HEPDAK’S EXPERIENCES WITH VIRTUAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOR THE EVALUATORS
Example of A Good Practice For Online Evaluation and Site-visits

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HEPDAK reasons for the virtual (remote) evaluation decision for accreditation,

The preparations before the virtual site visits and evaluation (writing virtual standards, policies,, directives, recommendations for the nursing programs)

Conducting virtual training workshops for the evaluators before the remote evaluations and virtual site visits

The feed backs and suggestions of evaluators and evaluator candidates
• Nursing education programs in higher education moved teaching in the digital environment in March and continued up to date.

• HEPDAK not to interrupt the evaluation and accreditation processes made a plan and prepared a statement to the respective programs and declared its decision on evaluating and accrediting applicant programs remotely through virtual site visits.
REASONS for Online Evaluation

- Quality assurance in distance nursing education (theoretic/clinical / field practice)
- Uncertainties about pandemic
- Programs’ urgent guidance need
- Limitations of student opportunities for distance education
- The high number of nursing students (around 60,000) who will be adversely affected by the new educational environment
- To support the continuity of the existing accreditation processes.
HEPDAK decided to evaluate the 5 programs that were previously visited in 2020 and the remaining 10 programs as new applicants were postponed to the 2021-2022 period.
HEPDAK OTHER ACTIVITIES

• HEPDAK prepared a new set of standards for online evaluation.
• A Distance Education Program Evaluation and Virtual Site Visit Directive (Manual)
• And published on the website.
Since that HEPDAK evaluators were unfamiliar with virtual evaluation and virtual site visits, HEPDAK organized two online Training Workshops for the Evaluators and one for the nurse student evaluators in 2020 and in 2021.

In this presentation, two workshops for evaluators will be presented.
VIRTUAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR EVALUATORS (10-12 AUGUST 2020)

- HEPDAK organized An Online Three Days Training Workshop on 10-12 August 2020
- The aim of the workshop was to prepare evaluators to get knowledge and skills for their role as virtual visitor and to orient them to the virtual site visit during accreditation processes
VIRTUAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR EVALUATORS 1 (10-12 AUGUST 2020)

In total, 32 evaluators (first time and current) participated

Topics of program:
- HEPDAK standards,
- Distance education Evaluation standards,
- Pre visit, virtual visit, and post visit activities,
- Inspection of documents,
- Interviewing,
- Writing evaluation report
The participants were divided into small groups and worked together on a scenario of a self-evaluation report of a nursing programme, discussed and presented their work on these subjects to whole group.
Online Workshop For Training The Evaluators To Prepare Them Virtual Site Visits (Role Play Simulation) 13 Nov. 2020.

• To complete the aforementioned training, another virtual visit training was held.

• 26 evaluators, 5 students and 5 institutions’ representatives participated. Evaluators and the nursing programs’ representatives made a demonstration of role play related to their evaluation activities through virtual interviews and virtual observation of the nursing program who applied for accreditation.

• All evaluators (academicians/nurse students), as well as representatives of five institutions to be evaluated in 2020-2021 attended this training.
Before the training, a five-person teams were formed among the participants. In this simulation the participants assumed the roles of;
The training was carried out in a simulated visit format over this animation.

The online workshop programme participants worked interactively on a scenario of a self-evaluation report in groups and shared their work results with the audience (in total 64 participants).
Evaluation of online training workshops

- The participants shared their feedbacks and evaluations and the training programs’ activities was found to be successful and satisfactory by the attendants of the two sides.

- These experiences could be recommended for the agencies if they are intending to plan and use virtual site visits.
Another 3 half days Evaluator Training Workshop was held on 10-12 June 2021.

This workshop was more learner centered and interactive based on self and group learning with group discussions.

The workshop consisted of

1. A preliminary preparation phase
2. The workshop phase.
Within the scope of preparation; ten days before the workshop, the evaluator candidates read and reviewed all the training documents related to the accreditation process sent to them individually.

From the evaluator candidates, 4 teams consisting of 4-6 participants were formed.

Each team read, examined and discussed a hypothetical report (Self- Evaluation Report of University of Turkey) prepared by HEPDAK.

Each team prepared an evaluation report in 4 sessions under the supervision of experienced team chairs assigned by HEPDAK and filled the program evaluation chart form related to 4 standards among of the 8 standards of HEPDAK and determined their accreditation decisions (as deficiency, weakness, concern).
The workshop phase

- On the first day of online workshop, following the short presentations of the trainers, question and answer session was made related to accreditation process.

- On the second and third day of the workshop, the teams worked together and evaluated the virtual program evaluations they had made within the scope of their preliminary preparations with the dimension of mutual consistency and came to a decision.
• Evaluation reports on the first two HEPDAK standards (educational program objectives, program outcomes) were presented by Team A and Team B, and they were compared with other groups' evaluations of the same standards.

• The groups identified and evaluated consistency and differences.
The workshop phase

• After the presentation of each standard, a trainer, appointed as a MENTOR by HEPDAK for each standard, who had previously served as a team leader in the evaluations of the institutions, explained the decisions to be made regarding the standard.

• At this stage, the evaluator candidates discussed the decisions with the mentor. The consistency between the mentor's decisions and the reassessment was compared and discussed.
The workshop phase

• On the third workshop day, the evaluations of the C and D teams on Standards 3 and 4 (education program and continuous development) were presented and worked with the same interactive methods.
• They reassessed their decisions with the trainer mentors' decisions regarding the standards. All participants expressed their opinions that this interactive learning was very productive.
Participants’ Feedbacks and Evaluation of the Training Workshop

How satisfied are you overall with this training?

- **Very satisfied**: 83%
- **Satisfied**: 17%
Participants’ Feedbacks and Evaluation of the Training Workshop

- All participants expressed their opinions that this interactive learning was very productive.

- Supports of team chairs in learning activities was so instructive.

- Increasing the number of concrete cases on evaluation decisions during the presentations would be more effective.

- It would be beneficial to hold an information meeting before starting the group working sessions.

- The short presentations of the trainers, question and answer session related to accreditation process be made before the preliminary phase could be more beneficial.
These plans of training programs for the evaluators could be recommended as a good practice for the Quality agencies if they are intending to plan and use virtual site visits.
Thank you for your attention and listening