

International Medical School



International Medical School label methodology

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Session aims to introduce & discuss the IMS label methodology developed to foster internationalisation of medical schools worldwide

Agenda

- 1 Purpose and philosophy of the IMS label
- 2 Dimensions of the IMS label
- 3 IMS labelling process
 - a. filter criteria
 - b. evaluation methodology
- 4 Ultimate goal and value added of the IMS label



IMS label ensures common quality standards in the area of internationalisation, combined with profiling options

Purpose of the IMS label

- 1 recognise medical schools that strive for **excellence** in the area of internationalisation
- 2 set common internationalisation **standards** for medical schools worldwide
- 3 empower medical schools to shape & develop their **own profile** of internationalisation
- 4 provide **guidance** and support regarding the internationalisation process
- 5 stimulate continuous **quality improvement** in the area of internationalisation

[→ IMS standards and guidelines](#)



IMS label reflects and helps medical schools to achieve the 6 principle goals of internationalisation

Goals of internationalisation

- 1 enhance the quality of **education**
- 2 enhance the quality of **research**
- 3 well-prepare **students** for life and work in an intercultural & globalising world
- 4 enhance the international **reputation and visibility** of the medical school
- 5 provide **service to society** and community social engagement
- 6 advance **global health**



IMS label covers 6 dimensions of internationality and internationalisation = holistic approach

Dimensions of the IMS label

Institution

Students

Staff

Curriculum

Research

**Commitment
to global
health**

The IMS labelling process is based on self-evaluation and peer reviews and estimated to take 15 months

IMS labelling process



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In the preparatory phase, the applicant will be scanned against filter criteria determining type of HEI eligible to apply for the label

IMS label filter criteria

HEI (legally independent school or part of an university) must:

- 1 provide **medical (MD) education**
- 2 award **degrees** that enable registration (full or provisional) as a medical practitioner
- 3 award **doctoral** (e.g. PhD) degrees
- 4 provide **clinical** teaching
- 5 be active in **research** (medical & health sciences)
- 6 have an **organisational structure** to support internationalisation

Next, the medical school will be evaluated based on well-established, quantitative and qualitative indicators organised by label dimensions

Exemplary indicators

INS

No. of active international partnerships / total no. of partnerships

Does the medical school have a clear strategy for internationalisation?

STU

No. of outgoing exchange students / total no. of graduates

Does the medical school encourage interaction between domestic & international students?

STA

No. of incoming visiting professors / total no. of academic staff

Does the medical school recognise international experience of staff?

CUR

No. of degree programmes taught in a foreign language / total no. of degree programmes

No. of joint degree programmes / total no. of degree programmes

RES

No. of international research projects / total no. of research projects

No. of publications in collaboration with foreign researchers / total no. of publications

GLO

No. of international development projects / total no. of int. projects

Does the m. school provide its graduates with intercultural skills?



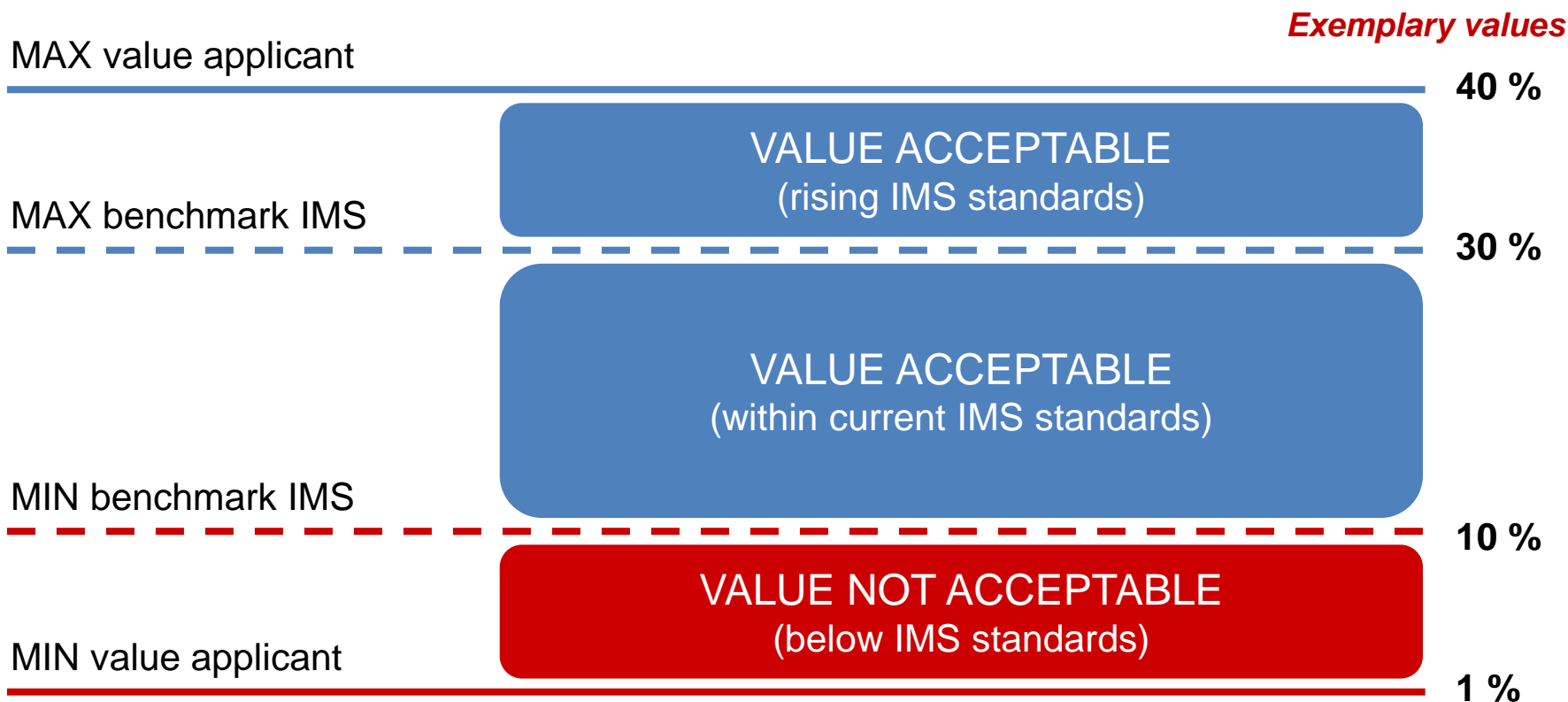
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The applicant will be asked to provide figures and benchmarks for the chosen 50% of quantitative indicators

Quantitative indicators

- 1 From **60 available quantitative indicators**, the medical school will have to select & provide data for minimum **50%** (per each dimension)
- 2 For each chosen indicator a medical school will provide figures from the last 3/5 years, as well as define its minimum and maximum **benchmarks** (success corridor)
- 3 The label will not rely solely on sheer numbers. Further description, explanation and contextual information will be required for certain indicators; qualitative information will be used to put the figures in perspective
- 4 Data should be accurate, accessible and verifiable (during site visits).

Indicator benchmarks set by the applying medical school will be compared with average benchmarks of IMS label holders



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Schools performing below the required IMS minimum for quantitative indicators in at least 1 dimension will not be granted the label

Criteria for assessing IMS label dimensions based on quantitative data

- 1 **Passed exceptionally:** 90%-100% of chosen 50% indicators were above IMS MIN
 - 2 **Passed positively** = 70%-90% of chosen 50% indicators were above IMS MIN
 - 3 **Passed conditionally** = 50%-70% of chosen 50% indicators were above IMS MIN
- or
- 4 **Failed** = less than 50% of chosen 50% indicators were above IMS MIN

Schools performing below the 50% level in at least 1 dimension will NOT be granted the label

The applicant will also be asked to provide information for all of the qualitative indicators

Qualitative indicators

- 1** The medical school will have to provide an answer (YES/NO) for all **40 qualitative indicators**
- 2** Once the answer is **YES**, the applicant shall write a short **description** on how and/or to what degree it fulfils the indicator, as well as provide relevant evidence (**documentation**)
- 3** If the answer is **NO**, an **explanation** (reasons for not meeting this particular standard) will be required
- 4** Evaluation will be performed on the basis of information provided (verified by documents and during site visits, cross-checked with related numerical indicators) with reference to IMS standards and guidelines

In order to receive the label, the applicant needs to „pass” all qualitative indicators

Criteria for assessing IMS label dimensions based on qualitative data

- 1 The final judgment regarding a qualitative indicator will be made on a four-level scale:
 - **Passed exceptionally**
 - **Passed positively**
 - **Passed conditionally**
 - **Failed**
- 2 In order to receive the label, all 40 qualitative indicators need to be “passed”, unless the applicant can provide experts with a reason (contextual information) explaining it cannot/should not perform as expected with reference to the given standard

Indicators data will be assessed in relation to the individual profile of internationalisation and autonomy level of the medical school

IMS label evaluation methodology – contextual information

- 1** Besides indicators data, IMS experts will use **contextual information** provided by the applicant (such as internationalisation **strategy** and procedures, **SWOT** analysis, **autonomy survey**, background information, etc.) and/or gathered during the site visit
- 2** This approach will allow for coherence checks between different statement, documents and the data provided, as well as for capturing the overall picture of the medical school
- 3** Quantitative data and qualitative information, together, will provide a basis for judgment whether to grant the IMS label or not.



The final evaluation report will be prepared by a group of nominated experts, based on self-evaluation report and results of the site-visit

IMS label evaluation methodology – peer review

1 As a rule, the IMS label assessment team will consist of **3 experts** (peers):

- 1 professor of medicine, either from within “IMS association” or from the outside;
- 2 experts on internationalisation, quality assurance and/or IMS label methodology.
- Students involvement will be highly recommended and encouraged.

2 **Site visits (2-3 days) by peers:**

- **purpose:** verify the self-evaluation report, clarify any inconsistencies & questions, authenticate and control the plausibility of data, look behind sheer numbers, relate the data to the real setting.
- **agenda:** meetings and interviews with the school’s leaders and focus groups (students, staff, administrators etc.), tour of facilities, class visits

The label will be granted to medical schools performing well in all dimensions, meeting all IMS standards

Decision on the award of the label

- 1 To receive the label, an applicant must perform well in all dimensions: meet all IMS standards, including the required number of qualitative and quantitative indicators.
- 2 The IMS label will be granted by an IMS board as a **one-level label** (yes/no decision)
 - based on the final evaluation report prepared by experts (peers)
 - for 5 years
- 3 To stimulate improvement in the area of internationalisation, the applicant medical school will be provided with an **internal feedback** on its performance in particular dimensions:
 - Dimension passed exceptionally
 - Dimension passed positively
 - Dimension passed conditionally
 - Dimension failed

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By encouraging continuous improvement of quality, IMS label will assure the achievement of internationalisation goals

Ultimate goal and value added of the IMS label

Guide, facilitate and support the internationalisation process of medical schools by:

- 1 the labelling process itself (common standards, comprehensive evaluation including peer-reviews, label granted for a limited period of time, etc.)
- 2 providing a platform for the exchange of best practices & lessons learned, enabling tighter cooperation, mutual learning and capacity building in the area of internationalisation

... and consequently ensure the achievement of 6 internationalisation goals including **advancement of global health.**



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Thank you

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