

ANNEX C

*Medical and Nursing Education Systems  
in Selected OECD Countries*

	DOCTORS			NURSES		
	Numerical limits apply to medical education	Remarks	Recent change in intakes	Numerical limits apply to nursing education	Remarks	Recent change in intakes
Australia	Yes	Controlled by the Commonwealth through funding university places	Five new medical schools have opened since 2000 and seven more programmes are planned for 2008	Yes	Places in nursing schools, for registered nurse education, are determined by universities but the Commonwealth provides some funding and sets a minimum number of places for basic nurse education	The Higher Education Support Act of 2003 provided a significant increase in the number of nursing places
Austria	No	Since 2003 Austria has one private medical school		Yes	Federal states determine the number of places available in nursing schools	
Belgium	Yes since 1997	Government fixes the number of new accreditation to practice	Decreased to 600 in 2006 (60% Flemish-speaking and 40% French-speaking students)	No		
Canada	Yes	Medical education is essentially a provincial responsibility		No	Provincial/territorial governments provide funding to post-secondary educational institutions. Places in nursing schools are based on negotiation between the ministries of health and education	
France	Yes since 1971	A decree from the Prime Minister fixes the numerus clausus for the admission in the second year of undergraduate medical school	Increased progressively since 1993 to 7 100 in 2007, with the objective to reach 8 000 by 2012	Yes	Quota for students at national level	The cap went from 1981 in 1997-98 to 30 000 in 2003-04
Germany	Yes	Study places are allocated by the Central Office for the Allocation of Places in Higher Education according to a procedure established by the Federal Lander.		No	Places available in nursing schools are determined by the Federal Länder	
Greece	Yes	The Ministry of Education determines the number of places in each medical school on the basis of available financial resources rather than to match demand and supply	The number of new students entering medical school has been recently stabilised	Yes	The Ministry of Education and the Central Health Council determine the places in public nursing schools	
Ireland	No	There are a certain number of state-funded places, but colleges have discretion to take in more students		Yes	Places available in nursing schools are determined by the Higher Education Authority and funded by the Department of Health and Children	
Italy	Yes	The number of places for the degree in Medicine and Surgery is determined yearly by a decree of the Minister for Universities and Research	In 2007, the number of places was fixed at 7 858	Yes		
Japan	Yes		The medical school intake is limited until 2020 (around 7 000)	Yes	Places available in nursing schools are determined jointly by national and prefecture governments	

DOCTORS				NURSES		
	Numerical limits apply to medical education	Remarks	Recent change in intakes	Numerical limits apply to nursing education	Remarks	Recent change in intakes
Korea	Yes		Six new medical schools were opened in the 1990s but the medical school intake was cut by 10% in 2007	Yes	Places available in nursing schools are determined by the government.	
Mexico	Yes		The number of medical schools increased from 27 in 1970 to 56 in 1979. Between, 1970 and 1980, student enrolment more than tripled but it has decreased since	No		
Netherlands	Yes		On average 2 500 students are admitted each year	No		
New Zealand	Yes	Enrolment into medical school is capped financially	The cap has been set at 325 since 2004. It has been lifted twice in the last 20 years	No		
Norway	Yes	.		No		
Spain	Yes	The Ministries of Health and Education and the National Conference of University Chairmen set the cap		Yes	The number of places available in nursing schools is determined by the Ministries of Health and Education	The number of nursing places was limited in the late 1990s to about 7 000
Sweden	Yes	Medical school intake is controlled by the central government		Yes	The number of places available in nursing schools is determined by the government	
Switzerland	Yes since 1998	Some cantons have introduced a <i>numerus clauses</i>		Yes	The number of places available in nursing schools is determined by cantons	
United Kingdom	Yes	Medical school intake is controlled by the government through the funding of university places	Medical school intake nearly doubled, from 3 200 in 1990 to more than 6 000 in 2005-06.	Yes	Places available in nursing schools are determined in partnership between the Department of Health and local Workforce Development Confederations. Higher education institutions may provide additional places for students who fund their own courses	
United States	Yes	The US federal government does not impose any limitation on medical school enrolment, but residency places (funded by Medicare) are capped. States contribute to finance undergraduate training (through Medicaid)	Places in allopathic schools were frozen at their 1980 levels for more than two decades. In the mid-1990, few new osteopathic colleges were established (more in the recent years)	No	There is no central authority that determines the number of places available in nursing schools, although the states' decisions on public nursing education funding has a direct impact on capacity	

Source: Adapted from Simoens and Hurst (2006), Simoens et al. (2005) and Hall et al. (2003).

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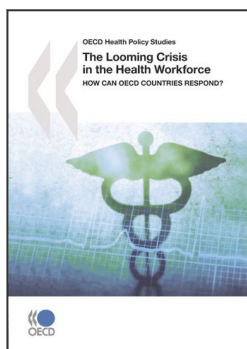


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