



AGJENCIA E SIGURIMIT TE CILESISE NE ARSIMIN E LARTE

EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT FOR STUDY
PROGRAM PHD IN “PUBLIC HEALTH, MOLECULAR
DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND
PHARMACOVIGILANCE” OFFERED BY CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY “OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL”

External Evaluation Group:

1. Prof.Assoc. Milazim Gjocaj
2. Prof.Assoc. Gazment Koduzi

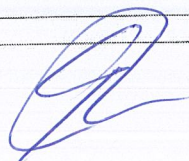
July 2021

STUDY PROGRAM DATA SUMMARY TABLE

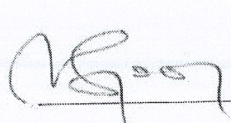
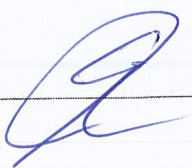
PhD in “Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance”

Nr.		
1	Applicant HEI:	Catholic University “Our Lady of Good Counsel”
2	Basic unit that offers:	Department of Chemical - Pharmaceutical and Biomolecular Technologies
3	Name of the study program:	PhD in “Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance”
4	Licensing order / DCM:	DCM No. 362, dated 03.09.2013
5	Reorganization order / DCM:	The program is adapted to the legal changes according to the law 80/2015. Approved by letter of MESY No. 6987/1 prot. dated 17.09.2018
6	Diploma registration form:	Order of Minister of Education, Sport and Youth No.2, dated 29.01.2018
7	Order / VBA of the first accreditation:	Order of Minister of Education and Sport No. 333, dated 16.09.2015.
8	Study cycle:	Third
9	Duration of the study program:	3 Years
11	Form of study:	Full Time
12	Language (Albanian / other):	Italian
13	The program is offered in cooperation with other institutions:	Yes (University “Aldo Moro”, Bari) and (Institute of Public Health “Hulo Hajderi”)
14	Joint degree (insert name):	No
15	Dual degree (insert name):	No

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16	Level in the national qualifications framework:	8
17	PAE / PWD academic staff for the study program:	2/1
18	Number of students:	3
19	Comments / others:	

EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT
FOR STUDY PROGRAM: PHD IN "PUBLIC HEALTH, MOLECULAR DIAGNOSIS
OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PHARMACOVIGILANCE"

INTRODUCTION

The study program is opened with Decision of MoES No. 362, dated 03.09.2013 [VKA No. 526, dated 18.07.2013] in collaboration with the University of Studies of Milan. The first edition of the study program is offered in collaboration with the University of Studies of Milan, meanwhile the second edition starting from the year 2018-2019, is offered in cooperation with the University Aldo Moro, Bari and "Hulo Hajdëri", institution. [Evidence 4- Executive Protocol between the Catholic University 'Our Lady of Good Counsel' and 'Hulo Hajdëri'; Evidence 14- Executive Protocol for the Scientific-Didactic Cooperation in the context of postgraduate training for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy of OLGC 2].

The study program is previously accredited with Decision of MoES No. 333, dated 16.09.2015 [VKA No. 76, dated 27.07.2015]. The study program for PhD in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" is a reorganized program at the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" as a second edition, due to the adopting process as a consequence of changes made in the Albanian legislation for High Education, Law No. 80 of the date 22.09.2015.

MEMBERS OF EXTERNAL EVALUATION GROUP (EEG)

1. Prof Assoc. Gazment Koduzi
2. Prof Assoc. Milazim Gjocaj

The external evaluation group is assisted during the external evaluation process by the Technical Coordinator appointed by ASCAL, Msc. Erjon Xhako.

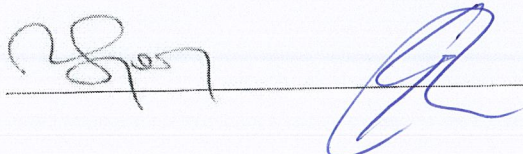
The Draft Report, is sent to the institution through the AMS system on 23.07.2021 and the institution is notified with letter no. 135/23 Prot. dated on 23.07.2021. The institution sent comments/ clarifications on the draft report through the AMS system on 28.07.2021.

The external evaluation group after carefully reading the comments of the institution, states as follows:

Regarding the comment no. 1: The final mission of the doctoral program is revised therefore **the report in this point changes.**

Regarding the comment no. 2: The way of the selection of the Doctoral Supervising Commission members is revised, therefore **the report in this point changes.**

Regarding the comment no. 3: In the same paragraph the EEG states that according to the study program regulation the scientific supervisor of the doctorate students has the title of "Prof" and Prof Assoc" therefore **the report in this point changes.**



MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMS

1. MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAM

Description part

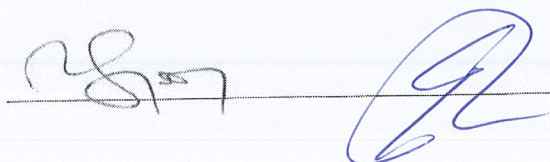
Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: aims and objectives of the study program and scientific research, strategies in the short, medium and long terms, the number of students over the years, study programs of third cycle, HEI place (in the national and international contest).

The Organization of the third cycle and the achievement of the academic qualification "Research Doctor" at the Catholic University "Lady of Good Counsel" is carried out in accordance with the following regulatory framework:

- Law No. 80 of 22/09/2015 "On Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions of Republic of Albania";
- Decision No. 1 of 14/01/2021 "On the definition of Criteria documentation and procedures for the activation, reorganization and closure of study courses by Higher Education Institutions";
- Ministerial Decision No. 31 of 29/12/2017 "On the definition of Criteria documentation and procedures for the activation, reorganization and closure of study courses by Higher Education Institutions";
- Decision of the Council of the Ministers No. 112, of 23/02/2018 "On definition of the requirements for obtaining the academic qualification "Research Doctor" and state standards for obtaining the academic qualifications "Associate Professor" and "Professor";
- Decision of the Minister of Education and Science No. 136 of 03/12/2011 "On the establishment of the foreign languages levels and international tests for acceptance in II and III cycle degree courses in the Institutions of the Higher Education";
- Decision of the Minister of Education and Sport No 52, of 03/12/2005 "On the establishment of the foreign languages levels and international tests for acceptance in II and III cycle degree courses in the Institutions of the Higher Education";
- Decision of the Minister of Education, Sport and Youth No. 20 of 22/09/2017 to change Decision No 52, of 03/12/2005 "On the establishment of the foreign languages levels and international tests for acceptance in II and III cycle degree courses in the Institutions of the Higher Education";

The PhD study program is aimed at the scientific and professional training of doctoral students. The studies are based on scientific, research and creative activities using and processing information resources in the field of scientific research.

The final goal of this study program is to prepare the doctoral students in conducting scientific research in the field of public health, molecular diagnosis and phramacovigilance.



The doctorate students should carry on: scientific research activities in laboratory and other units according to the research; respect and apply short and long term strategies for different indicators including previous epidemics, current and future.

At this project for the future, student in laboratory intense to serve the PhD study program as integral part of it like there are two research projects, which will be on developing specifically at the Laboratory Biology and Virology on:

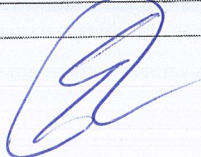
- Early detection and diagnose of emerging biological threats;
- Construction and evaluation of the in vitro expression of a recombinant viral vector expressing the structural genes of the Zika virus for vaccination purpose;
- Adjusting the objectives with current situation.

The study program is provided by the Department of Chemical-Pharmaceutical and Biomolecular Technologies structured at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" which is responsible for the progress of the study program. As part of the determination of the Criteria, procedures and rules on which this study program is developed, the main unit has drawn up the internal regulations of the PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance", following all the legal procedures for the selection, proposal and establishment of competent bodies to guarantee the standards and Criteria according to the current legislation for higher education in Albania.

Relevant documents, taken during visits to the institution

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
Standard I.1 - General framework	
<p>Criterion 1 The study program of third cycle (doctorate) is a new program or a reorganized program;</p> <p>Criterion 2 If it is reorganized, the extent to which it affected the previous program.</p> <p>Criterion 3 The total number of students studying and number of those who attend this study program each year is in line with the policies of Higher Education Institutions (HEI) where the program is conducted as well as state policy for higher education and scientific</p>	<p>The study program PhD in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" is a reorganized program at the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" as a second edition, adopting the process as a consequence of changes made in the Albanian legislation for High Education, Law No. 80 of the date 22.09.2015, on "Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions of Republic of Albania" The first edition was activated with Ministerial Decision No. 362 on 03.09.2013, for the period of six years.</p> <p>For the second edition, the decision was taken according to the Ministry act Prot. No. 6987/1 of the date 17.09.2018, [Evidence 13- Response of Ministry of Education of Sport and Youth N. 6987.1 Prot. del 17.09.2018.]</p> <p>The existing active number of students, at this study program is three (3) [Meeting with the teaching secretariat]. The existing and planning number of the doctorate</p>

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research regarding recognition and validation of diploma and number of students studying for doctorate to one scientific mentor.

Criterion 4 Doctorate study program is supported by national or international research groups accredited for research in relevant field or fields of studies;

Criterion 5 Internal evaluation report of study program of the third cycle is reviewed by the Council of Professors.

students of this institution are in correspondence and in line with the policies of Higher Education Institutions (HEI) where the program is conducted as well as state policy for higher education and scientific research regarding recognition and validation of diploma and number of students studying for doctorate to one scientific mentor [Evidence 16-Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].

This study program is supported by national Institute of Public health of Albania "Hulo Hajdëri" for developing and cooperation of the research and by International, Italian University of Bari "Aldo Moro" for the support with professors, mentors and experience [Evidence 14- Executive Protocol for the Scientific-Didactic Cooperation in the context of postgraduate training for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy of OLG 2].

Conclusions of EEG:

The study program PhD in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" is a reorganized program at the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" as a second edition, adopting the process as a consequence of changes made in the Albanian legislation for High Education, Law No. 80 of the date 22.09.2015. The first edition was activated with Ministerial Decision No. 362 on 03.09.2013, for the period of six years.

The existing and planning number of the doctorate students of this institution are in correspondence and in line with the policies of Higher Education Institutions (HEI) where the program is conducted as well as state policy for higher education and scientific research.

This Doctorate study program is supported by national institution for developing and cooperation of the research and by international institution for the support with professors, mentors and experience.

2. ACADEMIC ORGANISATION CHART OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

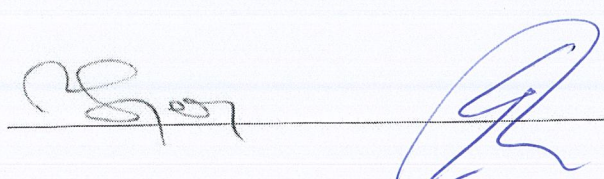
Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: the place of the Doctoral School in the organization chart of the HEI (University / Faculty / Department), data for the academic staff responsible for the doctorate, the number of Full-time Academic Staff (FAS), Part-time Academic Staff (PAS), Administrative employers (AE), teaching coordination with other units.

The Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" is located at Tirana, Albania, Str. Dritan Hoxha, composed by four (4) faculties. The responsible faculty for delivering the this study program is the Faculty of Pharmacy [Evidence 22- The statute and the organigram].

Measurable indicators:

- Organizational structure (chart)



The Faculty of Pharmacy, is managing the PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance". This Faculty has three (3) Departments as:

- Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences;
- Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Biomolecular Technologies;
- Department of Toxicological Evaluation of Medicines;

Bodies selected/nominated at all levels

The entire process of nominating at all levels is in accordance with Statute of the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel".

Based on this statute, checked process at Internal Evaluation Report and other relevant documents, the bodies selected for PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" are as following:

- The Head of the study course with all responsibilities and competences.
- The scientific coordinator of the PhD program with all responsibilities and competences.
- The didactic coordinator of the PhD Program.
- The Doctorate Council,
- The Commission for the supervision of the Doctorate,
- Admission Competition Panel,
- The supervisors – mentors,

Hierarchical units, decision- making

The Commission for the supervision of the study program are composed by:

- Prof. Roberto Perrone, Head of the Faculty of Pharmacy;
- Prof. Carlo De Giuli Morghen, Scientific Coordinator of the Study Course;
- Prof. As. Bruno Zappacosta, Head of Department for the Pharmaceutical Chemical Toxicology Evaluation;
- Prof. Bruno Giardina, Rector of Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel";
- Prof. Edmond Hajdëri, Deputy Rector of Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel";

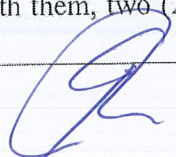
The above commission have responsibility to organize, monitor, report and proceed all the program pathway.

Relevant documents, taken during visits to the institution

The additional needed, required documents were given during the visit at the institutions for the purpose of getting better knowledge and information's about the program and the connections with other Departments of the institution.

Academic Structures of doctoral school

Taking into the consideration the number of the students in the program (3), the academic staff is in correspondence with them, two (2) professors full time and one (1) professor part time



employed. The administrative staff is for overall the university and is in correspondence with the number of students and programs.

- Database of HEI, updating and the responsibility for retaining and sharing information;

The Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" has the electronic and hard copy data base for all relevant activities and processes. Everything needed for the students, staff and visitors, based on competences, is transparent and possible to be reached by them.

- Number of academic staff (verify the data, according to Table 1 and 2)

Table 1

Doctoral School University/ Faculty/ Department	Number of FAS		Number of PAS		Number of AE		Total number	
	Total number	Number of Degree's	Total number	Number of Degree's	Total number	Number of Degree's	Total number	Number of Degree's
	2	Professor	1	Professor	23	MSc	26	26 ¹

- Council of Professors and the coordinator of the study program

Table 2

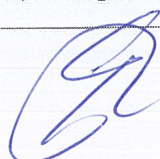
Name /Surname	Degree	Position (Member / Chairman)
Roberto Perrone	Prof.	Head
Carlo De Giuli Morghen	Prof.	Member
Bruno Zappacosta	Prof. As.	Member
Bruno Giardina	Prof.	Member
Edmond Hajdëri	Prof.	Member

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
Standard III.1 - Management and financing tools for doctorate study program	
Criterion 1 Unit that organizes doctorate study program has accredited two first cycles of studies in the field, in which it offers the doctorate study program;	In its academic structure, the faculty responsible for this study program has an Integrated Master of Science study program in Pharmacy, which is accredited and currently is in the process of reaccreditation [https://www.unizkm.al/study/course/corso-di-laurea-magistrale-a-ciclo-unico-quinquennale-in-farmacia/en/]. Based on the submitted documents and in the site visit that EEG performed in the institution, results that the faculty of Pharmacy and more specifically the department responsible for this study program fulfills the necessary administrative premises for the successful delivery of the study program.

¹ All of them have degree, starting from MSC up to Professor.





Criterion 2 Unit that organizes the doctorate study program has adequate administrative premises to realize its good functioning;

Criterion 3 In order to carry out the doctorate study program, the unit that proposes its opening engages the necessary personnel, ranging from teaching secretary that follows the third cycle progress;

Criterion 4 Responsible bodies for its supervision are established in doctorate study program regulation;

Criterion 5 Board of Professors, which is responsible for organizing and supervising doctorate study program has a sufficient number of members that cover all its issues. Minimum number of professors in PC should be 7 (seven). Board of Professors may be also raised to the level of higher education institution, when its main units do not meet the required number of full-time professors;

Criterion 6 Board of Professors of the main unit that organizes and manages the doctorate study program meets periodically throughout the year;

The institution engages as administrative staff for this study program a total of 23 individuals, of which 2 of the as teaching secretary which are responsible for the following of the students' academic records during their studies [Meeting with the Teaching Secretariat].

Based on the Statute and the Regulation of the study program the supervision structures are as:

- The base Unit, which offers just reached activity of the approved fields of study.
- The Head of Study course carried about all matters relation planning and implementing of the research.
- The didactic coordinator who is responsible for methods, lecturers and the progress of the study.
- The supervisors are in permanent contact with doctorate students.

The Commission for the supervision of the Doctorate is composed by the highest positions of the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel".

The members of the Supervising Commission are elected by the staff assembly of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Conclusions of EEG:

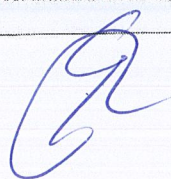
The Faculty of Pharmacy has an accredited second cycle study program in Pharmacy and, has adequate administrative premises to realize its good functioning.

The Doctorate Research in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance", is completed with all necessary infrastructure completed with laboratories, outpatient clinic, library, IT office and other needed services. The responsible bodies for supervision are established in doctorate study program regulation in accordance with the law.

3. QUALITY OF ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE (SUPPORT) STAFF

Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: dates for qualifications of academic staff, FAS/PAS/AE rate, Academic Staff/student rate; work load for FAS, PAS and AE; staff recruitment criteria; Contracts, data base for human resource; etc.



The Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" for the PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance", has engaged the appropriate and professional and qualitative professors.

Their experience is well known all around the world and in the region. They have professional working experience on field of the public health and molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases and pharmacovigilance on different countries and associations. They do have also the academic experience and proper academic titles, required for the research applied for re accreditation. The same professors are managing the existing first edition with very successful pathway until now.

The Commission for the supervision of the study program, which has four (4) Professors and just one (1) Professor Associated as follows:

- Prof. Roberto Perrone,
- Prof. Carlo De Giuli Morghen,
- Prof. As. Bruno Zappacosta,
- Prof. Bruno Giardina,
- Prof. Edmond Hajdéri,

The academic staff is in correspondence not just with legal frames but with professional, researcher and developing process with high quality.

Regarding the Professors involved in this study program, they have long experience in the field of scientific research.

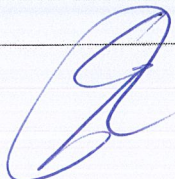
- Prof. Carlo De Giuli Morghen, Head of the program, is Extraordinary Professor of Microbiology in University in Milan, evaluation expert for European Community for research projects, member of many Italian, European American and more Virology Associations. He has many publications of the field of virology in different journals.
- Prof. As. Bruno Zappacosta, is graduated and involved for a long time in general, clinical and laboratory hematology. He is involved at Italian Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology, which is a specific field of the study program.
- Prof. As. Silvia Bino, she is responsible Control of Infectious Diseases at National Institute of Public Health, with long term experience as manager and trainer for courses in infectious diseases, microbiology, epidemiology and public health which are the appropriate for the field of study with experience at many European countries and USA.

[Evidence 26- Curriculum Vitae of Professor Carlo De Giuli Morghen, scientific coordinator of the doctoral coursehead of the doctoral course; Evidence 27- Curriculum Vitae of Professor Bruno Zappacosta, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course; Evidence 28- CV Curriculum Vitae of Professor Silvia Bino, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course].

According to Table 1, qualifications of the academic staff is appropriate; ratio between FAS/PAS is 2/1, ratio between Academic staff / Students is 3/3;

The Administrative staff is appropriate with needs of the University and enough to cover the activities of the PhD students, including, laboratories, clinic, library and other needed activities.

The procedure of recruitment of the staff is transparent, according to the legal frame and statute of the University. There is humane resources electronic and physic data base, evidences and



competences in correspondence with organogram and study plan and program. *[Site visit, meeting with Human Resources Office].*

Measurable indicators:

EEG should analyze and evaluate some data's such as:

- Number of professors: 1
- Number of associated professors: 2
- Number of doctoral degree holders (or PhD)
- Number of assistants
- Number of administrative and support staff (lab assistants, technicians, administrative staff etc): 23

Verify the data, according to Table 3

Table 3

Institution / Basic Unit / Doctoral School							
Full-time Academic Staff (Name/Surname)		Position in the Department	Degree	Part-time Academic Staff (Name/Surname)		Degree	Institution where he/her works full time
1	Carlo De Giuli Morghen,	Member	Professor	1	Silva Bino	Member	Associate Professor
2	Bruno Zappacosta	Member	Associate Professor	2			

Qualification data and reports between them (verify the data, according to Table 4)

Table 4

Academic and administrative staff	FAS	PAS		FAS/PAS rate
		Albanian	Foreign (invited)	
Professors	1		1	
Associate Professors	2	1	1	2/1
Doctor Degree or PHD degree (taken at European Universities)				
Administrative employers	23			

The ratio FAS/PAS=2/1;

Data by age (verify the data, according to Table 5)

Table 5

Academic and administrative staff	Data by age (years old)							
	(36-45)		(46-55)		(56-65)		(66-68)	
	FAS	PAS	FAS	PAS	FAS	PAS	FAS	PAS
Professors							1	
Associate Professors						1	1	

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Doctor Degree or PHD degree (taken at European Universities)								
Administrative employees								

The edge is on accordance with legal frame of Albania.

Relevant documents, taken during visits to the institution

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
Standard I.1 - General framework	
<p>Criterion 6 The number and level of researchers engaged in this program constitutes a guarantee for program implementation (60% of them should be internal academic staff, engaged in research and holders of academic titles "Professor", "Associate Professor" or scientific degree "Doctor" or "PhD" awarded in universities well known in the world for quality and rich research and publishing activities in the relevant field;</p>	<p>In this study program there are two (2) full time staff members, one (1) Professor and other one (1) Associate Professor, and the third one (1) is part time member staff, Associated Professor that fulfilled the required criteria for the study program plan and legal frame.</p> <p>The academic member staff is composed by national and international staff with worldwide with long professional experience specifically appropriate for the PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance". [Table 3].</p>
Standard II.1 - Capacities for scientific research	
<p>Criterion 2 The institution that offers programs of study of third cycle (doctorate), has sufficient academic staff with scientific titles and degrees;</p> <p>Criterion 3 The institution has sufficient administrative and research structures for activities provided in the study program to conduct research. The institution may organize joint programs of doctorate study with one or more other institutions, based on agreements between them;</p>	<p>Based on evidences presented and meetings during the site visit, this study program has sufficient academic staff with required academic degree for this specific level of studies: Full Prof and Prof. Assoc. from prestigious Universities.</p> <p>The institution has sufficient administrative staff, appropriate specific laboratories with very modern equipment's, laboratories, clinics, to take, prepare, analyze and present the samples and results; library, for electronic and physic learning; Possibility to work, compare and publish the work in other Universities out of the country; Possibility fort publishing the study research results in different journals.</p> <p>This study program is opened in collaboration with the University of Studies of Milan, but based on the meeting with the teaching staff, this agreement has expired in 2015 and was not renovated, and meanwhile the university continues to collaborate in delivering the study program with Sulo Haderi Institution.</p>

Conclusions of EEG:

As a conclusion the EEG based on the CVs can confirm that the academic staff is composed by national and international staff with worldwide with long professional experience specifically appropriate for the PhD study program in “Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance”.

The institution has sufficient academic staff with scientific titles and degrees. The current staff can supervise the actual number of the students.

The institution has all needed infrastructure, space, laboratories, clinic, library and possibility for visit and study at other Universities, based on MoU.

4. FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE, LOGISTICS AND OTHER SERVICES OF DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: infrastructure, material resources, logistics and other services, information technology (IT), libraries, other services for students.

Based on the Self Evaluation Report (SER), the entire facilities of the Catholic University “Our Lady of Good Counsel” have the surface of 50,000 m².

The institution is Founding Foundation. The Foundation is responsible for the financial running of the institution. This means the building the building of the facility is responsibility of the Foundation “Our Lady of Good Counsel”.

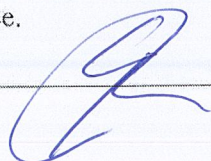
The entire campus is composed by many buildings, including faculty buildings, clinics with different wards and services, laboratories for Biochemistry and very new laboratory for Microbiology.

Based on the tour of the facilities during the site visit, in faculty buildings there are spaces and services as: Auditoriums, Classrooms, Laboratories, Computer/internet laboratories, Library buildings, Corridors / halls, University sports facilities, buildings for tertiary services, rooms for student government activities, recreational facilities such as cafeterias / fast-food/etc, toilets for students and staff, logistics room (for photocopying machines, etc.), offices for Dean/chancellery/etc, administrative offices, departmental offices, quality assurance unit office, meeting halls, etc;

The library with 77 m², is with 17,000 titles of books. There is electronic library, unlimited supported by other Universities libraries with whom there is a MoU for using them. The institution support students for the publishing the results in their own journal and in other journals of other institutions that they have agreement with.

There are 48 laptops at the 33 classrooms and library on use for students. The IT is managing the functioning of the Operative System which is Windows 10 in function.

The laboratory of Molecular Biology and Virology is equated with all necessary equipment's including the Real Time PCR and the equipment for the isolation and purification of DNA, plasmids and treatment of viruses that are pathogenic to humans. The laboratory is ready to conduct experiments in genetic engineering and molecular biology, what is the current top of the laboratory science.



There is in process of finishing the new hospital within the Campus for the purpose of treating the patients not just from Albania but further. This hospital with different medical and research services will be in use for the students of all categories and for the study program of doctorate as well.

Measurable indicators:

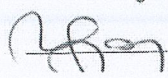
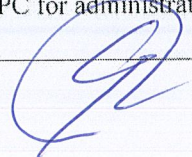
- EEG should analyze and evaluate: the Facilities, infrastructure and logistics for doctoral school (verify the data, according to Table 6)

Table 6

Facilities for doctoral school or study program	Number or Square m ²
Auditoriums	appropriate
Classrooms	appropriate
Laboratories	appropriate
Computer/internet laboratories	appropriate
Library buildings	appropriate
Corridors / halls	appropriate
University sports facilities	appropriate
Buildings for tertiar servicies	appropriate
Rooms for student government activities	appropriate
Recreational facilities such as cafeterias / fast-food/etc	appropriate
Toilettes for students	appropriate
Logistics Room (for photocopying machines, etc.)	appropriate
Offices for Dean/ Chancellory/etc	appropriate
Administrative offices	appropriate
Departmentet offices	appropriate
Quality assurance Unit Office	appropriate
Meeting halls	appropriate
Toilet units for staff	appropriate
Toilet units for students	appropriate
Total	50,000
Rate m²/per student	Meet the standards

The facilities has all appropriate space according to needs and more taking into the consideration that not just faculty building but also, clinics, hospital, laboratories and other buildings of the campus are on use for needs of the study programs, doctorate and other activities. Taking into the consideration the developing plan and activities ongoing, the infrastructure is overfilling the standards.

- EEG should analyze and evaluate other logistics database, as:
 - number of PC per doctoral students, 48 in total; at each study place there is computer available;
 - number of PC furnished labs per students; any lab and laboratory place has its own computer;
 - number of PC for academic staff, fully equated;
 - number of PC for administration, fully equated;

- number of printers for each one; fully equated;
- number of photocopying machines for each one, fully equated;
- number of head projectors, fully equated, each classroom has its own;
- number of video-projectors fully equated, each classroom has its own;
- number of scanners fully equated;

The PC, printers, projectors and video projectors are located over all the institutions. Each professor, administrative staff and management staff have their own PC, printer, scanner and other equipment's needed.

At all classrooms are available computers, projectors and video projectors. Printers are available at all facility.

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
Standard II.2 - Didactic basis and technical support	
<p>Criterion 1 Students admitted in the third cycle study program have necessary conditions to realize the study program with academic and research character;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Doctorate studies program provides harmonization of student's goals in scientific-research field, approved research projects and, at its conclusion, even the possibility of academic career and employment;</p> <p>Criterion 3 A scientific library with publications in hardcopy and electronic form and complete IT infrastructure available to of third cycle study program;</p> <p>Criterion 4 Students have sufficient technical support for scientific research development;</p> <p>Criterion 5 Researches that include laboratory researches are supported by sufficient scientific laboratory basis.</p>	<p>Based on the facility tour during the site visit EEG confirms that the students admitted in the third cycle study program have the necessary conditions to realize the study program with academic and research character, creative activities and research methodology, the use and processing of information resources, new technology, sampling samples and practical improve the results.</p> <p>The specific field of doctorate, has not difficulties for employment but it is e deficient field, needed for developing the diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation of the specific infectious and genetic disease, since the laboratory is available for RT PCR and isolation and purification of DNA, plasmids and treatment of viruses that are pathogenic to humans, makes this study program very required. The employment with this type of graduation is not an issue.</p> <p>Based on SER and site visit, the library is with 17,000 titles of books. There is electronic library, unlimited supported by other Universities libraries with whom there is a MoU for using them. The institution support students for publishing the results in their own journal and in other journals of other institutions that they have agreement with. The institution has his own journal. <i>[Evidence 30- Regulation of the library].</i></p>

The doctorate students have all possible support for scientific research development. They can use all services and facilities, including health services, libraries, laboratories, journal and experienced staff for their research study process. [Evidence 31- The Chemistry Lab and Pharmaceutical Lab; Evidence 60- List of conferences and seminars organized by the Institution or by the Unit proposing the PhD program].

The laboratory of Molecular Biology and Virology is equated with all necessary equipment's including the Real Time PCR and the equipment for the isolation and purification of DNA, plasmids and treatment of viruses that are pathogenic to humans. The laboratory is ready to conduct experiments in genetic engineering and molecular biology, what is the current top of the laboratory science. Adding to this, very experienced academic staff in the field, gives more additional space and elements of professional and successful study process.

Conclusions of IEG:

Students admitted in the third cycle study program have necessary conditions to realize the study program with academic and research character and creative activities.

The employment with this type of graduation is not an issue. The type of decorate field is very deficient and in scientific trend.

The library, IT and equipment's for learning and possibility for publishing are offered in a good and easy way to the doctorate students and others.

Students in this institution, have sufficient technical support for scientific research development; Researches that include laboratory researches are supported by sufficient scientific laboratory basis with modern equipment's and experienced academic staff in the field, gives more additional space and elements of professional and successful study process.

5. FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

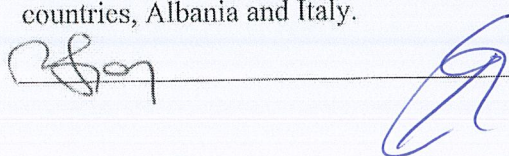
Descriptions part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: financial resources, data over the years, expenditures, costs per students, financial auditing, managing capacities.

The Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel", is Founding Foundations supported by Department of Catholic Church with the same name "Our Lady of Good Counsel".

All overrunning the University, campus and other health services are founded by the Foundation.

The institution draws up annually the financial report related to the study course cost. At this draw there are included all expenses for study equipment's, material, administrative fee, consumables and all other overrunning the facility. This draw includes the internship in both countries, Albania and Italy.



Even that the University is founded by a Foundation the internal and external audit of university and other services of the institution are performed regularly.

The institution demonstrate that it has financial sustainability by relying solely on profitability of its economic activity to support its study programs, guaranteeing the quality of the current business, always improving it for the incoming years, based on their own benefits incomes and donations.

Measurable indicators:

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the Financial resources, data over the three years (verify the data, according to Table 7)

Table 7

Budget income statement	
Revenues	Total, 000/lekë
PhD in Public Health.....	3,800
Total Revenues	3,800
Expenses	Total, 000/lekë
Employee personnel expenses	1,200
Teaching staff expenses	-
Other personal expenses	200
Operational expenses	1,400
Internal travel expenses	100
Scholarship expenses	-
Investment expenses	400
Expenses for scientific research	100
Total Expenses	3,400

The expenses are in correspondence with study program and equipment's needed.

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the Costs for students and their mobility costs;

The institution is covering the mobility and expenses for expenses which support internship both in Albania and Italy. [Evidence 32- The scholarship offered by Rotary International, for the candidate *Biunka Hoxha*]

- Transparency and internal financial control, audit and outcomes;

The budget is regularly under review and monitor by both, internal and external audit, in Albania and in Italy.

- Financial management capacity;

Based on the table 7, there is sufficient financial management capacities.

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
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Standard I.1 - General framework	
<p>Criterion 1 Doctorate study program is supported by a sufficient budget for research;</p>	<p>This study program is supported by a sufficient budget for research since the institution is Foundation and supported financially by donors as well. The PhD students have a budget for research of 2000 Euro.</p> <p>Based on presented evidence, both documented and during the coversations held at the institution the study program currently has sufficient budget for research.</p>
Standard II.1 - Capacities for scientific research	
<p>Criterion 1 External funding received for scientific research is indicative of high level research activity and they are administered for the progress of relevant study program.</p>	<p>External funding received for scientific research is indicative of high level research activity and they are administered for the progress of relevant study program as it is proved at the Table 7 and financial report of the institution. One student is supported by Rotary International. <i>[Evidence 32- The scholarship offered by Rotary International, for the candidate Bianka Hoxhaj.</i></p> <p>The institution is opened for other donations as well.</p>
Standard III.1 - Management and financing tools for doctorate study program	
<p>Criterion 1 Financial budget of doctorate study program is sufficient to achieve research objectives for each doctorate student;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Financial budget distribution structure of doctorate study program matches with scientific research policy and needs.</p>	<p>Financial budget of doctorate study program is sufficient to achieve research objectives for each doctorate student since the most of the expenses are covered by the institution, including all expenses for laboratory research, publishing and other activities related to the study program.</p> <p>Financial budget distribution structure of doctorate study program completely matches with scientific research policy and needs taking into the consideration of covering all laboratory and other expenses by the University in both countries, Albania and Italy.</p> <p>The Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" also funds other research projects based on the importance of the research subject and whether or not it is related to the main research fields at base unit level.</p>
Standard III.3 - Financing of doctorate study program	
<p>Criterion 1 Number of research works funded by the ministry;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Distribution of funds to host and supervision teams of scientific research works is done in a balanced way;</p>	<p>In the Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" there is no research works funded by the ministry.</p>

<p>Criterion 3 Number of research works funded under national research projects, benefited by scientific supervisors of doctorate students for this study program;</p>	<p>The distribution of funds to support research activities is based on agreement with specific items being foreseen in the respective budget.</p>
<p>Criterion 4 Number of research works funded under international research projects benefited by scientific supervisors of doctorate students for this study program;</p>	<p>There is no research work funded as part of national research project obtained by the scientific supervision of the PhD student in relation to this course of study.</p>
<p>On this research, one student is supported by external funding through a scholarship offered by Rotary International.</p>	
<p>Conclusions of EEG: The Catholic University “Our Lady of Good Counsel”, meets relative criteria of the aforementioned standards for funding and management of the financial resources. Since the institution is Foundation and have their own economic incomes, guarantee the financial sustainability. The projects and applications that institutions already did for other funds is also showing the commitment of the financial sustainability, taking into the consideration that Institution is Foundation with promising developing plan.</p>	

6. INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM (IQAS)

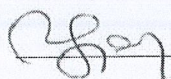
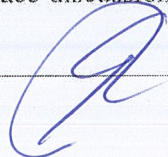
Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: Internal Monitoring for Quality Assurance Unit (IQAU), its functions in doctoral programs, self-assessment and continuous quality improvement.

Internal Quality Insurance System is very important for education institution because it make sure that study program fulfill its objectives by implementing all activities as they are planned. University OLGC has in place an internal quality assurance system which includes all three level of study delivered in this institution: bachelor, master and doctorate.

Internal quality assessment and improvement is realized by the Internal Quality Assurance Unit, through student’s assessment of the quality of study course through the evaluation of educational process and academic staff performance. This process is carried out through the filling of an ad hoc evaluation form, through which the student express her/his opinion about quality of the study program, organization, implementation of the education process, didactic methodologies, training infrastructure, commitment of the academic staff and use of library. All the process of evaluation form filling is individual, anonymous and computerized. Computerized process simplify the procedure of filling, data collection and analyzing. Whole the process of evaluation is obligatory for all students; they can’t proceed with exams without filling evaluation form. *[Extra Evidence- Students Questioner Template; Evidence 33- The regulation of the Internal Quality Assurance].*

Regarding doctoral study program evaluation, it is based on the annual report filled by student and his mentor, and face to face discussion between student and mentor. *[Evidence 45- Annual*

report of PhD students for the first year of study, 2018-2019. [Evidence 46- Annual report of PhD students for the second year of study, 2019-2020].

University has addressed in a structural way responsibilities in assuring quality of the study program, starting from the Department level, Doctorate Council, Internal Quality Insurance Unit which is composed of 5 members, to Rector and Senate. Student every 6-month meet's with his/her mentor and discuss about all issues and concerns, process regulated through the "regulation of the study program of the third cycle (PhD) in faculty of pharmacy". During the visit to the institution were taken; Report "Student perception regarding teaching process" and a model of evaluation form filled by students.

7. STUDY PROGRAM, ITS ORGANIZATION

Description part

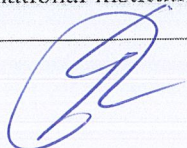

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: Title of Diploma (in Albanian and English), mission and objectives of the research program, the organization of the first year in doctorate school, the curriculum content of all its elements (subjects / modules, corresponding credits, sharing teaching hours per study forms, classes in /outside of auditorium under the forms of teaching), literature and other auxiliary materials, etc.

Diploma denomination in third cycle study program "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infection Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" aims to qualify researcher in areas of highest public interest, and based on the Law no.80/2015 on "Higher education and scientific research in institutions of the higher education in Republic of Albania". This study course aims to prepare young scientists, well trained and prepared with most updated international experience, able to contribute in improvement of public health system and service in Albania.

At the end of three years of research, and after presentation of the dissertation, student obtain the academic qualification of "Doctor" in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infection Diseases and Pharmacovigilance". Mission and objectives of this study program are approved in the Senate meeting of date 26.09.2017 "Reregulation of the study program of the third cycle (PhD) in faculty of pharmacy". The study program is focused in scientific research which guarantees academic scientific preparation of the student. PhD studies are organized on the Faculty of Pharmacy by the base unit, specifically Department of Chemical –Pharmaceutical Technologies and Bimolecular" *[Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 37- Study plan of the third cycle study course, PhD in 'Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].*

The university has changed the organization structure of the second edition of the study program in adaption to the legal changes, more specifically law No. 80/2015, this adaption is approved by the ministry responsible for education with letter N. 6987.1 Prot. del 17.09.2018. *[Evidence 13- Response of Ministry of Education of Sport and Youth N. 6987.1 Prot. del 17.09.2018].*

Based on the Internal Evaluation Report and study program regulation, during the first year of the study, students will carry out scientific activities in laboratories on the basis of the research thesis. University has several laboratories where student can carry out his/her research: ambulatory laboratory, pharmaceutical laboratory, contract with Intermedica laboratory, and microbiological laboratory which is in last steps of becoming operable. Students can do their research work even in international institutions, based on the agreements and scholarship.



There is a detailed tasks student should perform during the first year;

- compile the overall study platform
- prepare and send a detailed report on the progress of the research work, which will be signed by the supervisor
- Participate in training seminars, conferences related with topic or filed of the research

During the second year of the study, the PHD student will continue to carry out the research activities based on the project and topic. At the end of the second year of the study, the PHD student must:

- prepare and send a detailed report on the progress of the research work, signed by supervisor
- have completed literature review related to the research topic
- completed data collection and start data analysis
- start publication of some findings based on initial data analysis
- continue with more advanced data interpretation
- to start writing of the thesis and present a part of it to the supervisor

During the meeting with the students they stated that have faced difficulties in implementation of some research activities during pandemic situation in y.2020 -2021, like data collection and training. They had difficulties in data collection because patient selected to participate in study, had difficulties to come at health center because of lock down, and they were afraid of getting infected as well. Because of pandemic and regulations from Italian government, one of the students' had obstacles to go for training in Milano.

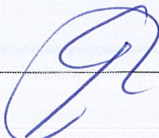

During the third year of the study, the PhD student is involved in research activities of the highest scientific level and publication of the results obtained by data analysis. At the end of the third year, the student must:

- Prepare and submit detailed report, signed by supervisor
- Prepare the thesis according to the template approved in the regulation of the PhD study and publish the results of the research activity

Before the discussion of PHD thesis in front of commission, student must have fulfilled all requirements deriving from DCM no. 112, date 23.2.2018 "For determination of criteria for obtaining scientific grade "Doctor" and state standards for gaining academic grade "Associated Professor" and "Professor", which are:

- Have participated and presented scientific work in at least three scientific activities, whereas two of them are done in international scientific activities, in one of European Union, G20 or OECD countries, and published in "Proceedings" indexed with ISBN or ISSN code
- Have published at least three scientific articles in scientific magazines, from which two are published in magazines indexed in OECD, G20 or EU countries, with editorial board, where in one of them is first author and other second author.

- EEG should analyze and evaluate: the procedures followed for the research project, proposed by candidates



Student's admission process in the third level of the study, in doctorate program, is well structured in the "Regulation of third cycle study program (Doctorate) in faculty of Pharmacy". Selection of candidates is done through evaluation of three areas: study level, scientific research and eventual academic activity. According to the regulation, candidates propose a research project which will be evaluated by department responsible for study program. After approval of the project, student enrolled in the study program, starts implementation of the research. [Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the second year of PhD: (Research/Creation), as database for institutions in/outside the country, where students have completed their scientific research, such as:
 - university / research center and development of a University
 - Institute / non-academic research unit
 - Foundation / public entity / private entity
 - Hospital structure
 - Other

Based on the facility tour during the site visit, the university OLGC has very good infrastructure for implementation of the research projects assigned to students of third cycle program. University has the laboratory of pharmacology, laboratory of molecular diagnosis of infective diseases and the laboratory of "Luigi Monti" polyclinic. Microbiological laboratory is a serious investment by NATO, as part of the project "Science for peace and security", which is coordinated by State University of Milano, and in collaboration with Nazerbayev University in Astana, Kazakistan. University has collaborated with private foundation, like Rotary Club, which gave scholarship for one of the students. [Evidence 31- The Chemistry Lab and Pharmaceutical Lab; Evidence 32- The scholarship offered by Rotary International, for the candidate Bianka Hoxha]

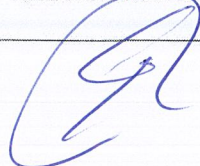
- Analyses and evaluation of third year of PhD: Research/creation/data processing /publication of articles /presentations to international conferences
 - Data for publications / references of students;
 - Data for Magazines, publishing entities where these articles are published

Actually there are three students in the third year of the doctorate program, and they are working on meeting requirements according to regulation of the study program and criteria's of DCM no.112, date 23.02.2018.

There are 7 publications / referrals performed by three students, which are published and referred in different international magazines and scientific activities (congress/conference). [Evidence 40- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Bianka Hoxha; Evidence 41-Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Elisa Domi; Evidence 42- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Dorina Minxuri].

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the: doctoral thesis and its presentation

Writing of doctoral thesis is done according to regulation of the study program. Student must prepare thesis in two languages: Albanian and another foreign language (English, French, German, Italian or Spanish). Student should print three copies in Albanian and two of them in foreign language. Thesis must be approved by Supervisor before submission to commission. Path followed by student until the presentation of the thesis is well designed: student submits the thesis together with the file to the Head of the main unit, who sends the assessment to the base unit within 15 days from the date of submission; base unit after the assessment, sends thesis and file to Commission for Awarding Scientific Grade "Doctor" within 30 days;



commission after positive evaluation of the file appoint jury for evaluation of the thesis; jury settle the date of the presentation within 15 days from it's appointment; thesis is presented in the front of jury; jury prepare the evaluation report and submit to main unit. Diploma for awarding grade "Doctor" is issued by head of the main unit, Rector. [Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].

Relevant documentation, received in visits to the institution

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards/ criterions
Standard I.4 - Design and realization of theoretical course of third cycle studies (Doctorate)	
<p>Criterion 1 Programs of third cycle studies include 60 credits for theoretical organized studies;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Theoretical organized studies anticipate balanced ratio of classes for academic and scientific general and specific training;</p> <p>Criterion 3 Detailed teaching program is approved pursuant to bylaws in force;</p> <p>Criterion 4 Theoretical doctorate course is evaluated with a general theoretical examination in relevant field of study, organized by Dean's office and Professors' Council, with a commission consisting of 5 (five) professors in the relevant research field or approximate to it. Candidates who achieve over 80% points are allowed to attend the doctorate research studies. Those who do not reach this result receive a certificate for conducted modules, together with accumulated credits and interrupt doctorate studies.</p>	<p>Third cycle of studies in University OLGC is organized based on the Decision of the Academic Senate protocol no.273 date 29.06.2018, and approved by Ministry of Education Act Protocol no. 6987/1 date 17.09.2018, which reorganize the program exclusively on scientific research activities. Actually there are 3 students in the third cycle of the study, that belongs to the second edition of the doctoral study, but university can't open a new round because of changes in legal framework. University has applied three times: February 2020, December 2020 and the last one in April 2021. Two first applications are not taken in consideration because legal framework was not ready or in process of consultation, which happened in the middle of the application period. [Evidence 11- Request Prot. No. 274 dated 29.06.2018, addressed to the Ministry of Education of Sport and Youth, on the reorganization and renaming of some third-cyc; Evidence 12- Decision of Accademic Senate UCNSBC, N. 273 Prot. del 29.06.2018; Evidence 13- Response of Ministry of Education of Sport and Youth N. 6987.1 Prot. del 17.09.2018].</p> <p>Doctoral studies at OLGC are conducted in base unit and focused on research field belonging to the base unit. Each student is led by an academic staff of the category Professor.</p> <p>Third cycle study program is delivered in no less than three academic years and no more than five academic years. PHD study program is delivered either full time for base unit employee or part-time for students employed in another higher education institution or research institution.</p> <p>Each student has personal scientific research project, and all research activities are based on the topic or</p>

objectives of the project. Each student has performed research activities, scientific training, publishing or referrals according to doctoral regulation. [Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 37- Study plan of the third cycle study course, PhD in 'Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 40- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Blanka Hoxha; Evidence 41- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Elisa Domi; Evidence 42- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Dorina Minxuri; Evidence 43- Approval of the research titles of the Doctorate in 'Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 53- Proof of PhD students' participation in seminars, conferences and training courses].

There are established several bodies in the institutions in order to manage the process of doctoral study program like, Head of the study course, Doctoral Commission and Permanent Commission for the Evaluation of the Doctorate.

Standard II.3 - Drafting and approval of proposed research project

Criterion 1 Applicant who requires to be admitted to doctorate studies program has submitted the request for a particular research area and this has been discussed with him in the interview;

Criterion 2 Scope of research is selected in such a way that doctorate studies program can support it;

Criterion 3 Proposal is approved by Professors' Council if criteria prescribed and announced in regulation of doctorate studies are met.

The following should be also confirmed:

- a) Duration of study program;
- b) Modalities of verification of research or creative activity of doctorate students;
- c) Manner of final presentation of scientific research result that doctorate student will achieve;

Criterion 4 A member of academic staff with the title "Professor", "Associate Professor" or with scientific degree "Doctor" or ("PhD") awarded in the scientific field in which doctorate student follows the studies in universities known in the world, for quality and rich researching and publishing activities in the relevant field, is appointed by Board of Professors to supervise and support student's research work;

Criterion 5 Doctorate student presents to Board of Professors the research development plan, designed by him and discussed with his supervisor;

Criterion 6 Supervisor has advised repeatedly the students that he supervises for didactic duties and research activities as well as research methodology to ensure the progress of his studies in this program.

The regulation of the doctoral study program requires that candidates should prove in-depth knowledge in interested field of study, creative and critical thinking, proposed project, study career, research activity and academic activity as well.

Base unit (department) is responsible for the process of selection of candidates, and for this purpose set up Admission Competition Commission. [Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 54 Call for applications of the PhD program, No. 74 dated 27.02.2019].

Research projects are selected for each student as contribution to the public health or other issues concerning Albanian health system. Actual research projects are very interesting and can contribute in improvement of public health, by measuring risk factors and their correlations with specific diseases (ex. thyroiditis chronic). [Evidence 15- Tub research projects].

All the process is well designed based on the regulation of doctoral study, approved by Senate of OLGK university.

	<p>The actual group of students, 2 of them are supervised by academic staff with title "Prof. Assoc.", Mr. Zappacosta and 1 by Prof Assoc. Mrs.Bino</p> <p>The EEG found in the student file that the research development plan and annual report regarding research project implementation are approved by the supervisors of the doctoral study program. [Evidence 45- Annual report of PhD students for the first year of study, 2018-2019; Evidence 46- Annual report of PhD students for the second year of study, 2019-2020; Evidence 51- Decision of the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies during the first year of study, 2018-2019; Evidence 52- Decisions of the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies during the second year of study, 2019-2020].</p>
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Standard II.1 - Capacities for scientific research

<p>Criterion 1 A third cycle study program (doctorate) is integrated in research activity of Higher Education Institutions;</p>	<p>Doctoral study program study in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" is organized by Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel" (OLGC), which is institution of higher education in Albania.</p> <p>Its aim is to contribute in preparation of young researchers in Albania, through implementation of national and international experiences and methods of training, in order to improve public health and health services. [Evidence 37- Study plan of the third cycle study course, PhD in 'Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].</p> <p>This study program is provided and supported within the logistic infrastructure, laboratory capacities and library of the university OLGC. [Evidence 31- The Chemistry Lab and Pharmaceutical Lab].</p>
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Standard II.4 - Doctorate student's supervision and continuous evaluation of progress of doctorate studies

<p>Criterion 1 Scientific supervisor of student is responsible for directing, advising, assessment of student's needs and for developing and monitoring progress of student's research work. He has the academic title "Professor", "Associate Professor" or the scientific degree "Doctor" or ("PhD") awarded in Western universities and has a rich research and publishing activity;</p> <p>Criterion 2 All scientific supervisors have had the expertise, instruction and proper guidance for their role in realization of scientific research project of doctorate students;</p> <p>Criterion 3 Scientific supervisors work to update their knowledge and skills, based on institutional arrangements in order to enable the exchange of best practices and providing advice to support students effectively;</p>	<p>According to the doctoral study program regulation, supervisors of the student should have the academic title "Prof" or "Prof. Assoc" and are responsible for guiding the student through all steps and activities, from the start of the research project until the presentation of the thesis in front of the Commission. Supervisors of the students, Prof. Assoc. Bino and Zappacosta have the required experience in order to fulfill all the duties and guide the student through the scientific process. [Evidence 27- Curriculum Vitae of Professor Bruno Zappacosta, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course; Evidence 28- CV Curriculum Vitae of Professor Silva Bino, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course].</p>
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Criterion 4 Board of Professors selects scientific supervisors, capable to supervise doctorate students' research work, based on assessment of their publishing and research activities inside and outside the country;

Criterion 5 The main scientific supervisor and the other supervisor (when program of doctorate studies is offered by more than one university) guarantee that doctorate students receive sufficient support and guidance to facilitate their work to achieve success;

Criterion 6 In all cases, the student must have only one identified contact point, who should be his main supervisor. If his main supervisor is not available, the student must know who will be the person to replace him;

Criterion 7 University ensures that supervisor has enough time to supervise doctorate student;

If the main leader is unable to continue supervision of student, or will be absent for a considerable period, he should be replaced by another his main supervisor before the period of awarding the diploma for scientific degree "Doctor";

Criterion 8 If relationship student-supervisor does not function well, at the request of student or his supervisor, supervisor is changed, provided that this does not affect the project progress;

Criterion 9 Clear and transparent procedures are set for verification of knowledge or periodic evaluation of student (for example, an annual review by a panel called for this purpose or by a special commission set up by Professors' Council). Criterion 10 Doctorate student and his supervisor should be present during this process. The manner and periods of verification of knowledge or periodic evaluation of doctorate student are stipulated and specified in the beginning of doctorate studies program;

Criterion 11 Continuous evaluation conclusions for realization of scientific research project of program of doctorate studies are clear and transparent including suspension, extension or withdrawal from doctorate studies;

Criterion 12 Meetings between supervisors and doctorate students are documented, especially during the review of progress reports.

Supervisors are responsible and ensure that the student receives all the support needed. They meet with student regularly, by regulation every 6 months, and prepare together with student the development of the research project every year.

Student file was well organized and filled with all document required from doctoral course study regulation. EEG found yearly reports regarding evaluation of project progress, signed by Supervisor. There is a well-defined process of yearly progress report: from student to Supervisor; from Supervisor to Base Unit which makes assessment of the evaluation report and make sure program of the consequent year is fulfilled and prepare decision which is forwarded to Commission for the Supervision of the Doctorate, in order to verify if the progress fulfills the requirements of the program and pre-established criteria. The Commission decides if student progress is according to academic, scientific and legislative criteria, and based on the findings declare compliance for the continuation of studies for the Doctoral student. [Evidence 45- Annual report of PhD students for the first year of study, 2018-2019;

Evidence 46- Annual report of PhD students for the second year of study, 2019-2020; Evidence 47- Decision of the Department of Chemical-Pharmaceutical and Biomolecular Technologies, dated 02.11.2019; Evidence 48- Decision of the Department of Chemical-Pharmaceutical and Biomolecular Technologies, dated 03.11.2020; Evidence 49- The request of the Head addressed to the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies, 2018-2019; Evidence 50- The request of the Head addressed to the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies 2019-2020; Evidence 51- Decision of the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies during the first year of study, 2018-2019; Evidence 52- Decisions of the Commission for the Supervision of Doctoral Studies during the second year of study, 2019-2020].

Supervisors have sufficient time to guide and support doctoral students. There was no case of complain from student's side regarding Supervisor, as consequence no case of replacement of the supervisor as well.

Conclusions of IEG:

PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" is organized and implemented according to legal framework settled by government (higher education law) and university (Regulation of study program). This study program is led by

scientific research objectives and contribution to community, in order to train capable researchers with most updated international experience in collaboration with international education institutions, by applying required standards. Frequently change of the regulatory framework from the side of the government has created an uncertainty in continuity of the course. Another obstacle for reaching objectives of the research project and implementation of several activities, is the pandemic situation because of COVID-19.

- Relevant documents, taken during visits to the institution

Application of OLG University to the Ministry responsible for education for opening of the third round of the doctoral course during period 2020-2021.

8. TEACHING – LEARNING OUTCOME (IN FIRST YEAR)

Description part: *Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: organization, teaching methods, quality of workload and realisation of it, teaching technologies, internal evaluation of teaching, students' participation in the activities of the doctoral school, control of student knowledge, student scientific leadership etc.*

Third cycle of studies in University OLG is organized based on the Decision of the Academic Senate protocol no.273 date 29.06.2018, and approved by Ministry of Education Act Protocol no. 6987/1 date 17.09.2018, which reorganize the program exclusively on scientific research activities. Ongoing second edition of the doctoral study program is based on scientific research activities, which follows the first edition experience and adoption of legal framework based on changes of the Higher Education legislation. As consequence, the doctoral study program is adapted based on the Chapter III, paragraph 2, point f, of guideline no.31 date 29.12.2017 and approval of Ministry responsible for education.

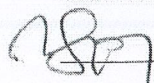
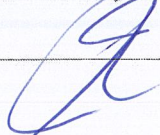
This study program continuous as positive experience of the first edition, with experience of collaboration between OLG and international institutions, like Italian universities (Bari, Milano), NATO and Astana University Kazakhstan. Internationalization of the course brings enormous experience in the field of public health, infectious diseases, pharmacovigilance, through the implementation of projects and building high level laboratory, and culture of the qualitative education as well.

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the: students' participation in the research activities of the University/Faculty/etc. (verify the data, according to Table 12)

Table 12

HEI scientific activity	Number of students activated
For individual Papers of Lectures	3
For scientific projects of Faculty / Department / Doctoral School	-
For research projects, in collaboration with other	-

There were published 7 papers by doctoral students of the second edition, in collaboration with their Supervisors. Prof. Asc. Zappacosta has involved 2 out of 2 his students and Prof. Asc. Bino the only student she supervises. Also the university has organized several conferences and seminars with the participations of the doctoral students. [Evidence 60- List of conferences and seminars organized by the Institution or by the Unit proposing the PhD program]

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
<p>Standard I.2 - Continuous increase of theoretical level and promotion of students' team work are targets of a study program of third cycle, doctorate.</p>	
<p>Criterion 1 Level of scientific research development helps in student training to complete the study program successfully;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Students have the opportunity to participate in various research activities closely related to the specific area in which they attend doctorate studies, which help him/her to be trained for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Acquisition of research methodologies for independent creative activities, such as scientific articles, presentations, standard approach for references, bibliography, indexes and content writing as the basis for doctor a thesis processing; b) Independent work in laboratory; c) Use of information resources (e.g. libraries and Internet) and information management; d) Use of modern technologies for public presentations; e) Acquisition of advanced methods of analysis and data processing; f) Learning and mastery of specialized terminology associated with the research field of doctorate student; <p>Criterion 3 Doctorate students participate in foreseen activities young and their research work. A doctorate student is free to participate as a listener or as a speaker in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Lectures; b) Seminars; c) Interdisciplinary debates, organized in the framework of doctorate study program; d) Other possibilities of learning such as following presentations of post doctorate students and research projects, even when it is not related directly to the student's research interest. e) Scientific mentors advise students to take part in scientific activities and conferences that help them in their scientific research; <p>Criterion 4 Students have gained skills for appropriate communication with a scientific level (<i>Student's communication skills include: the competency to write clearly and with an appropriate style, use of persuasive arguments and clear articulation of ideas before the public concerned; the ability to debate and support others, involved in teaching, supervision or demonstrations</i>);</p> <p>Criterion 5 Students have acquired the ability to communicate correctly with others, and necessary skill for a scholar, but also in other situations (<i>being able to develop and maintain cooperation and working relationships with others, awareness that their behavior affects them and</i></p>	<p>The Catholic University OLGK has organized the PhD study program in the way to provide students with environment, tools, knowledge and supervisor, in order to complete successfully the studies.</p> <p>The process of selection of the candidates; scientific research project conception; possibilities to complete research activities by providing with modern laboratories or in collaboration with advanced laboratory in Tirana (Intermedica) or in Milano, Italy; financial support for fulfilling analysis (of blood samples); training with most advanced methods of data analysis and the support of statically department; financial support to publish research project findings.</p> <p>Scientific research project selected in order to contribute in improvement of the Albanian public health, students acquisition skills of research methodologies, data analysis, and publishing their findings, are designed in order to provide scientific professional level.</p> <p>Students have gained skills to express in scientific level their knowledge and scientific research findings, by publishing in international conferences, congress, and scientific magazines.</p> <p><i>[Evidence 31- The Chemistry Lab and Pharmaceutical Lab; Evidence 39- Evaluation grid of the candidates who have submitted their application to be admitted to the PhD; Evidence 40- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Bianka Hoxha; Evidence 41-Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Elisa Domi; Evidence 42- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Dorina Minxuri; Evidence 54 Call for applications of the PhD program, No. 74 dated 27.02.2019]</i></p>

others and be willing to listen, to give and to take reactions and responses with sharpness);

Criterion 6 Development of communication skills of doctorate students encouraged them to be engaged in teaching in study programs of first and second cycle (e.g. by engaging in teaching as lecturers, in support of professors guiding their thesis).

Conclusions of EEG:

PhD study program in university OLGC provides students with scientific research skills and methodologies, from the phase of conception of a scientific research project, implementation of the experiments in modern laboratories, analysis of findings assisted by data analysis specialist, writing scientific papers and publishing them in foreign magazines, until the preparation and presentation of the thesis, in the field of public health, infectious disease and pharmacovigilance.

9. DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: academic criteria and procedures for enrollment of doctoral student, quality of students enrolled, the number of students enrolled and who has finished in years, average duration of doctoral studies (in years), statistics, collaboration with students who have received diploma, student's information.

Enrollment process in PhD study program in university OLGC has well defined regulatory framework, established through "Regulation of the study program". In order to qualify for enrollment in study course, there are defined criteria's, as follow:

Initially candidates should prepare a file with requested documents, which prove eligibility of the candidate. File requires:

- Request addressed to Rector, filed in the base unit.
- Curriculum vitae where is described level of study, diploma obtained, qualifications and other scientific experiences.
- Copy of diploma (Master degree), and if candidate is educated abroad, diploma need equivalence by Ministry responsible for education.
- Copies of other diplomas or certificates.
- A request for the specific area related to the respective doctorate area.
- Copy of ID or passport.
- Two photos.
- Two recommendations from professors of the area of the interest.
- International certificate of foreign language of one of five languages of the EU: English, French, Italian, German, Spanish. If candidate is graduated in one of this countries, diploma serves as language certificate.
- Certificate from employer if is employed.
- Payment receipt of registration fee.

University makes public the call for opening of PhD study program competition in their official website. There are specific criteria's for admission: candidates must have "Master Degree" diploma in the area of: pharmacy, medicine, biology, veterinary, biotechnology.

Evaluation of the candidates goes through two phases:

- First stage is based on evaluation of the project, candidate's career, and former scientific or academic experience.
- Second stage is interview of Admission Competition Commission which is set up in the base unit, where is discussed the research project presented by the candidate.

There is very well defined procedure with respective points for each evaluation area, 100 points altogether:

1. Oral exam – 20 points
2. Award degree – 25
3. Post-graduate training – 15
4. Participation in research projects and research activities- 15
5. Scientific publications – 15
6. Work experience and qualification courses related to the Doctorate - 10

After those two stages, commission announces the winning list. Winning students sign a contract with university, where are written the rights and duties of the students. [Evidence 56- Admission of students to the PhD]

There were 4 candidates who applied for the academic year 2018 – 2019, and there are 3 students enrolled.

[Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 54 Call for applications of the PhD program, No. 74 dated 27.02.2019]

Measurable indicators:

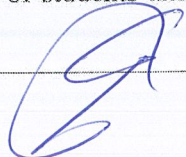
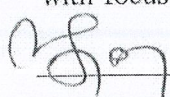
- EEG should analyze and evaluate the statistical data for doctoral students:
- The total number of PhDs students and the number for each year;
 - The number of PhDs students coming from outside of the university;
 - Number of graduates each year;
 - The average duration of doctoral studies and what has been the trend of this indicator;
 - Number and percentage of students, who have interrupted his doctoral studies.
 - Number and percentage of students, who come from Kosovo, Albanian territories, as well as from the Albanian diaspora;
 - Number and percentage of foreign students, who come from the Balkan region;
 - Number and percentage of students, who come from EU countries;
 - Number and percentage of students, who come from other countries of the world;

There are 3 students enrolled in academic year 2018-2019, who are still ongoing. There was not opened any other call after of that in 2018-2019, because of the ongoing changes of the regulatory framework.

All the students actually attending the PhD study program came from the outside of the university. All three students enrolled in academic year 2018-2019 are continuing the study course, and nobody has interrupted their studies. There is not any student from Albanian territories, Kosovo or Diaspora. There is not any student from Balkan, countries of the EU or other countries of the world.

- EEG should analyze and evaluate the information for the mobility of doctoral students at universities abroad

University OLGK has applied for new call in Brussels for internationalization of the program with focus in mobility of students and professors. This application is for “joined doctorate”



program of EU, as consortium composed by: University OLG, Ferrara in Italy and University in Poland.

University OLG has collaborated with international foundations like Rotary International USA, in collaboration with Rotary Florence, in order to finance participation of PhD student Bianka Hoxha in international scientific activities as: "EAP 2019 Congress and Master course" in Portugal and "A new renaissance of the Mediterranean area" in Florence, Italy. *[Evidence 32- The scholarship offered by Rotary International, for the candidate Bianka Hoxha]*

- Analyses and evaluation of data for the final evaluation of doctoral students

Final evaluation of the doctoral students is based on the legal framework: DCM no.112, date 23.02.2018, amended by DCM no.808 date 11.12.2019, "On the determination of the criteria for the achievement of the scientific title of the "Doctor" and the standards achievement of the academic titles of "Associates Professor" and "Professor" and study program regulation as well.

Criteria's are as follow:

- Student must have written as first or second author and published at least 3 articles in scientific journals, by which 2 of them must have been published in indexed journals in OECD, EU or G20 countries.
- Student must have presented 3 materials in scientific activities (conference, congress, symposium), 2 of them in international activities in EU, OECD or G20 countries, and published in Proceeding with ISBN or ISSN.

Completion of the requirements is followed with thesis preparation according to the format established in regulation and presentation of the thesis in the front of the jury.

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards
Standard I.3 - Admission of students in a doctorate study program	
<p>Criterion 1 The student admitted to doctorate study program has completed second study cycle with average grade (> 80% of points) and was awarded the university degree "Master of Science"/ "Master of Fine Arts" or an equivalent degree, following completion of university studies that include a scientific thesis evaluated with 30-40 ECTS;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Candidate who applies to continue the third cycle program, the doctorate, has profound theoretical knowledge in the relevant field of study. Some basic knowledge that doctorate student has is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Creative thinking; b) Development of critical sense about research; c) Connections between different fields of research; d) Skills developed for solving problems arising during research work; e) Competence to manage research complexity and to propose new ideas in research field; <p>Criterion 3 The student admitted to doctorate study program is ready to apply in practice the knowledge gained from research in relevant field of studies;</p>	<p>There are three PhD students attending the actual study program, based on the site visit at the teaching secretariat EEG confirms that all of them have completed bachelor study with degree greater than 9 out of 10 points according to Albanian system of student evaluation, and they all have "Master Degree" obtained in university OLG or other public or non-public institutions accredited as institutions and study programs as well. <i>[Evidence 3- Decision of the Ministry No. 333 dated 16.9.2015 and the Decision of the Accreditation Council no. 76 27.7.2015].</i></p> <p>University OLG has a regulatory framework related to the procedure of admission in PhD study program. According to the study program regulation, besides the professional background, candidates should prove through the interview by Admission Commission that they have creative thinking, the ability of solving problems they might</p>

Criterion 4 Student owns the English language certified in the international level, at least "C1", based on internationally recognized tests and a second foreign language as French, German, Italian, Spanish or Russian. In social sciences it may be Latin, Ancient Greek, Persian or other languages needed for research in the area;

Criterion 5 Professors' Council set the criteria for admission to program of doctorate studies contained in regulation of doctorate program of studies;

Criterion 6 The applicant has received detailed information about doctorate program of study, before being admitted into it. He is fully informed regarding:

- a) Duration of study program;
- b) Conditions that student should meet before appearing in doctorate exam;
- c) Support that institution provides to the student through administrative and research structures for activities envisaged in the study program (laboratories, libraries, etc.);
- d) Modalities of exercise of research or creative activity of doctorate students, especially with regard to preparation of doctorate thesis;

Criterion 7 Admission criteria include also interviews and supports that can be provided by references and additional documents;

Criterion 8 Admission policies include also doctorate admission exam.

face during the implementation of the research project, and ability to integrate knowledge from different areas related with research topic.

Students who finish PhD study program are prepared and ready to implement in practice knowledge gained from activities implemented in laboratories, knowledge and experience gained from collaboration with their supervisors and collaboration with international institutions, and international scientific activities as well.

One of the criteria for admission in the PhD study program is to own certified foreign language, one of the fifth European languages: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Certification is accepted according to Albanian legal framework, DCM N0.52. date 03.12.2015 and required level of proficiency C1.

The supervisor commission of the doctoral programs have approved the criteria for admission of students in PhD study program in regulation of Study Program of PhD in "Public health, Molecular Diagnosis and Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance". [Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance].

University makes public in its own website all information needed by candidates in order to make their decision to apply for PhD study program. The Call contain information about duration of program, eligible criteria needed to apply, how scientific research project will, be implemented and how university can support implementation of the project and achieving required criteria for completing PhD studies. [Evidence 54 Call for applications of the PhD program, No. 74 dated 27.02.2019].

Admission procedure passes through two phases: criteria needed to be eligible for PhD study program and interview with Commission of Admission. [Evidence 21- Approven of the composition of Commissione the Admission Competition]

There is a very well defined system of evaluation of the candidates, based on the 100-point scale divided as follow:

BM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral exam 20 points • Degree awarded 25 points • Post-graduated training 15 points • Participation in research project and other research activities 15 points • Scientific publications 15 points • Work experience and qualification courses related to the Doctorate 10 points. <p><i>[Evidence 54 Call for applications of the PhD program, No. 74 dated 27.02.2019]</i></p>
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Standard II.5 - Final evaluation of students in this cycle of studies

Criterion 1 Student provides evidence that he has acquired:

- a. Profound knowledge in relevant scientific field;
- b. Profound knowledge in some areas approximate to it;
- c. Professional skills in using modern technology to solve critical problems related to his field of scientific research;
- d. Innovation, to expand and update existing knowledge;
- e. Autonomy, scientific, professional integrity and dedication for development of new ideas that encourage scientific research;

Criterion 2 Student provides evidence that he has brought original scientific products, scientific works of a high scientific level through conducted scientific research, some of which have deserved or deserve publication in scientific national and international magazines;

Criterion 3 Final evaluation of doctorate students is based above all on an assessment of their scientific research product;

Criterion 4 On the basis of an agreement reached in the phase of the study program approval, scientific research result is presented as a dissertation thesis, or cumulative with 3 scientific articles published in international journals with impact factor coefficient above 1;

Criterion 5 In case of doctorate examination with dissertation thesis, doctorate student meets the following conditions:

- a. He has realized as first author at least three scientific papers or presentations (poster), of which two papers or presentations are held in a international scientific event, in a western country (symposium, conference, congress), accepted on the basis of a preliminary scientific assessment, published in "Proceedings", indexed with an ISBN code;
- b. He has published as first author, at least three scientific articles in scientific journals. At least two of the articles have been published or

University has decided in the regulation of the study program the process to make sure that students have acquired appropriate skills and knowledge according to the objectives of the study course and requirement of the legal framework. Every year PhD student prepress a report in order to provide acquisition of the appropriate knowledge and skills, and have fulfilled scientific and ethical standards. *[Evidence 16- Regulations of the study course, PhD in Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance; Evidence 45- Annual report of PhD students for the first year of study, 2018-2019; Evidence 46- Annual report of PhD students for the second year of study, 2019-2020]*

On the other hand, the supervisor makes sure the PhD student receives full support and guidance in order to implement the project. EEG during the site visit saw relevant reports being part of the student file.

As mentioned also above in this report the final evaluation of the doctoral students is based on the legal framework: DCM no.112, date 23.02.2018, amended by DCM no.808 date 11.12.2019, "On the determination of the criteria for the achievement of the scientific title of the "Doctor" and the standards achievement of the academic titles of "Associates Professor" and "Professor" and Study Program regulation as well.

Criteria's are as follow:

- Students must have written as first or second author and published at least 3 articles in scientific journals, by which 2 of them must have been published in indexed journals in OECD, EU or G20 countries
- Student must have presented 3 materials in scientific activities (conference, congress,

accepted for publication in well-known western journals with editorial board;

- c. He has prepared and presented to Faculty Board of Professors the dissertation, along with a summary, approved by scientific supervisor. Structure of dissertation and its summary are defined in doctorate study regulation;

Criterion 6 Board of Professors defines two or three opponents, one of which is from outside the institution. Opponents are also members of the jury to assess dissertation. They have required academic titles and rich research and publishing activities inside and outside the country in the relevant field of study in which program doctorate studies is offered;

Criterion 7 Opponents who have had a substantial involvement in the work of doctorate student, or whose work is the very focus of research project;

Criterion 8 A dissertation copy is given to every opponent, giving enough time to read it and to write a separate report. Opponents should not communicate among themselves, with doctorate student or its scientific supervisor during this period. Opponents must verify the authenticity of data used in dissertation, observance of scientific research practice as well citations of scientific research works and articles of other authors.

Criterion 9 Opponents express clearly that scientific paper is free of plagiarism. If they notice and find that this has happened, they ask for termination of dissertation assessment;

Criterion 10 Dissertation is accompanied by a summary, about 10 pages in English. This review is published in the official website of the institution, in the section designated for information for this study;

Criterion 11 Scientific supervisor of the student should not be an opponent;

Criterion 12 When opponents have completed their reports, they are called by the Dean and Head of Board of Professors to agree to conduct oral examination;

Criterion 13 It is recommended, that a jury member of doctorate examination be from universities known in the world for quality and rich research and publishing activities in the relevant field, which has at least the scientific degree "Doctor" awarded in the scientific field in which doctorate student follows the studies and over 5 years academic and research experience. This criterion may not be applied to Albanology sciences.

Assessment of doctorate student in examination is made open by consensus, provided that all members are pronounced for a passing grade. Even if one member has evaluated doctorate student by convincing arguments, with a failing grade, the final outcome will be failing;

Criterion 14 Opponents submit to dean of unit that organizes the program of doctorate studies and chairperson

(symposium), 2 of them in international activities in EU, OECD or G20 countries, and published in Proceeding with ISBN or ISSN

Completion of the requirements is followed with thesis preparation according to the format established in regulation and presentation of the thesis in the front of the jury and public.

According to Regulation of study program, Article 21, "Jury and opponents for asses of doctorate" establishes that Jury is composed by 5 members, one of them is outside of base unit and 2 of them are opponents. Members of Jury are proposed by head of base unit and consent of Dean. Rector approves the Jury with special decision. No one is appointed if has been involved in scientific research activities of the PHD student, and Supervisor can't be opponent.

Every opponent gets one copy of thesis ahead in time in order to evaluate and prepares report, not less than 4 pages, and submits it to the Dean of faculty organizing PHD study program.

During the evaluation process, Jury must evaluate: originality of the study project, capability to use modern technology and solve problems, if are reached objectives of the scientific research. There is well defined scale of evaluation of the thesis:

Thesis has 100 points, and divided:

1. 100-80% of points "very well"
2. 79-65% of points "well"
3. 64-50% of points "sufficient"
4. Less than 49% of the points "not pass".

<p>of doctorate examination jury a copy of their individual reports;</p> <p>Criterion 15 Dissertation defense for obtaining the diploma for scientific degree "Doctor" is public. It is announced at least 4 weeks before and it is done in the presence of department interested members, students and teachers in the relevant Higher Education Institution;</p> <p>Criterion 16 Evaluations that opponents can make include: granting diploma of scientific degree "Doctor", or resubmission of written scientific research paper after completion of their recommendations, or a further extension of study program, or denial of diploma for scientific degree "Doctor";</p> <p>Criterion 17 A copy of dissertation of student who received a diploma for scientific degree "Doctor" is deposited in library of faculty, research institute, university research centers, university where study program is carried out and scientific paper and a copy in National Library. Scientific degree "Doctor" is not issued without dissertation being deposited in aforementioned institutions, published in paper and on disk (CD) and without making it public in the official website of respective higher education institution;</p> <p>Criterion 18 Scientific degree "Doctor" is not issued without being registered in National Register of Doctorates of Securities Commission Academic Assessment (KVTA) in MES.</p>	
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Standard III.2 - Quantitative aspects of doctorate study program

<p>Criterion 1 Total number of registered doctorate students and doctorate number for each year;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Number of registered doctorate students coming from outside the unit that has opened the doctorate study program;</p> <p>Criterion 3 Number of diplomas issued to receive "Doctor" degree for each year;</p> <p>Criterion 4 Average duration of doctorate studies and trend of this indicator;</p> <p>Criterion 5 Number and percentage of those who gave up doctorate studies in the level of study program.</p>	<p>There are three student enrolled in actual the PhD study program. All three students are from outside the base unit has organized the study program. Until now no one has given up from PhD study program.</p>
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Standard III.4 - Internationalization of doctorate study program

<p>Criterion 1 Number, expressed in percentage, of registered doctorate students coming from Kosovo and other areas where Albanians live and Albanian diaspora;</p> <p>Criterion 2 Number, expressed in percentage, of registered doctorate students coming from Balkans region.</p> <p>Criterion 3 Number, expressed in percentage, of registered doctorate students coming from the EU countries;</p> <p>Criterion 4 Number, expressed in percentage, of registered doctorate students coming from other countries of the world;</p>	<p>There are no students enrolled in the study course from Kosovo and other areas where Albanian's lives. There are no students from Balkan, EU countries or other countries in the world.</p>
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Conclusions of IEG:

PhD study program in “Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Disease, and Pharmacovigilance” is organized based on the requirements of the regulatory legal framework approved by Government and Ministry responsible for education. The process from the admission of the student in the study program until the asses of the thesis meets all the standards and required criteria defined by relevant legal framework.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH POLICIES

10. RESEARCH IN DOCTORAL SCHOOL AND INVOLVEMENT OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: research policies of HEI /Doctoral School, publications over the years, acquired and implemented projects, participation of doctoral student in activities at home and abroad, the activities organized by the unit, etc..

In order to fulfill the general and specific objectives of PHD study program settled in the Reregulation of study program of the third cycle (Doctorate), university OLCG has created a scientific friendly environment for the students. University has invested in two laboratories, one for pharmaceutical experiments and another for microbiology. Besides that, university gives every student a certain budget (2000 Euro) in order to afford the payment for publishing and presenting their finding in international scientific magazines or activities (congress, conferences, etc). Students prepare report of their yearly scientific activities according to the plan prepared for each year, and their Supervisor looks after them in order to fulfill all the requirements, especially publishing and referring their scientific work and findings. [Evidence 53- Proof of PhD students' participation in seminars, conferences and training courses; Evidence 60- List of conferences and seminars organized by the Institution or by the Unit proposing the PhD program].

Measurable indicators:

- EEG should analyze and evaluate: data for research (verify the data, according to Table 13)

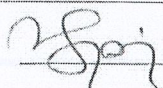
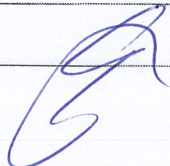
Table 13

Planned activities, individual and institution, who are involved in doctoral students	Number	The titles of scientific journals, projects, research activities
1. Publications, where students have scientific articles	7	1. Folic acid and neural tube defects in women in reproductive age – Bianka Hoxha, Malvina Hoxha, Bruno Zappacosta 2. Folic acid and autism: a systematic research on the current state and knowledge - Bianka Hoxha, Malvina Hoxha, Bruno Zappacosta 3. Interaction between the metabolism of arachidonic acid and homocysteine – Elisa Domi, Malvina Hoxha, Bianka Hoxha, Bruno Zappacosta

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Correlation between ultrasound and thyroid antibodies in the Albanian population – Minxuri D, Bino S, Miter A, Hysaj K. 5. High prevalence of anti-thyroid antibodies in a group of Albanian patients – Minxuri D, Bino S, Miter A, Toska I, 6. A cohort study on the role of the eating habits in Hashimoto's thyroiditis - Minxuri D, Bino S, Hysaj K 7. Interaction between the metabolism of arachidonic acid and homocysteine - Elisa Domi, Malvina Hoxha, Bianka Hoxha, Bruno Zappacosta
2.	Research projects, acquired by leading professors or doctoral students		None
3.	Projects Implemented		"Science for peace and security", financed by NATO, in collaboration with university of Milano, Italy and university of Astana, Kazakhstan.
4.	Scientific activities organized by the HEI		-
5.	Participants in scientific activities		-
6.	Students involved in research	3	<p>All doctorate students participate in research projects as part of the doctoral study program, as follow:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation of the blood folic acid levels in Albanian women of childbearing age – a project founded by Rotary International 2. Evaluation of the relationship between homocysteine and vascular inflammation and evaluation of the protective role of hydrogen sulfite H₂S, against oxidative stress caused by homcysteine 3. Prevalence and risk factors of chronic autoimmune thyroiditis (Hashimoto) in the Albanian population.

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards/ criterions
Standard II.1 - Capacities for scientific research	
<p>Criterion 1 A third cycle study program (doctorate) is integrated in research activity of Higher Education Institutions;</p> <p>Criterion 4 The institution has the capacity to perform supervision of each doctorate student in research activities and respective didactic duties;</p>	<p>PhD study program in "Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacovigilance" takes place within the area of university OLGK. This university has all appropriate infrastructure for implementing all</p>

Criterion 6 Academic staff must show achievements in the research field through such creative activities as: presentations, scientific publications, magazines, books or monographs;

Criterion 7 Indicators of high level research activity are publications that contain statements from publishing and scientific research activity by other scholars outside doctorate study program, especially international, regarding the outcome of scientific research in the institution that offers doctorate programs;

activities planned during study course. University has three laboratories, two of them are functional: chemistry and pharmaceutical lab, one has finished but is not operable yet – microbiological lab. On the other hand, university has clinical laboratory in polyclinic “Father Luigi Monti”. [Evidence 31- The Chemistry Lab and Pharmaceutical Lab]

University has e completed library, on paper and open source on line library on Hinary platform. Library provides “document delivery service”, for books that students can’t find in library, they can order and library will find it. [Evidence 30- Regulation of the library].

All three supervisors are professors with vast experience in international scientific research, like Prof Morghen head of microbiological laboratory, Prof. Zappacosta and Prof. Bino as former head of Institute of Public Health in Albania. [Evidence 26- Curriculum Vitae of Professor Carlo De Gtuli Morghen, scientific coordinator of the doctoral course head of the doctoral course; Evidence 27- Curriculum Vitae of Professor Bruno Zappacosta, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course; Evidence 28- CV Curriculum Vitae of Professor Silva Bino, scientific supervisor for one of the research projects of the PhD course].

Conclusions of EEG:

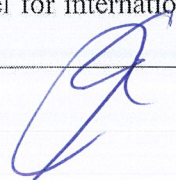
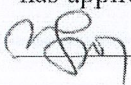
PhD study program at university OLGc is developed and implemented according to the required standards, by creating administrative and research structure in order to implement scientific research activities planned to be carried out during PHD study program.

11. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, IN FUNCTION OF DOCTORAL STUDY

Description part

Terms of reference: Based on the SER and visits to institutions, EEG should analyze and evaluate the: Doctoral School's cooperation with institutions /national or international research organizations, invited academic staff, etc..

The doctoral study program in “Public Health, Molecular Diagnosis of Infectious Disease and Pharmacovigilance” is implemented in collaboration with “Aldo Moro” University in Bari, Italy and Institution of Public Health “Hula Hajderi”, Albania. These collaborations have helped the university OLGc to fulfill the requirements of the Italian collaborators, which brings the quality of the program in European level. On the other side, university OLGc has collaborated with NATO, University of Studies of Milan, Italy and Astana University in Kazakhstan, which have internationalized the program. On the other hand, university OLGc has applied in Brussel for internationalization of the program as part of a call for project, for



“joint doctorate” program in EU in collaboration with University of Ferrara and Poland. This project will help for exchange of professors and students. *(Evidence 4- Executive Protocol between the Catholic University 'Our Lady of Good Counsel' and 'Hulo Hajdëri'; Evidence 14- Executive Protocol for the Scientific-Didactic Cooperation in the context of postgraduate training for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy of OLG 2; Evidence 24- The third mission and Internalization direction, S.A 28.03.2019 p. 20 page 4).*

Measurable indicators:

- EEG should analyze and evaluate: the national and international cooperation (verify the data, according to Table 14)

Table 14

Scientific activities in the framework of international cooperation		
1	Number of students participating as partners in national and international projects	-
2	Number of Students participating in scientific activities, outside of HEI / presentations abroad	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 19th International Congress of Endocrinology, ICE 2021 2. 4th Latin American Congress of Endocrinology, CONLEAN 3. 13th congress of Argentine Federation of Endocrinology Society (FASEN) February 24-28, 2021 4. Endocrine Society ENDO 2021, virtual congress March 20-23 2021 5. Post graduate course on diabetes and it's complications EASD , Tirane 3rd International Conference on Human, Social and Applied sciences 6. EPHAR's 8th European Congress of Pharmacology 2020 7. 19th European Congress of Internal Medicine 8. Workshop/Conferenza regional sui Balcani "Assistenza sanitaria e social per l'Alzheimer e la demenza 9. EAP 2019 congress & master course, Portugal 10. A new renaissance for the Mediterranean area, Firenze 2019
3	The number of foreign lecturers, who are invited to teaching	1
4	The number of classes held by invited foreign lecturers	-
5	Number of participants in training, in the field of abroad research	2
6	Mobility of students to and from HEI	1
7	The number of international awards in the field of research	-

- EEG should analyze and evaluate: the Cooperation with scientific institutions (verify the data, according to Table 15)

Table 15

Institutions and scientific organizations, which is cooperating with	Type of cooperation
University "Aldo Moro" Bari	Agreement for scientific research activities
Rotary International	Supports financially the mobility of the student
Institute of Public Health "Hulo Hjadieri"	Infrastructure, laboratories and academic staff
NATO	Supports financially scientific project "science for peace and security"

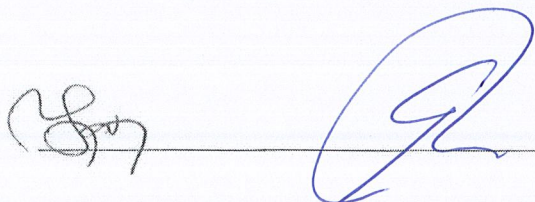
Based on Table 15, university OLGK has collaboration with several international and national institutions in order to make sure the program reaches its general and specific objectives, to provide European standards, and on the other hand to create appropriate environment for scientific research activities.

- Relevant documents, taken during visits to the institution

Evaluation according to the Standards

Standards/criterion	Evaluation according to standards/ criterions
Standard III.4 - Internationalization of doctorate study program	
<p>Criterion 5 Doctorate study program encourages doctorate mobility by paying a considerable amount of expenditures for academic training outside doctorate study program;</p> <p>Criterion 6 Doctorate study program encourages mobility of doctorate students by paying a considerable amount of expenditures for presentation of research results in national and international scientific activities (symposium, conference, congress);</p> <p>Criterion 7 The institution has an agreement, at least with one Western university, guaranteeing programs of exchange of academic staff and doctorate students and realization of joint research projects. For Albanological Sciences cooperation could also be with a Higher Education Institution or research center in Kosovo and lands where Albanians live;</p> <p>Criterion 8 Doctorate study program creates the necessary space to develop joint doctorate study programs with homologous universities in the region, Europe and beyond;</p> <p>Criterion 9 Doctorate study program provides for 3-4 modules (not less than 15 ECTS) to be conducted, organized in theoretical studies and doctorate students have the exam by professors of partner universities, known in the world, for quality and research, publishing</p>	<p>University OLGK encourages the students of this study program, to participate and present their scientific research findings by providing them with a personal budget about 2000 Euro. This budget is administered by students in order to fulfill all requirement of the program for publishing or presenting their scientific research findings in international magazines or activities. [Evidence 40- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Bianka Hoxha; Evidence 41- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Elisa Domi; Evidence 42- Articles and Conferences by the PhD student Dorina Minxuri.pdf Evidence 60- List of conferences and seminars organized by the Institution or by the Unit proposing the PhD program].</p> <p>University has guaranteed appropriate budget for one student to go and implement a part of her scientific project in Italy, in collaboration with Rotary International. University support expenses needed for research projects, needed for consumables or paying a part of the price of the tests done in other laboratories. [Evidence 32- The</p>

<p>activities in the relevant field of study. Exception cited in criterion 7 applies for Albanological Sciences;</p> <p>Criterion 10 Doctorate study program promotes involvement of professors from foreign universities as scientific supervisors or as scientific collaborators of doctorate students.</p>	<p><i>scholarship offered by Rotary International, for the candidate Bianka Haxha.</i></p> <p>Based on the meetings during the site visit the university has applied to EU for a joint doctorate program in collaboration with Ferrara university in Italy and university in Poland.</p>
<p>Standard II.1 - Capacities for scientific research</p>	
<p>Criterion 5 The institution has agreements with other academic or research institutions at home and abroad, supporting the exchange of academic staff and doctorate students and academic and research activities of doctorate school;</p>	<p>As stated above the university OLGC has agreements with several academic or research international institutions, like university "Aldo Moro" in Bari, Italy, university of Milano for student mobility and project implementation in collaboration with Astana university Kazakhstan.</p>
<p><u>Conclusions of EEG:</u></p> <p>University OLGC has very clear policy for supporting financially PhD students in order to afford expenses for their research activities. University has agreements with international institutions for scientific research in order to assure high standards for PhD study program and provide students with most relevant capabilities and knowledge in the area of scientific research.</p>	



SWOT ANALYSIS OF THE PhD STUDY PROGRAM “PUBLIC HEALTH,
MOLECULAR DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND
PHARMACOVIGILANCE” OFFERED BY CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY “OUR LADY
OF GOOD COUNSEL”

Strengths

1. Institutional and financial sustainability for the successful delivery of this study program.
2. Well established the curriculum and cooperation with national and international institutions of the field, including scientific and financing organizations.
3. Very experienced national and international Professors of the field.
4. Appropriate infrastructure for the successful delivery of the study program (library, laboratories and campus).
5. Functional legal framework and structures in function of PhD study program.

Weaknesses

1. Not enough financial funds for the support of the students of this study program.

Opportunities

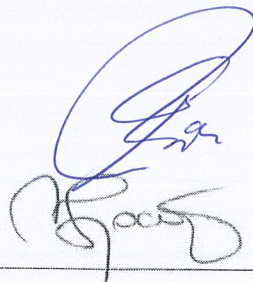
1. Contribution to the current and future epidemical and pandemic situations.
2. Preparing the doctoral students for scientific research with current high technology.
3. Lack of researchers of the fields of PHS study course, especially pharmacovigilance and molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases, which increases the demand of the Albanian health system for those researchers.

Threats

1. Slowing the process because of pandemic restriction of person's movement, training, and financing.
2. Frequent change of the PhD studies legal framework by the government side, which does not create sustainability environment for university.

Recommendations

1. The institution should continue to attract more funds for the financial support of the doctoral students.
2. The institution should develop a strategical plan for future continuing of the PhD study program.
3. The institution should have the specific medical own journal for publications.



External Evaluation Group:

1. Prof. Assoc. Dr. Gazment Koduzi
2. Prof. Assoc. Dr. Milazim Gjocaj