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The presented dissertation concerns the area of providing medical services, which are very diverse, especially in clinical hospitals.

Based on exploratory research, supported by own experience, it can be concluded that the separate functioning of quality management systems is associated with both strengths and weaknesses.

The methodological gap in the research area adopted by the author is manifested in:

- lack of rules and methods for assessing the usefulness of the QMS in a teaching hospital,
- lack of a standard tool to assess the quality of medical services provided in a teaching hospital,
- lack of methodology or QMS integration model in a teaching hospital.

The doctoral thesis will attempt to create a model of an integrated quality management system in clinical units. The proposed model would indicate the coexistence of certain features common to all implemented systems in a teaching hospital. It may turn out that their interdependence will be visible only at selected stages of functioning. The model will contain operating instructions useful for jointly documenting the activities of quality management systems in a teaching hospital.

The main purpose of the work is to develop a model of an integrated quality management system in a teaching hospital. Therefore, the research will look for possibilities and scopes of complementation.

The adopted detailed hypotheses define the direction of research. Three such hypotheses were adopted

- The dominant quality management system used in Polish teaching hospitals is based on the ISO 9001 standard.
- A properly designed and implemented QMS for a teaching hospital reflects its specificity relating to the provision of assistance to patients with difficult, case-specific diagnoses.
- The quality management systems used in the teaching hospital are compatible with each other only at the level of the Quality Manual.

The following research methods were used to achieve the planned goals and verify the adopted hypotheses. The whole work will be theoretical and empirical in nature.

In the empirical part, methods were used to collect and analyze direct and indirect data on the systems implemented in individual teaching hospitals in Poland.

The research part discusses the main challenges of integration of quality management systems in teaching hospitals, barriers and effects of lack of integration, variants and areas as well as benefits of QMS integration. Methodological assumptions of the research: identification of the reasons for the use of several quality management systems in hospitals, identifying problems with the lack of efficiency of quality management systems functioning in teaching hospitals, assessment of the degree of complementarity of the quality management systems used by the teaching hospital, the elements of the model for the integrated QMS were specified, an analysis of the coexistence of various quality management systems in teaching hospitals was made in the light of own research in relation to: research into quality policies in teaching hospitals, statistical analysis of the results of the ranking of teaching hospitals, qualitative analysis of interviews with quality management experts in teaching hospitals, development of an integrated quality management system in a teaching hospital, synthesis of results: elements of an integrated quality management system model for a teaching hospital.

The obtained results contribute to the reduction of the applicable documentation necessary for the proper functioning of quality management systems in clinical units, the reduction of the number and frequency of inspections, the reduction of the cost of maintaining several QMS, the reduction of the amount of time spent on running and supervising the QMS. As a consequence, the dissertation presented in the program card should enable more effective and efficient use of quality management systems in the practice of teaching hospitals.