



SHARAVATHI DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL

Alkola, T.H.Road, Shimoga-577205 (Karnataka).

Ph: 08182-298171,295545,9449187257

AFFILIATED TO RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES,
BANGALORE, KARNATAKA.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR RESEARCH WORK:

He who does not research has nothing to teach

Sharavathi Dental College and Hospital believes in developing strong and consistent resources for achieving academic excellence. The research mission of this Institution is to build community partnerships, advance translatory research, enhance clinical practice and provide education through research. Individual growth can be achieved through scientific knowledge gained from observing the concept of research which in turn attracts a quest for discovering of new innovations. This motivates better learning and teaching. This entire concept has been incorporated in the process being carried out in the Institution.

At Sharavathi Dental College and Hospital Shivamogga, research is an integral part of postgraduate curriculum and is carried out under RGUHS guidelines. Faculty members actively take part in research projects as primary investigators and also as Postgraduate guides.

The research work is being conducted in the Institute at all levels. The code of ethics in research is an indispensable part to set forth general principles of critical conduct to guide scholars towards the highest ideals of scholarly research.

Institutional Ethics Committee was formulated in the year 2014. The Committee is registered with National Ethics Committee Registry For Biomedical And Health Research (NECRBHR). The Institutional Committee has been constituted as per ICMR guidelines with representatives from other institutions and the professional fraternity.

The Ethics Committee is revised and reconstituted every year based on the austerity. According to the ICMR guidelines, number of persons in an ethical committee will be around 8-12 members. The Committee consists of a Chairperson who should be from outside the Institute and not head

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of the Institute to maintain the independence of the Committee. A faculty member from the Institute will be The Member Secretary who conducts the business of the Committee. A mix of medical / nonmedical, scientific and non-scientific persons including lay public will be other members to reflect different viewpoints.

THE COMPOSITION WILL BE AS FOLLOWS :-

1. Chairperson
2. 1-2 basic medical scientists.
3. 1-2 clinicians from various Institutes
4. One legal expert or retired judge
5. One social scientist / representative of non-governmental voluntary agency
6. One philosopher / ethicist / theologian
7. One lay person from the community
8. Member-Secretary

TRAINING AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EC

- A training on human research protection, EC Members functions and SOPs will be provided to the members which should be conversant with ethical guidelines, GCP guidelines (if applicable) and relevant regulations of the country. There should be a proper documentation of these trainings.
- The EC members should be made aware of any change in the relevant guidelines or regulatory requirements.
- EC members should be aware of local, social and cultural norms and emerging ethical issues.
- The research proposals should be reviewed on all scientific, ethical, medical and social aspects by the EC in an objective, timely and independent manner by attending meetings, participation in discussion and deliberations.
- At the time of the appointment all the EC Members should be given the SOPs in which the responsibilities of members should be clearly defined.

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There should be a regular update on the relevant guidelines and regulations changes in research ethics by the EC members by participating in research activities.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOP)

All the research projects being carried out in college are presented before the ethics committee for approval prior to the inception of the project. Any research project within the campus should abide by the institutional research policy which are as below:

- The members should be made aware regarding new guidelines if any.
- Full review of research projects that involve vulnerable population and special groups should be done all the members.
- The national and international training programs in research ethics should be regularly attended by the members for maintaining quality in ethical review and be aware of the latest developments in this area. Certificate of participation should be kept in record.
- Due permission of the concerned authorities is mandatory
- Maintenance of highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct on and off campus
- Any form of plagiarism is avoided.
- Prior to the meeting the proposals should be sent to the committee at least 2 weeks in advance.
- The research projects submitted to the Ethics Committee shall consist of the hard and soft copy of the proposal along with the application in prescribed format duly signed by the Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-investigators / Collaborators which must be sent to the member secretary. The researcher will be intimated regarding date of meeting for clarification if any.
- Any conflicts of interest shall be managed by the IEC and its chairperson with the aim of protection of the human subjects.
- If conflict of interest exists then the member shall notify the chairperson regarding same. The particular member shall not participate in the EC review or approval except to provide

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information requested by the Committee. An applicant submitting a protocol believes that an IEC member has a potential conflict, the investigator may request in writing that the member be excluded from the review of the protocol addressed to the Chairperson. Evidence must be provided to substantiate the claim that a conflict exists with the IEC member(s) in question. The committee may decide to investigate the applicant's claim of the potential conflict. Conflict of interest cases(eg): involvement of member in a potentially competing research program; Funding or intellectual information access to may provide an unfair competitive advantage; judgement interference by a member's personal biases.

- The outcome regarding decision on the project proposal as well as revision if any to be made would be communicated in writing.
- Once the document is revised it shall be submitted within a stipulated period of time as specified in the communication or before the next meeting.
- The IEC shall be scheduled to meet at intervals of 12 months.
- The committee would arrive at a consensus after discussions, and whenever needed voting will be done.
- If on a specific research proposal any independent consultants or experts opinion required then they would be invited for the meeting.
- The entire meeting along with decisions taken would be minuted and Chairperson's approval taken in writing.
- The IEC approved research proposals along with the relevant documents to be submitted at IEC office.

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