



NHRA signs a memorandum of understanding with the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

The National Health Authority (NHRA) in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance bilateral cooperation. The signing of the MoU follows the decision of the Cabinet to approve the agreement between NHRA and the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties for cooperation between the two parties in the field of licensing of healthcare professionals.

The MoU was signed by NHRA Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Mariam Al Jalahma, and the Secretary General of the Saudi Commission Dr. Ayman Abdu. Furthermore, talks were held on areas of cooperation, exchanges of experiences and ways to enhance communication to better serve the community of health practitioners in both countries.

On the occasion of the signing, Dr. Mariam Al Jalahma, stated “The two sides believe in the importance of cooperation between professional bodies in setting standards for practicing health professions. In view of the vast scientific and professional expertise of the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties, the Kingdom of Bahrain can only benefit from such a collaboration. The Memorandum of Understanding includes cooperation in several areas, such as laying the foundations and standards for practicing health professions, including the principles of professional ethics, evaluation of professional health certificates and their equivalence, procedures and mechanisms for the classification, registration of health professionals, as well as the rules and procedures for obtaining a license to practice and the use of licensure exams held by the Saudi commission for professionals. This MoU also includes collaboration in the recognition and approval of continuing medical education programs in health specialties.”

The two sides have agreed to put in place the framework of the executive plan to implement the provisions of the memorandum. An understanding was reached to recognize the training and licenses of physicians trained under the Saudi Board training program and allow these physicians to practice in the Kingdom of Bahrain and similar reciprocity shown to Bahraini physicians in Saudi Arabia. The two parties also agreed to hold joint meetings on the organization of practicing the profession.



IMPLEMENTATION OF ONLINE LICENSURE EXAMS

The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) signed an agreement with Prometric to provide technology-enabled testing and assessments for licensure exams of healthcare professionals seeking employment in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



Under the new agreement, candidates planning to work in various health professions in Bahrain will be able to test in – and out of – the Kingdom electronically. Additionally, they will be able to test on any day of the year. Collectively, these two measures will greatly improve the service to the candidates taking the test and to employers – offering candidates greater convenience on a global level while assuring Bahraini employers that applicants have successfully demonstrated their knowledge and job skills required by the laws and regulations of the Kingdom.

To date 251 professionals that include 27 doctors, 17 dentists, 22 pharmacists and 185 nurses, have utilized the online licensure exam.

NHRA Department Activities

Medical Device Licensing

A total number of **2,906** Medical Device requests have been approved by NHRA with a total value of **9,804,419.56** BD

Pharmaceutical Products Regulation

Pharmaceutical Barcoding — Restricting counterfeit drugs from entering the Kingdom of Bahrain

In an effort to restrict counterfeit drugs from entering the Kingdom, NHRA has approved the implementation of barcoding all medicines coming into the Kingdom. The plan will be implemented by the end of next year in collaboration with GS1 Bahrain, a globally recognized barcode provider.

The Barcode will feature a serial number unique to Bahrain, this code helps in tracking the drug from the factory and can give us information such as the manufacturer, date of production, expiry date and other important details.

When this scheme is implemented, medicines entering Bahrain will have to have this specific barcode to clear Bahraini Customs. The barcode will inform the Bahraini Customs of the exact quantity of medicines entering the Kingdom.

Once medicine have entered this barcode will enable users to track the medicine's storage location, where it is being delivered and even to which patient it was administered too.

On the whole barcoding will give us a complete picture of, and control over, the procurement and dispensing of medication.

Barcoding will begin early next year to ensure that by the end of the year no medicine will enter the country without a specific barcode.

PPR's Annual Statistics Jan-June 2018

Activity	
Medicines New Registration	9 (GCC-DR)
Medicines Licenses Renewal	179
Medicines Variations	512
Non-Registered Products Applications	858
Health Products New Registration	16
Pharmaceutical Products Classification	247
International Manufacturing Sites Registration	32

Health Professionals Licensing



Physicians



Dentists



Nurses

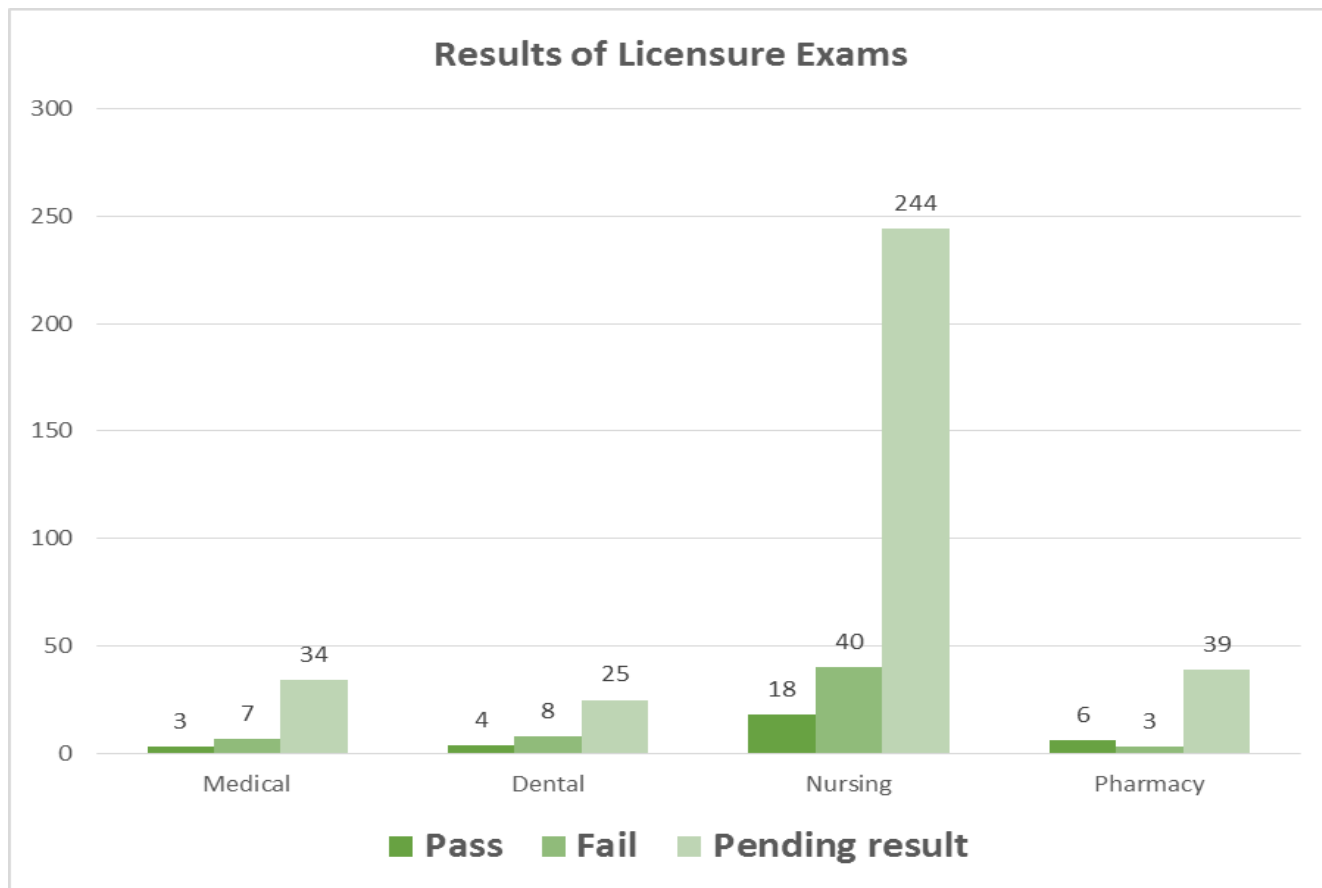


Allied Health

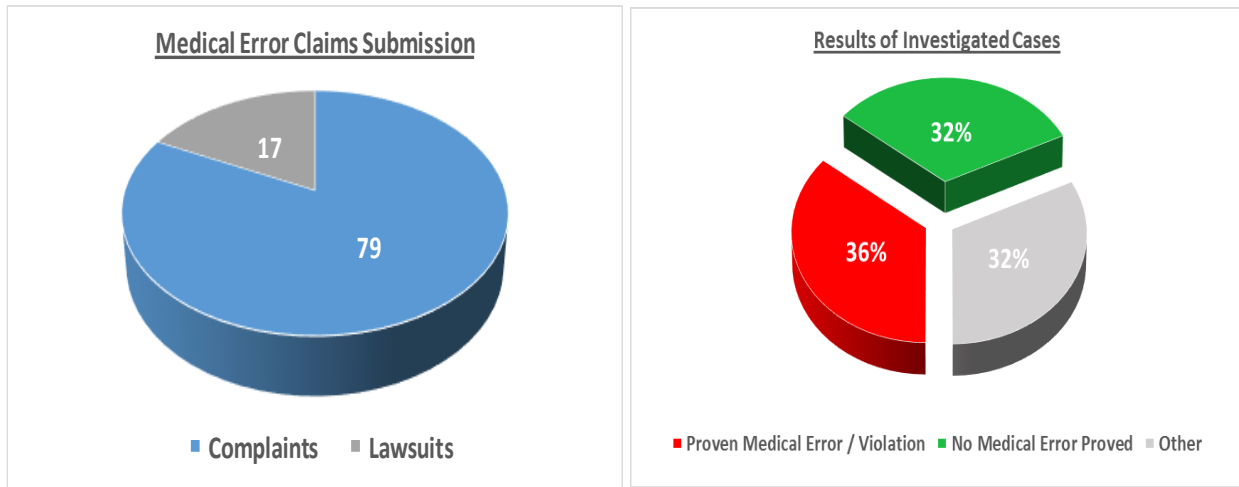


Pharmacists

New Licensing Applications Received	317	107	506	389	104
Renewal of License Applications Received	1004	280	2230	878	403
Total Number of Licenses issued	1169	331	2157	1127	568

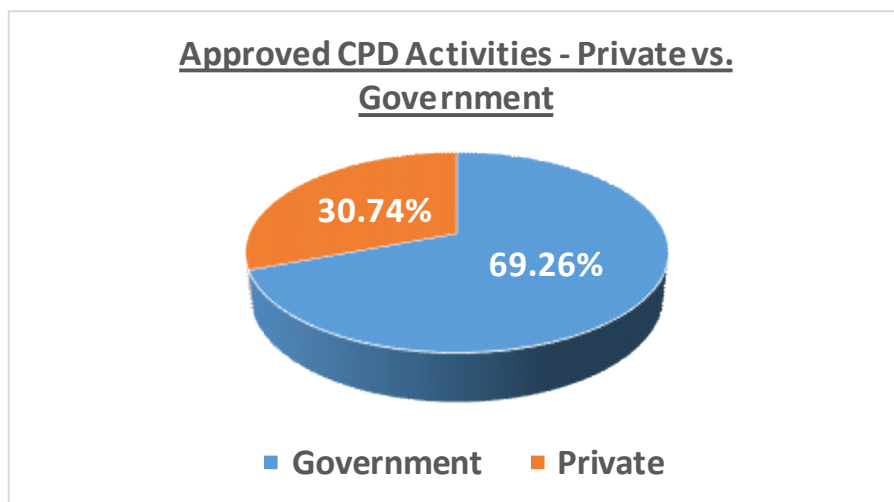


Medical Complaints



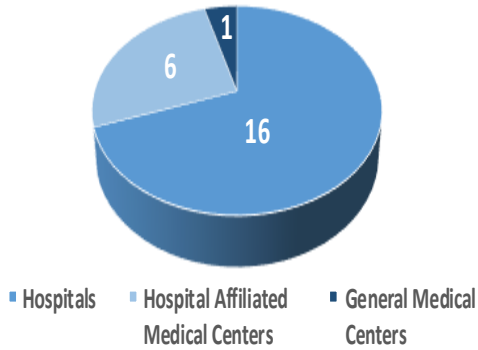
Continuous Professional Development

Total Number of Applications Submitted	7985
Applications Approved	7895
Applications Rejected	90

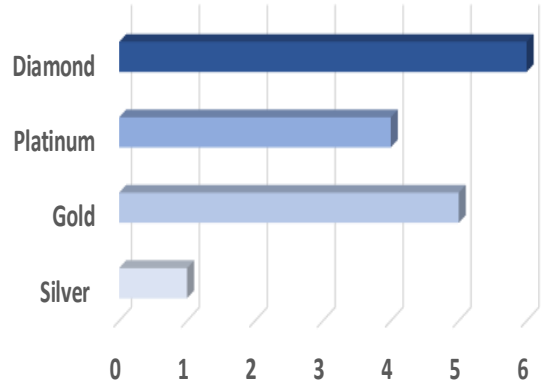


Accreditation

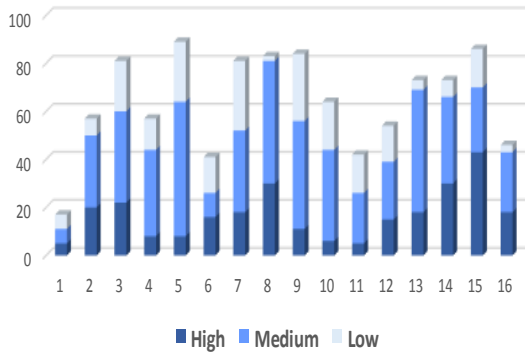
Accredited Facilities 2017 - 2018



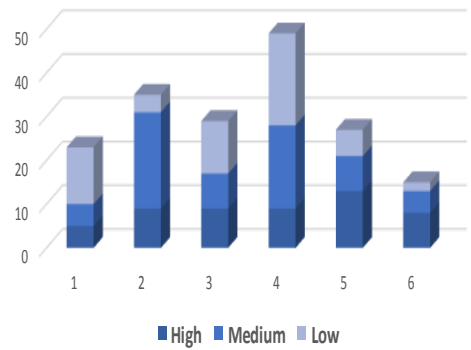
Accreditation Award Distribution



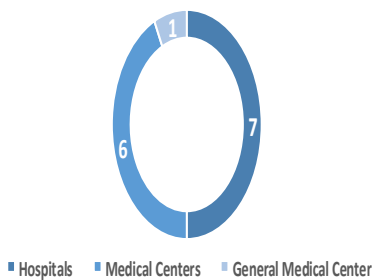
Distribution of Recommendation Priorities - Hospitals



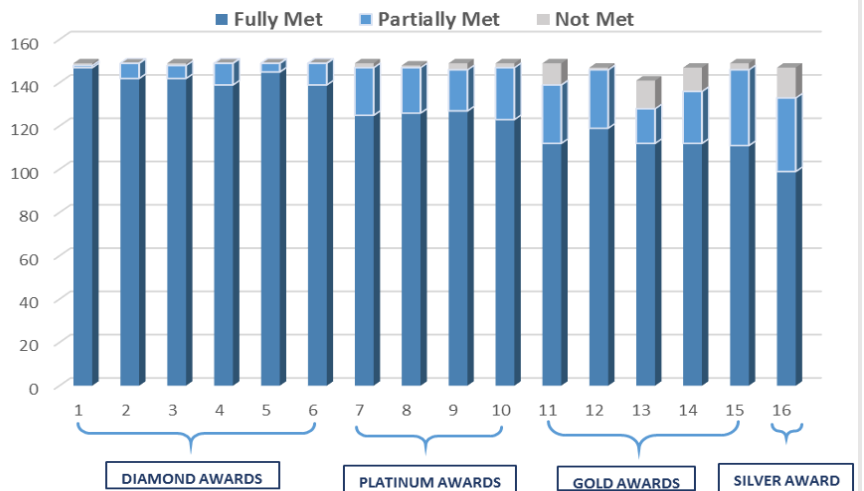
Distribution of Recommendation Priorities - Affiliated Medical Centers



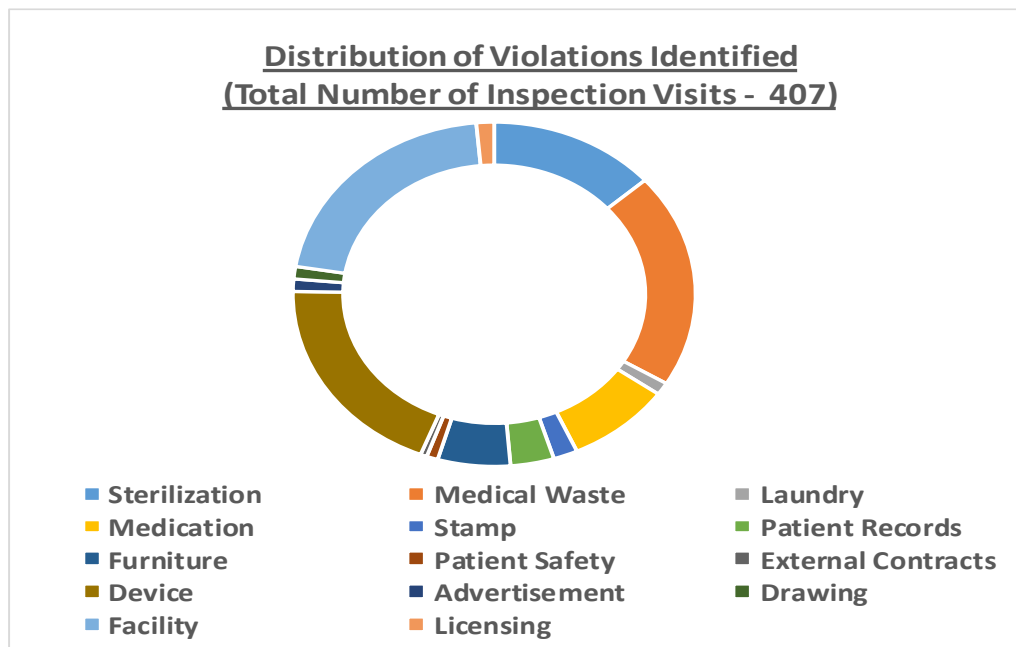
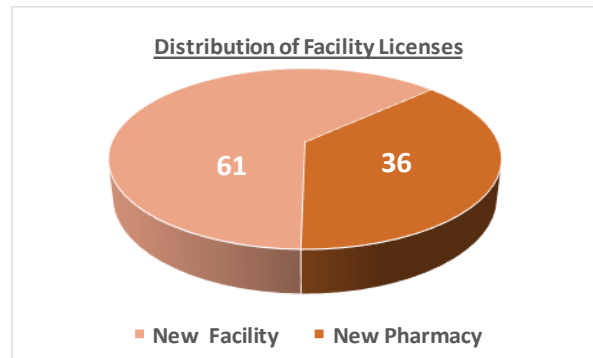
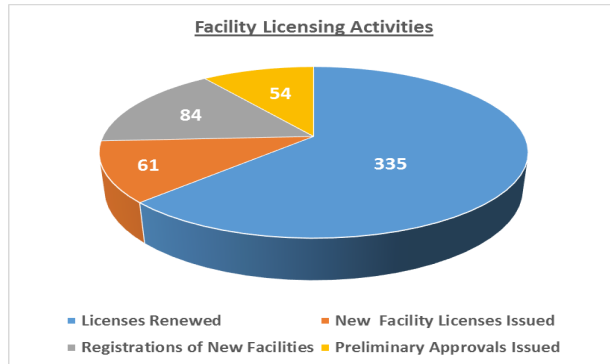
Quality Improvement Plans Submitted



Distribution of Compliance of Hospitals to the 11 Core NHRA Standards



Health Facility Licensing



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