

## **Executive Summary**

The main objective of this study is to prepare a Vocational Education and Training Plan (VET Plan) for the paramedical staff of private sector healthcare institutions. It is concerned basically with paramedical staff of the private sector like Pharmacists, Medical Laboratory Technicians, ECG Recorders, EEG Recorders, Dispensers, Radiographers and Physiotherapists.

There is a dearth of statistics about the private sector health care institutions. Private Medical Institutions (Registration) Act No. 21 of 2006, (which repeals the Nursing Homes (Regulation) Act), makes provision for the establishment of a Private Health Services Regulatory Council, which among other things, will enable the compilation of statistics and databases concerning this sector.

The methodology of this study includes a sample survey of private sector health care institutions, a collection of information from secondary sources and interviewing key personnel of relevant organizations.

The study has had to rely, in addition to the survey, on the scanty data available through secondary sources and prepare estimate on certain plausible assumptions and hypotheses.

The VET plan envisages the training of 80 Radiographers, 90 Physiotherapists, 350 Pharmacists, 150 Medical Laboratory Technicians, 30 ECG Recorders, 10 EEG Recorders and 100 Dispensers during the five year period from 2007 to 2011. Since some of these pre-employment training schedule cover two years it is desirable to initially train larger number to take care of existing shortages.

The Training Institutes that will be in charge of such training will mainly be the School of Pharmacists of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka (NHSL), School of Radiographers (NHSL), School of Cardiography at the Institute of Cardiography, Colombo, School of EEG Recorders, Neurology Unit of NHSL, Medical Research Institute (MRI) and the School of Physiotherapy (NHSL) Colombo.