

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

The vision of the Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) is to bring modern health technology to the people through innovations related to diagnostic, treatment methods and vaccines for prevention and to coordinate the research activities in the different areas of Health Research in the country. The country has attained considerable progress in biomedical research and patient care and management over the years but new emerging infections, resistance of the causative agents to existing common drugs coupled with emergence of non-communicable diseases like cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disorders, mental and neurological disorders, poses a new challenge to the medical and scientific fraternity.

Objectives of the scheme:

- i. To increase the overall availability of trained personnel for health research from medical colleges across the country through scholarships, fellowships and career advancement scheme etc. for faculty and young medical doctors and other scientists to take up medical and health research as a career.
- ii. To focus on the creation of a cadre of trained medical/health researchers in specific identified priority areas of health research viz., Clinical Trials; Toxicology; Good Clinical Practices (GCP); Good Laboratory Practices (GLP); Quality Control (QC) & QA; Genomics; Proteomics; Clinical Psychology, Geriatrics; Modern Biology; Biotechnology; Stem cells; Genetics; Drugs chemistry; and operational research etc..
- iii. To create, support, nurture and encourage the trainees from these medical colleges to forge linkages with other scientists from universities, research institutes etc. to develop multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral teams necessary for addressing critical national and local health problems.
- iv. To establish suitable online teaching and learning facilities to facilitate training in health research in various subjects in a more effective manner and for promoting biomedical/health research.

Programme to encourage research personnel [Non-resident Indian (NRI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)] serving abroad, to come back to India for undertaking health research in identified areas.

A large number of Indian scientists go to foreign countries, especially the European and North American countries, after completing their education in India and many of them are working in reputed medical/health research organizations. A number of these scientists are willing to return back to India to serve the country in the field of health research, provided they get suitable opportunities. Since many of these scientists have exposure to high technologies in the front areas of research, country will benefit greatly if they are provided some platform to work in Indian institutes. **The Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare), Government of India, has launched the programme “to encourage research personnel [Non-resident Indian (NRI), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO), Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)]**

serving abroad, to come back to India for undertaking research in identified areas". The scheme will provide contractual research positions on a fulltime basis for short duration to pursue medical/health research in India and take up health research projects in collaboration with Indian scientists, particularly in areas of national priority.

(a) Areas identified for Research:

Toxicology,	Quality Control (QC) and Quality Assurance (QA)
Genomics	Modern Biology
Proteomics	Biotechnology
Geriatrics	Genetics
Stem cell research.	Drugs Chemistry
Clinical Trials	Operational Research
Good Clinical Practices (GCP)	Health Informatics
Good laboratory Practices (GLP)	Medical Ethics
Disease Modeling	Health Economics
Environmental Health	Any other area recommended by the committee as per National Health Policy/ National Health Goals
Mental Health/Clinical Psychology	

(b) Eligibility

1. Only persons of Indian origin, non-resident Indian, and oversea citizen of India, as defined by Government of India, and currently working abroad.
2. Having M.D./ M.S. / M.D.S. or M.Tech / MVSc./ M.Sc./M. Pharma /M. Tech or equivalent with Ph.D. in topic related to health research.
3. The candidate shall be submitting the research plan in either of the identified area through any medical college/bio-medical research institute under a regular faculty of the institute (http://www.icmr.nic.in/Forms/Download_Forms.html).
4. Candidate should be below the age of 45 years.
5. Programme is scientist and area specific and cannot be transferred.
6. Work of the fellow will be reviewed periodically by expert group and shall continue only after receiving the satisfactory report from the expert panel.

(c) Financial mechanism

1. Each selected candidate shall be eligible to receive a consolidated amount of Rs.10.00 lakhs per annum (or equivalent to the scale of the Assistant Professor/Scientist 'C' in the Medical Colleges/Research Institutions), for 3 years, extendable upto a maximum period of 5 years.
2. In case the researcher finds a permanent position during the tenure of the position, the remuneration shall be discontinued from the day he/she joins in permanent position but he/she may continue with the research project awarded in the scheme for the balance period to carry out research at the new position.

3. Provision would be available for supporting a research staff out of Research Grant during the tenure of the award.
4. In the event of getting employment elsewhere other than the present Host Institute, the Awardees could also be allowed to move the research student along with him/her to new place within the country.
5. Additional Funding would be available for research studies/projects costing up to Rs.1.00 crore, for the entire duration of the study. The proposed expenditure on the study would not include the expenditure on the salary of the Research Scientist which will be Rs.12 Lakhs.
6. The selected proposal of the NRI/OCI/PIO would be funded under this scheme for project duration of up to three years, extendable at the discretion of the Expert Committee up to a maximum of 5 years.
7. The Research Grant for the project which mostly will be of laboratory nature; shall be trifurcated into three broad budget heads with the following indicative break up:
 - a) Recurring (including Project Manpower, Travel, Consumables & Contingencies - 60%
 - b) Capital Equipment- 35%
 - c) Overhead - 5%

However, Travel and Contingencies would be limited to 10% each.

8. Each Awardees needs to provide proposal with detailed break up as above for utilization of Research Grant and the Host Institution needs to adhere the approved breakup for entire project period.
9. The amount (consolidated salary and fund for the research project) will be released in favour of the Head of the Host Indian Institution, where the research project will be undertaken, and will be kept in separate account.

(d) Duration: Upto 5 years (To be renewed annually)