl. No	Type	Numbers
1	Full Registration Certificate issued	280
2	Provisional Registration Certificate issued	90
3	Temporary Registration Certificate issued	26
4	Registration Certificate renewed	342
5	Certificate of Good Standing Issued	76
6	CME Program Approved	1181

Institutes visited to assess quality of medical education

1. Royal Thimphu College
2. Apollo Bhutan Institute of Nursing

The main objective of the visit was to monitor physical facilities, assess educational resources, curriculum, and faculty.



CHALLENGES AND ISSUES

The BMHC is currently faced with a variety of challenges. The following are the major challenges.

No office infrastructure

Due to lack of a dedicated government office space, the office is located in the attic of the rented building of the Faculty of Traditional Medicine Services. There is a need for a dedicated area to house the office in order to ensure the security of the critical documents and office equipment, provide a safe and conducive working environment to the staff and ensure convenience to the clients. The current location has limitations in terms of parking space, space size, water and lift.



Limited human resources and technical capacity

While the functions of the organization involves dealing mainly with technical matters, there are only a few technical/professional staff working in the organization. Considering the increasing mandates and functions that demand high technical expertise while ensuring the check and balance and independent decision-making in the regulatory process, the organization has to continuously depend on the professionals from outside (MOH, KGUMSB, JDWNRH). This process not only results in challenges related to delay in execution of work, logistic and coordination, check and balance and conflicts of interest, it also results in the inability to introduce and practise high level of regulatory systems as per best international practices.



Limitations in the BMHC Act 2002 and Regulations 2005

The current regulations was approved in 2005 and have not been revised for last sixteen years. Many changes have occurred in the regulatory field requiring to revise various redundant clauses. Many discussions have been held and a few versions of draft regulations have been developed. However, due to lack of clarity and contradiction between some of the clauses in the Act (in terms of structure, roles and functions of the Executive Committee and Registrar, and the power to make rules), the revised version has not been approved. Experts indicate that the Act should be amended/repealed prior to revision of the regulations. Effective regulatory system requires clear mandates based on legislation, transparent and efficient system based on principles of check and balance and independence in decision-making. In order to fill any gaps in the Act and to ensure effective implementation, the regulations need to be revised.



Limited regulatory tools

Many guidelines and documents have been developed over the years. There is a need for development of additional tools, checklists, guidelines and SOPs to strengthen the regulatory processes to improve the quality of the regulatory system. There is a room to do value addition to the existing regulatory processes through introduction of evidence-based best practices.



FUTURE DIRECTION

The BMHC is expected to play a critical role in shaping the future direction of the health system. Towards this end, it is of utmost importance to address the above-mentioned issues and challenges.

Revision of the Regulations

The revision of the regulations shall be considered as a key priority. As per the Act, the revised regulations shall be submitted to the government for approval. Any gaps or unclear regulatory processes shall be solved by seeking expert legal opinion from the relevant bodies.



Development of tools to strengthen the regulatory system

The Bhutan Medical and Health Council as a regulatory body must strive to institute quality systems and international best regulatory practices in place. There is a need to develop a Quality Manual and quality policy. The functions and processes of the organization must be geared towards quality in line with the principles of quality management system.



Review of the regulatory system

Towards building a resilient regulatory system based on best international practices, current regulatory system will be reviewed and evaluated with the support of international experts. Based on the review findings and expert opinion, changes will be incorporated in the current registration system.



Starting July 2020, in order to foster public trust, respect and confidence in the health professionals and motivate to abide by the code of conduct, ethics and etiquette, all medical and health professionals who receive certificate of registration participate in a simple ceremony by reading this Code of Professional Fidelity.

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL FIDELITY

Declaration of Geneva, 1948; editorially revised by 68th World Medical Association General Assembly, October, 2017, adopted as Medical and Health Professional Pledge in Bhutan

1. I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE to dedicate my life to the service of humanity;
2. THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;
3. I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;
4. I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;
5. I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of age, disease or disability, creed, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, social standing, or any other factor to intervene between my duty and my patient;
6. I WILL RESPECT the secrets that are confided in me, even after the patient has died;
7. I WILL PRACTISE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;
8. I WILL FOSTER the honour and noble traditions of the medical profession;
9. I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;
10. I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the patient and the advancement of healthcare;

11. I WILL ATTEND to my own health, well-being, and abilities in order to provide care of the highest standard;
12. I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties, even under threat;
13. I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honour;
14. I solemnly swear/affirm that I shall uphold the sovereignty and integrity of Bhutan faithfully, conscientiously discharge my duties in the service of the Tsa-wa-Sum and perform the duties of my office without fear or favour to the best of my ability, and that I shall bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of Bhutan; and
15. I hereby declare that the statements given above are true and correct. I understand that any false or misleading statement may result in the permanent denial of registration to practice /result in legal action.

Bhutan Medical and Health Council
Government Autonomous Body
Kawajangsa, Thimphu
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Email ID: bmhc@bmhc.gov.bt
www.bmhc.gov.bt