



COUNCIL OF LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

DECISION

**ON THE APPROVAL OF THE QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY OF LITHUANIAN
UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

22 December 2022 No UT1-24-2

Kaunas

The Council of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (“the Council”), in accordance with Article 8(3)(2), Article 8(4) and Article 27(11) of the Law on Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania, Section 23(19) of the Statute (Official Gazette, 2010, No 81-4231; 2012, No 81-4227, i. c. 1121010NUTA0XI-2147) of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (the “University”), Measure No 4.10.3 “Continuous Improvement of Operational Processes” of Objective No 4.10 “To Increase the Efficiency of Management and Activity Processes” of the University’s Strategic Development Guidelines and Implementation Plan for 2022-2026 approved by Decision No UT1-11-1 of 25 November 2021 of the Board, taking into account the proposal of the Senate and the information provided by Raminta Strazdauskaitė, Head of the Quality and Strategy Monitoring Service, hereby decides:

To approve the following Quality Assurance Policy of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (attached).

Chairman of the Board

/Signature/

Gintaras Skorupskas

APPROVED

By Decision No UT1-24-2 of the
Council of Lithuanian University
of Health Sciences of 22/12/2022

QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY OF LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Purpose and Application

This document shall describe the main provisions for the implementation of the quality objectives of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (“LSMU”, the “University”). The LSMU Quality Assurance Policy shall define the links between the University’s quality assurance model and internationally recognised models of quality assurance in higher education and their implementing documents. The provisions of implementing LSMU quality objectives shall be followed by all members of the University community in all their activities and they shall be taken into account in the drafting of documents regulating the University’s activities.

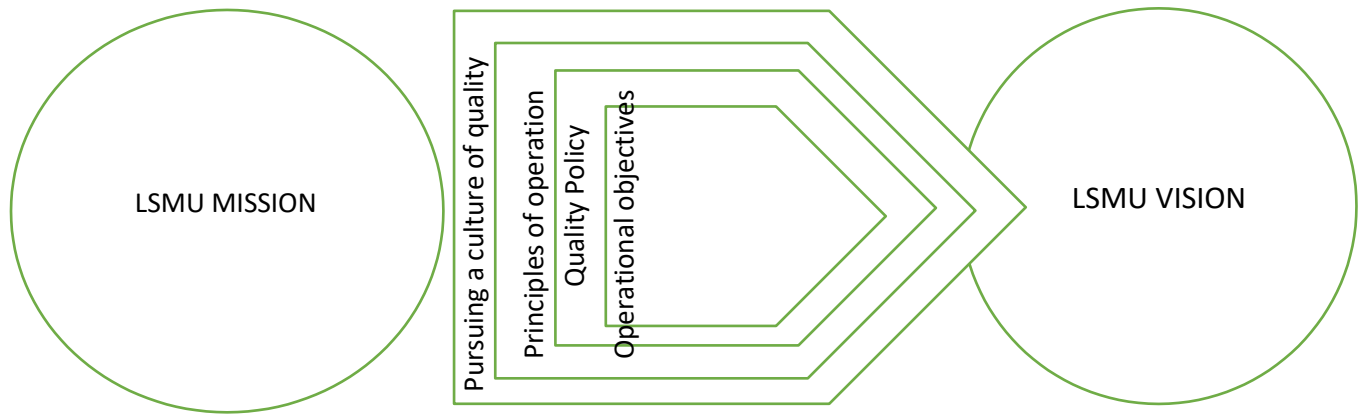
Quality Policy

The University shall be actively committed to ensuring the quality of its research and studies, its clinical and other activities. The mission of the University shall be *“To create, accumulate, systematise and disseminate scientific knowledge, the latest achievements in science and studies, to teach and educate creative, honest, proactive, educated, healthy, independent and entrepreneurial individuals, to promote democracy and prosperity, and to foster a healthy and well-educated society. The exclusive role of LSMU in this educational process shall be the pursuit of a healthy society, guaranteeing the social and economic progress of the country, the civilisational identity of Lithuania, the creation, preservation, and development of cultural traditions of the country and the world. Animal health and welfare shall be an integral part of this objective.”* is based on the principle of the unity of science, studies and clinical practice and is carried out in the national and international context. The mission shall be based on the University’s core values—respect for life; community; academic principles; openness; professionalism; fairness—to achieve only the highest quality of studies, research and development activities, and human and animal healthcare.

The University’s academic community shall be aware of and support the highest quality objectives, it shall be equipped with the necessary material resources and it shall know its responsibilities in ensuring quality. The University’s academic community shall have the opportunity to participate in both process improvement activities and the development of their subject competences. The involvement of social partners in quality assurance shall be seen as a prerequisite for continuous improvement. The activities of the University’s academic community shall be guided by the above values and the following principles, and the highest quality objective and continuous improvement shall be generally understood as one of the key conditions for the implementation of the University’s vision of *“Europe’s Leading University of Health Sciences for the Prosperity of Society”*.

The quality objectives of the University shall be linked to the strategic management model (see the figure below) and, through the quality policy outlined in this document, implement the generally accepted quality assurance principles applied in higher education, in order to comply with

the expectations of students, social partners, and other stakeholders. The effectiveness of the processes shall be realised through performance and outcome improvement targets set at the strategic level and the continuous monitoring of their efficiency. An institutional quality culture shall be seen as an essential prerequisite for quality assurance; therefore, its development shall be an ongoing objective through the application of the operating principles defined in this policy.



A model for the implementation of quality objectives at LSMU

The University shall ensure that the documents regulating all activities are drafted in accordance with the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania and are oriented towards the implementation of the principles of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). The University's procedures shall be updated in a timely manner and shall be accessible to the entire academic community. Quality assurance measures shall be integrated into the regulations and procedures describing individual activities. Quality leadership shall be exercised by the Rector of the University, who shall also be responsible for the quality assurance of the results of the activities provided by the University, while the quality assurance system shall be coordinated by the Office for Quality and Strategy Monitoring, which shall also continuously improve the effectiveness of the system and monitor its results in a timely manner.

The University's research activities shall be based on the general principles of research professionalism and ethics: academic freedom, reliability, integrity, respect, responsibility, and accountability. European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity¹ shall apply to research in all scientific fields. The University shall have an internal quality assurance system for research, which shall provide for ways and means of ensuring the quality of research². Research and experimental development shall be carried out in strict compliance with the principles and procedures of academic ethics, social and environmental responsibility, and impartial access to scientific literature and data. Researchers' statements shall be based only on objective research results and evidence. All these measures shall provide the strongest guarantee of the accuracy and objectivity of scientific results and ensure public confidence in science. The rights of human subjects and the welfare and protection of animals involved in research shall be ensured in strict compliance with applicable

¹ [The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#).

² Regulations on Scientific Activities of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences.

legislation. Intellectual property at the University shall be managed in accordance with the following fundamental principles: freedom of creation and research; dissemination of knowledge and the use of intellectual property for the benefit of society; protection of intellectual property rights; cooperation with authors and partners in Research and Experimental Development (R&ED) activities for the purpose of the commercialisation of scientific results; and participation in the international and European research area. They shall be implemented through the Intellectual Property Management Regulations.³

The model of the quality assurance system of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences shall be based on the provisions of the Standard in the European Higher Education Area ESG2015 and it shall be implemented using the continuous improvement cycle model. It shall support the principles of academic freedom and contribute to academic integrity. It shall take into account the University's aforementioned core values. The integrity of the University's management and administration system in terms of quality assurance shall be continuously maintained by ensuring close connections between the University's core processes: research, studies, clinical activities, management, and administration. The setting of process objectives and the monitoring of results shall be based on the principles of strategic management and properly implemented through the process of approving, implementing, and updating (as necessary) the Strategic Development Guidelines and their implementation plan. The management and administration of the University shall be based on the provisions defined in the Code of Good Governance⁴. The management and administration process shall take into account the implementation of quality objectives oriented towards the University's academic community, social partners, and society. The management and administration process shall ensure that clear objectives for activities are set and achievements are monitored; timely responses to problems in activity results are made and effective decisions are taken and monitored; processes are resourced; the effectiveness of activities is continuously pursued and measured through quantitative and qualitative process efficiency indicators; an effective system of motivation of the academic community is established and maintained; socially responsible administration is ensured; and any form of discrimination or unfairness towards staff or students is not tolerated.

Publication, Approval and Revisions

The Quality Assurance Policy shall be approved by the Council of the University after consideration by the Senate of the University.

The Quality Assurance Policy shall be publicly available on the University's website in the important documents section.

The Quality Policy shall be reviewed at least once a year, as well as in the event of changes in key external quality assurance standards, the University's strategic development guidelines, or national legislation related to the implementation of external quality assurance, as well as in the event of significant changes in the context of the European Higher Education Area. The updated Quality Assurance Policy shall be approved in accordance with the procedure described above.

³ [Intellectual Property Regulations of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences.](#)

⁴ Code of Good Governance, approved by Resolution No 54-02 of the Senate of 23 January 2015 (as amended)