**Health Care Providers' Opinion Regarding Accreditation Program in Accredited Primary Health Care Centers in Alexandria, Egypt**

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**INTRODUCTION:** Accreditation of health care organization is now accepted in many countries to be an important element in quality improvement. Health profession's opinion towards accreditation is a critical issue whether they support or criticize the accreditation program. Egypt embarked on a national health care organization accreditation program with the support of (USAID). It is composed of several quality key dimensions that should be assessed; patient rights, patient care, clinical and environmental safety, management of the facility, management of support services, and management of information, quality improvement program, and family practice approach. Although the accreditation scheme itself performs an evaluation of health care organizations, its performance also needs to be assessed in case it may go beyond its initially determined objectives. Even many health care organizations in developing countries are undergoing or considering accreditation, there are few researches on its impact. There is evidence that health care organizations rapidly increase compliance with the published standards in the months prior to the external assessment and improve organizational processes but there is less evidence that this is beneficial in terms of clinical processes and outcomes.

**AIM**: To assess healthcare providers' opinion regarding accreditation program and identify the contributing factors explaining their opinion variations.

**METHODOLGY**: A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted in (32) accredited family health centers/units affiliated to (MOH); Alexandria, Egypt using a self administrated questionnaire for data collection from (407) healthcare providers.

**RESULTS**: Mean score of nurses' overall opinion regarding accreditation items was (3.93±0.53) higher than that of physicians (3.57 ±0.59) with statistical significant difference for all scales (P=0.000).The highest mean score for both was for management and leadership items (4.10 ±0.72/nurses, 3.82 ±0.75/physicians) and accreditation benefits (4.00±0.65/nurses, 3.81±0.80/physicians) and the lowest was for human resource utilization (3.50±0.83/nurses, 3.15±0.93/physicians). Physicians' age and having healthcare quality training programs and nurses sharing in facility committees were found to be the significant predicting factors affecting their overall opinion.

**CONCLUSION:** There is a positive attitude of healthcare providers towards accreditation which is a very important tool for the program and accordingly continuous health care quality trainings and active participation within facility committees should be provided to increase their awareness and education about the potential benefits of accreditation; highly committed staff should be rewarded and given appropriate incentives for encouragement. Regular evaluation of the accreditation program effectiveness is recommended.