

Institute of Health Systems

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Memorandum

Sub: Ethical clearance, Ethics committee constitution and terms of reference.

- I. Research projects taken up by the Institute should follow high moral and ethical standards in choice of methodology to test various hypotheses.
- II. There shall be an Ethics Committee to review proposals for research to assess among other considerations whether:
- A. The research is so designed that they would yield meaningful results that could not be obtained by other methods,
- B. Voluntary and informed consent of the individual participating in the study is being obtained,
- C. The study has been planned in a manner so that the degree of risk taken and inconvenience caused does not exceed that determined by the humanitarian importance of the problem to be solved by the experiment.
- D. Safeguards have been taken to see that the study will be conducted by persons who possess the requisite competence and qualities to carry out the research.
- E. It will be made clear to study participants that (s)he would be at liberty to terminate participation in the study any time (s)he desires to do so.
- F. The principal investigator / faculty in charge of the project is prepared to terminate the study or suitably modify the same if (s)he has probable cause to believe, in exercise of good faith, skill and careful judgement required of her / him, that continuation as such is likely to result in injury, disability or death to experimental subjects.
- III. The ethical committee shall consist of about five members, at least two of whom will be from outside the Institute. Separate communication shall be issued regarding constitution of the committee. In the mean while, faculty are requested to keep the above requirement in view while formulating research projects.

Prasanta Mahapatra,

President