International Platform on Health Worker Mobility: Evidence, Solutions and Instruments

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Sweden as a destination country

Total number of refugees seeking for asylum in Sweden 2013-2018
Large increase in applications for license from outside Sweden/EU
”Sweden together”

• In September 2010 the Swedish Government presented an initiative aiming for a national gathering to discuss how to integrate migrants and refugees.

• ”Fast track” for refugees and migrants getting access to work. Private and public sector, as well as employers and employees working together.

• A special financial and structural effort for validating the education of foreign health workers.

• ”We work with you – not against you”. Information to those seeking for a licence. A new updated website in Swedish, English and Arabic language
Reduced time for a first decision in the application process

• From around 15 months in December 2015 to less than 2 months today

Not yet handled applications
Focus on knowledge rather than documents

• Knowledge tests for 21 professions focusing on theoretical and practical knowledge

• Followed by legal course and a practical period focusing on the aptitude and skills

• Tests are provided several times a year for the largest groups (eg. physicians, nurses, dentists and pharmacists).
Results

• The number of issued licences has increased
• A faster process
• A better understanding and trust from those who applies for a license toward Swedish agencies
• Continuous challenge to produce efficient knowledge tests