

The Spanish Primary Health Care Accreditation System

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The Spanish Primary Health Care Accreditation System (SaAP) was set up in response to the poor specific offer to requirements of the everyday primary health care family doctor.

SaAP was created in May of 1996 as an initiative of two of the three Spanish Scientific Societies of primary care, SEMFYC (Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine) and SEMERGEN (Spanish Society of Rural and General Medicine) to impulse the first accreditation system of continual medical education activities to keep Spanish primary health care doctor's competence.

Spain is divided into 17 Autonomous communities. Each Spanish Autonomous Community has a SEMFYC federal society. Only two SEMFYC federal societies: Madrid and Catalunya have a Technical Assessment Commission (TAC). SaAP is in charge of the accreditation of applications of the activities directed to the whole country and those directed to the communities without TAC. SaAP, Madrid TAC and Catalunya TAC are composed of 9 members each that are replaced gradually to guarantee continuity. Every year a meeting is held among them.

Accreditation criteria

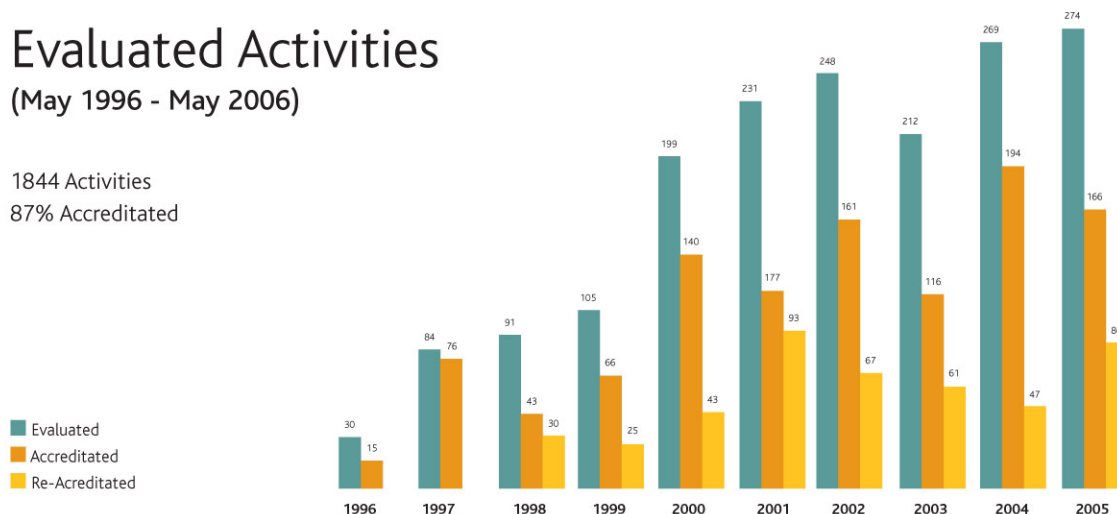
- (1) relation with the professional profile
- (2) teaching aims
- (3) contents and its adequacy to the aims
- (4) teaching methodology
- (5) maximum number of pupils
- (6) teachers quality
- (7) length
- (8) pupils assessment
- (9) teachers assessment
- (10) accessibility.

Basic Criteria are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 should be met.
 The rest could be partially met.

Evaluated Activities

(May 1996 - May 2006)

1844 Activities
 87% Accredited



During its first year SaAP received 30 applications of activities. They have increased progressively till 2005 with 274 applications (228 presence and 46 distance learning). In the last three years SaAP has been fully computerised, issuing 45.438 certificates. More information in the WEB page:

<http://www.saap.semfyc.es>