



Basic Training on ‘Ethics in Health Research’

A Short Course for Researchers and Research Administrators

August 18-22, 2014

Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, SCTIMST

&

Institutional Ethics Committee, SCTIMST

Background

As the emphasis on research in the field of health gains momentum, it is important to realize that research and technology development should be scientifically sound and addresses the needs of people in underprivileged circumstances and enhance equity in access to health care. Such research should not violate the ethical norms that are universally acceptable nor use human beings just as a means to achieving the research goals. This module addresses the issues that arise as a consequence of the need for scientific research in health that require human participation and the use of human beings as subjects in the process of such research. This course fulfills a felt need for research ethics training among researchers and research administrators in biomedical and public health research.

The Organizers

The Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies has the experience of running a Research one-credit Ethics Module from 2004 as part of its Masters’ in Public Health. The Institutional Ethics Committee, SCTIMST is one of the few ethics committees in the country that is registered under the Office of Human Research Protections and obtained a Federal Wide Assurance that has been effective since 2004. It is also registered with the CDSCO, Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India (RCNo: ECR/189/Inst/KL/2013). It has a mandate to undertake research ethics training for researchers within the institution.

The course:

Objectives

This research ethics course proposes to help the participants to:

1. *To recognise the various concepts of ethical issues in health research*
2. *To have knowledge of the existing guidelines for ethics in health research and*
3. *To identify and use the ethical principles for decision making*

Topics Covered:

- Understanding moral reasoning and Evolution and principles of bioethics
- Informed consent, Privacy and confidentiality, Integrity and Conflict of interest in Research
- Good Clinical Practice and Ethics, Ethics of Clinical trials and Standards of care
- Risk benefit analysis and Ethical Review Processes

Methods of teaching:

The course is interactive and uses a range of participatory approaches to facilitate understanding of the ethical issues involved. These include discussions using audio-visual media, case study discussions, and participation in mock-ethics committees.

The course will be run in English and the participants will be given a certificate of attendance if they attend all the sessions of the course.

The course is an intensive study programme that requires participation from 08.30 hours to 17.00/1730 hours on all the five days. The commitment for participation should include allocation of time and intensive engagement.

Faculty:

Harikrishnan S, *Additional Professor, Dept of Cardiology, SCTIMST; He has extensive experience in community based research on chronic diseases and has published in this and in the field of Bioethics in India.*

Girish Menon R *Professor, Dept of Neuro-surgery, SCTIMST; He has undergone training in Bioethics at the Harvard School of Public Health. He has taught extensively and published in the field of Bioethics in India*

Muraleedharan CV, *Scientist 'G', Calibration Cell, BMT Wing, SCTIMST; He has extensively published in the field of setting standards for Medical Devices Calibration.*

Mala Ramanathan, *Additional Professor, AMCHSS, SCTIMST; Has undergone training in Bioethics at the Harvard School of Public Health and worked in the area of gender and bioethics and has taught and published in the area of Bioethics in India.*

Anoopkumar Thekkuveetil, *Scientist F, Molecular Medicine, BMT Wing, SCTIMST; He has undergone training in Bioethics at the Harvard School of Public Health and has taught extensively and published in the field of Bioethics in India.*

Ravi Prasad Varma, *Assistant Professor, AMCHSS, SCTIMST. He is an epidemiologist with rich experience working with communities, organising and undertaking studies, including outbreak investigations and surveillance.*

Who can apply?

About 11 -13 seats are available for non-MPH programme candidates. Research students (PhD), Researchers and Research administrators working at SCTIMST in permanent or temporary positions. External Candidates* who have completed undergraduate training in medicine/dentistry/nursing and working in research positions, social scientist researchers(completed MPhil/PhD) working in the area of health or research students with masters level of training in any social science discipline are eligible to apply.

*- The selected candidates will have to pay a sum of Rs.2,000/- by demand draft favouring 'The Director, SCTIMST' payable at Thiruvananthapuram, on selection. Alternatively the same amount can be paid in the form of cash at any of the cash collection counters at the SCTISMT and the counterfoil submitted to Ms.Sreepriya CS at the time of commencement of the course.

Dates of the course: August 18-22, 2014 (5 days)

Venue:

AMCHSS Seminar Hall, III Floor, AMCHSS Building, SCTIMST

Last date for applying:

Interested candidates may apply through proper channel (with approval from HOD/Guide/PI) by **16.00 hours, August 1, 2014** to:

Ms. Sreepriya CS,
Exe Secretary to the Director cum IEC Coordinator, SCTIMST-IEC
Director's Office. SCTIMST

