

## **TUFH 2020** Abstracts

Title	Incorporating Social Accountability into Accreditation: A working proposal (in progress) for the Americas.
Туре	TUFH Oral Presentation
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Content	Background Social accountability is a concept that encourages academic centers to reorient education, research and service in order to respond to the changing challenges of healthcare and population needs. Accreditation systems are seen as a powerful driver for change, but the present standards must be reframed by first incorporating principles of social accountability. Methods A group of experts was convened by PAHO/WHO in November 2019 to recommend first steps to introduce standards on socially accountable health education in the accreditation systems of selected countries in the Americas Results The expert group defined three priority areas: 1) Strategy for implementation on the authority of change Identify champions and stakeholders (seek support). Understand processes to change standards (what are the rules). Identify and manage barriers. Ensure all decision makers are informed. Create need and urgency in the topic but with gentle implementation. Develop clear messaging. 2) Working definition of social accountability based on a history of success. Use the Canadian model and standard language as starting point. Resolve challenges with terminology and translations. Use descriptors that are neither too vague nor too complex. Develop tools to support implementation. 3) Selection of descriptors of social accountability to be used by accrediting bodies. Inspiration for the design and deployment of such standards can be found in multiple sources (such as ASPIRE, THEnet framework, or ISAT instrument among others) Conclusions This paper advocate for stronger links between social accountability, accreditation systems and health services challenges in order to better contribute towards health for all.