



The Republic of Uganda

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

---

Office of the Director General - Public Relations Unit  
Director General's Office: 256-414-340873 Fax: 256-41-4231584  
[info@health.go.ug](mailto:info@health.go.ug)/[emmanuel.ainebyoona@health.go.ug](mailto:emmanuel.ainebyoona@health.go.ug)

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New Digital Platform Strengthens Ministry of Health Supervision of the Privately Owned Health Facilities**

**Kampala – 4 August 2022-** The Ministry of Health has launched the Self-regulatory Quality Improvement System (SQIS), a digital platform designed through a collaborative effort between the medical regulatory authorities and private health sector represented by the Uganda Healthcare Federation, with financial resources provided by **Private Sector Foundation Uganda(PSFU) in partnership with Mastercard Foundation under the COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Resilience Response Program (CERRRP)** and USAID. The aim of this platform is to modernise the supervision of the private health sector and move away from the archaic system of going door to door and looking for what is wrong with the health facilities.

“Effective today, the Ministry of Health and the regulatory authorities will expect all privately owned health facilities to log onto the SQIS platform and assess themselves using the link [www.sqis.health.go.ug](http://www.sqis.health.go.ug)”, Dr. Henry G. Mwebesa, the Director General Health Services said.

Dr. Martin Ssendyoona the Commissioner for Standards, Certification, Accreditation and Patient Protection added that “With the SQIS, the Ministry of Health, regulatory councils and local governments across the country will have access to data in the platform through several dashboards. These dashboards will indicate performance from facility level, to district and national level. Most importantly, the dashboards will allow for the development of improvement interventions at policy level as well as influence the formulation of Continuous Medical Education (CME) seminars that target and focus on areas of improvement identified through the assessments.”

Ms. Grace Kiwanuka, the Executive Director of Uganda Healthcare Federation said “The SQIS platform and new approach symbolises the recognition that the private health sector is a partner in health service position but also the commitment of the Ministry of Health and its partners to collaborate in solutions that are relevant to the times.

Dr. Katumba Sentongo, the Registrar at Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council said “We will be using this system when we inspect facilities in the country, so if they have completed an assessment, they will have a good idea of what we are looking for and how to improve it before we get to them.”

Initially piloted in August 2016, the SQIS, examines 16 service areas including medicines management, customer care, record keeping and leadership and governance. The data is put into an online platform using a phone, tablet or computer, depending convenience and the information is used to generate a quality improvement plan that spans one year.

The Ministry of Health has resolved that the SQIS is now mandatory for all privately owned health facilities including drug shops, pharmacies, dental units, radiology and laboratories, as well as ophthalmology units and other specialist facilities. The system is designed to cater to all sizes of privately owned facilities, which often do not follow the standard HCII, HCIII, HCIV and Hospital nomenclature used for government facilities.

Facilities may access training through the Uganda Healthcare Federation (UHF) hosted online training seminars currently being carried out with support from USAID Health Systems Strengthening Activity. This free training, and connecting to UHF will also be able an opportunity to access technical assistance and guidance on how to carry out a self-assessment. Facilities interested in the training can send an email to [info@uhfug.com](mailto:info@uhfug.com) or call 0754667022

---

---

*For further information, contact Emmanuel Ainebyoona– Senior Public Relations Officer on +256779220588 or [emmabyoona@gmail.com](mailto:emmabyoona@gmail.com)*



[www.health.go.ug](http://www.health.go.ug)



[Ministry of Health- Uganda](https://www.facebook.com/MinistryofHealth-Uganda)



[@MinofHealthUG](https://twitter.com/MinofHealthUG)



[ministryofhealth\\_uganda](https://www.instagram.com/ministryofhealth_uganda)