

Developing and Piloting National Accreditation Standards for CPD Providers in Qatar

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Background

A Vision: Qatar’s National Health Strategy (NHS) 2011-2016 seeks to achieve the health goals and objectives as outlined within the Qatar National Vision (QNV) 2030 . NHS Project 5.2.7 “Framework for CPD/CME program accreditation – approved framework and orientated stakeholders” includes CPD policies, standards and licensing requirements and a means of enforcing them through the accreditation process.

Mandatory CPD Program: Effective March 2016, all healthcare practitioners licensed to practice in the State of Qatar will be required to complete and report their participation in accredited CPD activities that meet the standards and policies established by the Accreditation Department of the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP-AD).

Accredited CPD providers are key participants in the implementation of a robust national CME/CPD Framework in Qatar by providing learners access to access high-quality educational resources. CPD activities developed by accredited CPD provider organizations will be approved for credit within the CPD Framework for the State of Qatar.

International Collaboration: Advancing and improving healthcare is a shared vision for both Canada and Qatar. The QCHP-AD and the Royal College Canada International have collaborated on the development and piloting of a set of standards for CPD provider organizations.

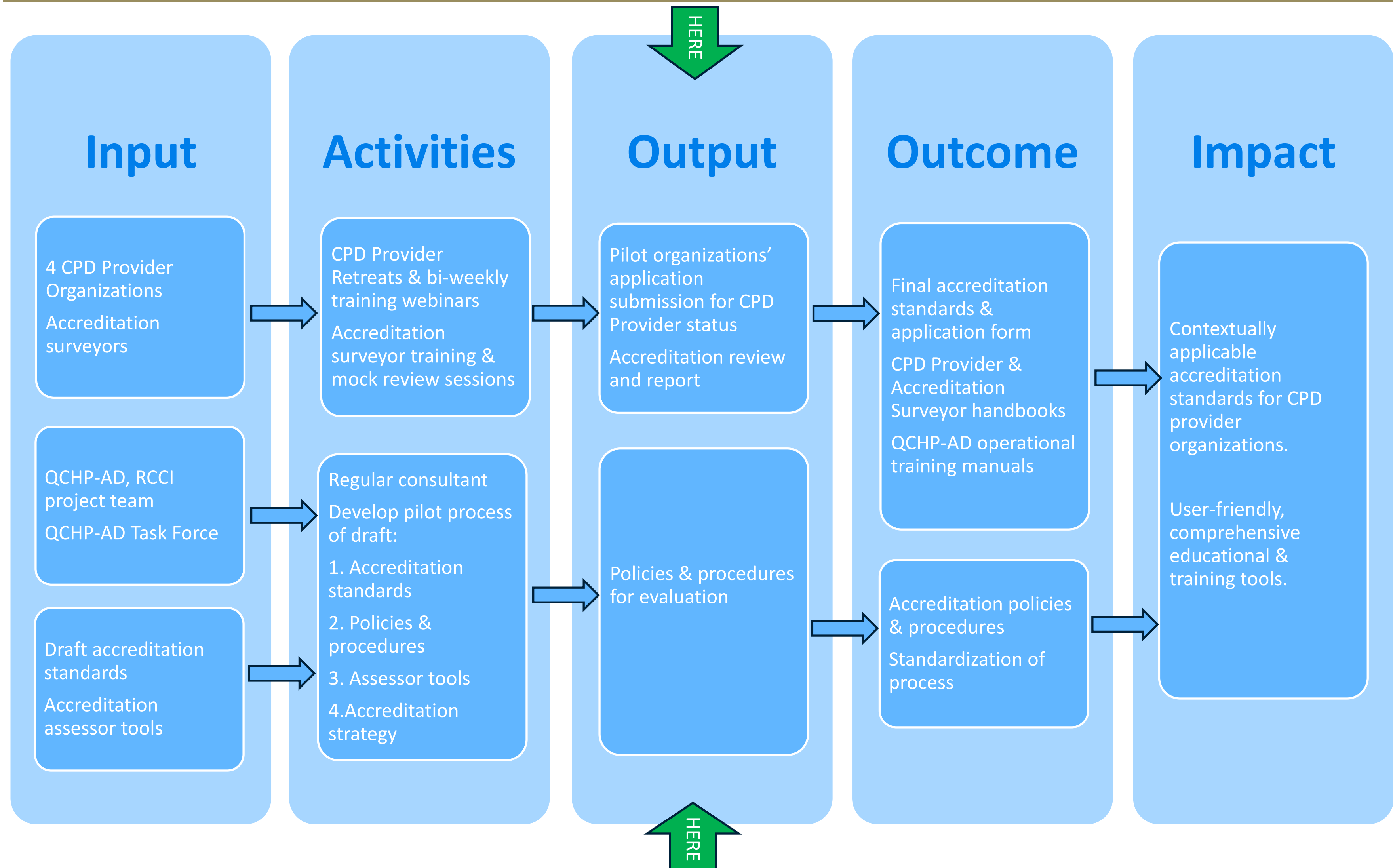
Methods

The pilot evaluation program was planned as a multi-pronged, qualitative approach. Participants will be recruited from four (volunteer) pilot CPD provider organizations as well as a sampling of accreditation surveyors. Data will be collected using an iterative approach.

An online survey will be disseminated to participants. In order to expand on these results, the research team will use survey data to generate a series of questions to inform several focus groups.

Study results will be formulated in light of both survey results and a qualitative thematic analysis of focus group transcripts. Rather than hypothesis testing, this methodological approach meets the overarching project goal of exploring quality improvement assurance.

Pilot Project Logic Model



The overall goal of implementing a CPD accreditation system is to 1. Improve competence & performance of healthcare practitioners 2. Promote collaboration and 3. Be responsive of health needs of patients and communities.

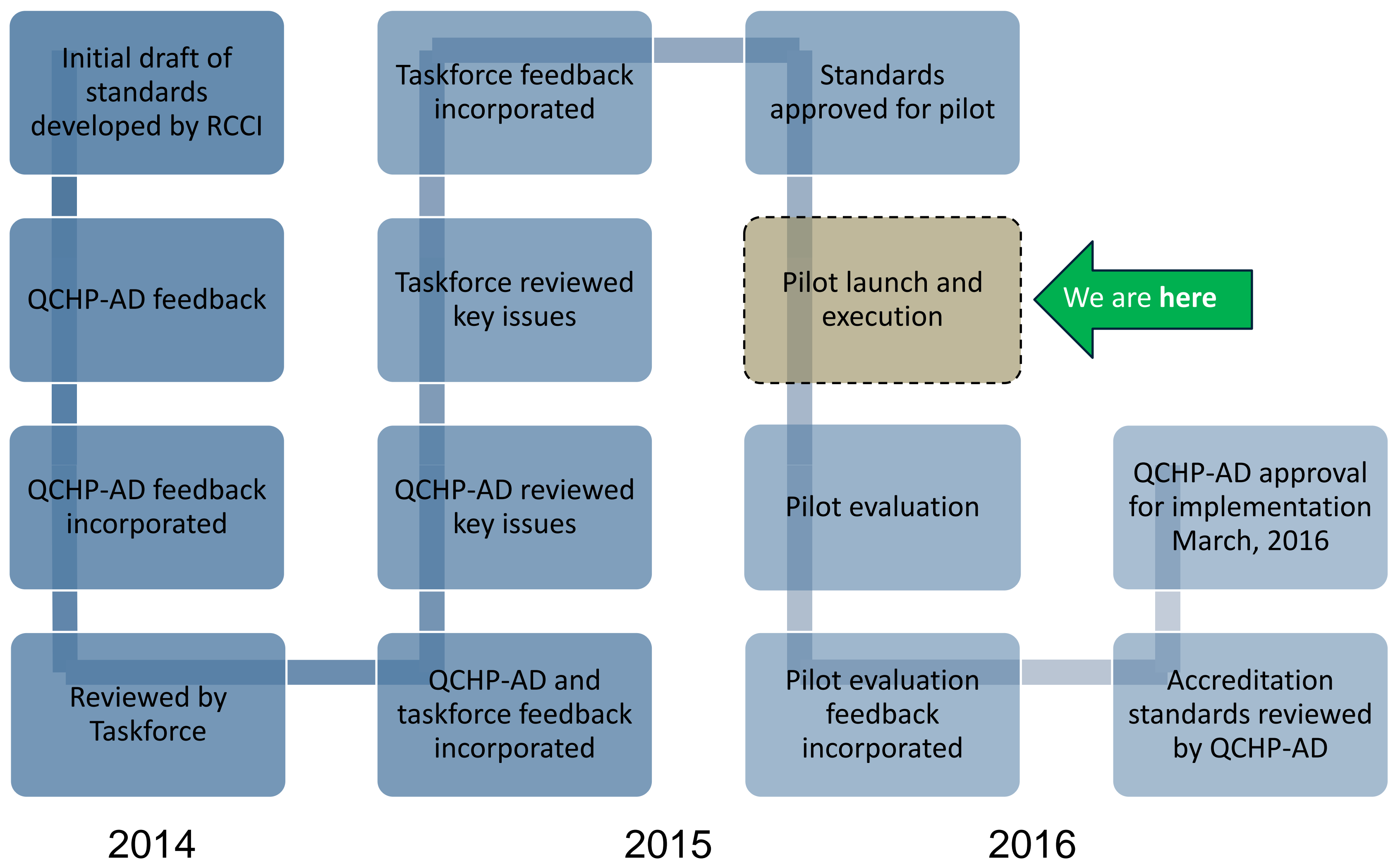
Pilot Project Goals

- To test the applicability of the QCHP-AD Accreditation Standards for CPD Provider Organizations in real-world situations.
 - To refine the Standards.
- To test the applicability of the QCHP-AD Accreditation policies and procedures in real-world situations.
 - To refine the policies and procedures.
- To build training tools for QCHP-AD staff, accredited CPD providers, surveyors, and committees.

Iterative Standards Development Process

CPD Accreditation Standards for Providers were developed to reflect the Qatar Context.

- Royal College Canada International experience was considered.



Early Lessons Learned

The development and pilot testing of the accreditation standards for CPD provider organizations has been a complex endeavor. Many early lessons have been learned. The following engaged stakeholders early and often to:

- Support a knowledge translation strategy a priori;
- Conduct work and collaboration transparently;
- Promote and embody flexibility and adaptability;
- Support, embrace and anticipate change;
- Ensure relevance to those directly impacted by the change;
- Support the development of standards that are clear to the end-user.

Take-Home Message

The design and implementation of emerging CPD accreditation systems can be fostered through international collaboration based on a common set of values, principles and metrics.

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Scan to learn more about the Accreditation Department of the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP-AD)

Project Declarations: No conflicts of interest to declare for any authors

