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Medical School in Split: Intentions and Achievements

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This paper describes the origins, aims, and current status of the Split University School of Medicine. Split University School of Medicine was founded several times anew (in 1806, 1944, and 1974), and eventually started to operate as an independent faculty on March 26, 1997. Conceived as a small and efficient medical school, each year it enrolls 50 freshmen at the most. The whole curriculum contains 27 courses (no "majors" or "minors"), each of around 200 class hours, which amounts to a total of 5,610 teaching hours. The teaching process aims at achieving skills and knowledge necessary in general medical practice, at establishing an intellectual basis for further education, and corresponding with the specific medical needs of the coastal area ("Adriatic orientation") Student/instructor ratio is close to 2.0 and the teaching goals are defined better than in older medical schools in the region. The first results are already tangible.

Key words: academic medical centers; clinical clerkship; Croatia; curriculum; education, medical, undergraduate, postgraduate; hospitals, teaching; hospitals, university; schools, medical