



CODE OF ETHICS

INTRODUCTION:

Research and developmental activities create and disseminate new knowledge, promote innovation and motivate better learning and teaching and this has been incorporated in the courses. Research is the foundation of knowledge that brings new energy, builds state of the art facilities, promotes research publications, develops collaborations and becomes part of active community that shares the mission objectives.

Government Dental College and Hospital Ahmedabad, strongly believes in promoting research work amongst the faculties and students and in turn serving the community as a whole. The environment provided here at the institution brings about a positive change in the overall attitude among the students. The first year post-graduate curriculum encourage the seminars on Research Methodology that helps them develop a better understanding of the research ethics and helps them to develop a quest for original research work.

- a. The Code of Ethics for Research Work is based on basic ethical principles. The respect for human dignity and life in all its manifestations, truthfulness, honesty, the obligation to respect commitments, the right to freedom of belief and ownership are the fundamental principles of ethics. A person's ethical guardian is the inner conscience.
- b. Ethical values, standards of research integrity and good practices in research highlight the ethical and social responsibility of research worker.
- c. Adhering to the established principles and honesty in scientific work.
- d. Perpetuating high standards in science is of crucial importance.

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND VALUES IN RESEARCH WORK

1. **Honesty:** to strive for honesty in all scientific communications like data reporting, methods and procedures and publication status. To not to fabricate, falsify or misinterpret data. To not to deceive colleagues, research sponsors or the public.
2. **Objectivity:** to strive to avoid bias in experimental design, data analysis, data interpretation, peer review, personnel decisions, grant writing, expert testimony, and

Dean
Govt Dental College & Hospital,
Ahmedabad-16



Institutional Ethics Committee
Govt. Dental College & Hospital (IEC GDCH)

Civil Hospital Campus, Asarwa, Ahmedabad-380016, Gujarat, India

other aspects of research where objectivity is expected or required. Avoid or minimize bias or self-deception. Disclose personal or financial interests that may affect research.

3. **Integrity:** to keep promises and agreements; act with sincerity; strive for consistency of thought and action.
4. **Carefulness:** to avoid careless errors and negligence; carefully and critically avoid your own work and the work of your peers. To keep good records of research activities such as data collection, research design and correspondence with agencies or journals.
5. **Confidentiality:** to protect confidential communications, such as papers or grants submitted for publication, personnel records, trade or military secrets, and patient records.
6. **Responsible publication:** to publish in order to advance research and scholarship, not to advance just your own career. To avoid wasteful and duplicative publication.
7. **Competence:** to maintain and improve your own professional competence and expertise through lifelong education and learning; to take steps to promote competence in science as a whole.
8. **Legality:** to know and obey relevant laws and institutional and governmental policies.
9. **Credibility** in: conducting research, criticism towards one's own results, meticulousness, attention to detail and great care in presenting research results; Not using scientific authority when speaking on topics from outside one's area of competence;
10. **Objectivity** in: interpretations and conclusions must be founded on facts, verifiable reasoning, and data capable of proof and secondary review;
11. **Openness** in: discussions with other scientists on their own research, which is one of the key conditions for progress in science, contributing to public knowledge through publication of the findings, honest communication to the general public;
12. **Transparency** in: the handling of research data that guarantees data and materials availability after publication;

Dean
Govt. Dental College & Hospital,
Ahmedabad-18



13. **Duty of care** for the participants and the subjects of research; research on living creatures should only be conducted where necessary (with the consent of the appropriate bioethics commissions) and should always rest on the principles of respect for human dignity and animal rights;
14. **Fairness** and reliability in: evaluating works of other researchers, giving credit where credit is due by providing correct citation and reference information;
15. **Courage** to oppose views that are contrary to scientific knowledge and practices incompatible with the principles of scientific reliability.

GOOD RESEARCH PRACTICES

The term "good research practice" covers detailed and universally understood rules of appropriate conduct that are possible to introduce in individual research units. These rules refer to the way a research work is carried out, presented and evaluated, and are created to ensure that ethical requirements are met. Each researcher from the very beginning of his or her career should be aware of the rules. The following categories of good research practices are distinguished:

1. Research data management All original research data, that is primary data on which publications have been or will be based, in some cases samples or materials derived from the ongoing research, should be well-documented and safely archived to keep data from being manipulated, and to make data accessible for future reference for a period of time adequate for a given discipline of science
2. Research procedures
 - a. All research studies should be preceded by the risk and consequences analysis to foresee how research results may affect society and the environment.
 - a. When applying for research funding researchers should formulate realistic goals and make every effort to accomplish them.
 - b. Special care should be taken in the case of research studies carried out on human subjects. Human dignity and an individual's autonomy must be respected.

Dean
Govt. Dental College & Hospital,
Ahmedabad-16



Institutional Ethics Committee
Govt. Dental College & Hospital (IEC GDCH)
Civil Hospital Campus, Asarwa, Ahmedabad-380016, Gujarat, India

- c. All research subjects, be they living organisms, the environment or cultural objects, should be handled with respect and care.
 - d. The health, safety or welfare of a community or of collaborators should not be compromised.
 - e. Researchers should be aware of the need for a balanced management of research funding.
 - g. In special, justified cases, confidentiality of data or research findings should be respected by the researcher.
3. Authorship and publication
- a. Researcher should publish the results and interpretations of his or her research in an honest, transparent and accurate manner, so that other researchers could elaborate on the findings or replicate them.
 - b. Authorship must be based solely on substantial intellectual contribution to the research. This includes: significant contribution in initiating scientific idea, formulating conceptions, designing research, significant share in data acquisition, in the analysis and interpretations of data and in drafting the article or revising it critically for intellectual content.
 - c. Acquisition of funding, provision of technical assistance or materials, the collection of data, general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not justify authorship. All authors are fully responsible for the content of the publication, unless it is specified they are responsible only for a specific part of the study within their speciality. When listing authors and their affiliations, it is appropriate to mention what was the nature of their contribution to the research.
 - d. Sequence of authors should be consistent with the existing customs in a given scientific discipline and agreed by all, ideally at the start of the project.
 - e. Intellectual contributions of others that have influenced the reported research should be appropriately acknowledged.
 - f. Financial or other types of support for research should be properly mentioned and acknowledged.

Dean
Govt. Dental College & Hospital,
Ahmedabad-16



Institutional Ethics Committee
Govt. Dental College & Hospital (IEC GDCH)
Civil Hospital Campus, Asarwa, Ahmedabad-380016, Gujarat, India

- g. Publication of the same (or substantial parts of the same) work in different journals is acceptable only with the consent of the editors of the journals and where proper reference is made to the first publication.
4. Peer review and assessment
- a. Reviewers should not agree to peer review any research, scientific achievements or research concepts of other scientists, when the research falls outside their areas of expertise.
 - b. Reviewers involved in the review process with regard to research projects, publications, scientific achievements, applications for faculty positions in scientific institutions and other forms of recognition, should withdraw from involvement in the review process, if there is any conflict of interests between them and evaluated individuals.
 - c. Reviewers should provide accurate, objective, substantiated and justifiable assessments.
 - d. Reviewers should maintain confidentiality until the manuscript is published. e. Reviewers and editors shall not make any use of the data or ideas presented in submitted manuscripts without the author's permission.
5. Training new scientists
- a. The Faculty Council or Scientific Board of an academic institution authorised to conduct certain types of studies must be entrusted special care of undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate and doctoral students. These Bodies should determine the eligibility of staff to supervise research degree students and guarantee reliable supervision by exercising control over the number of students per supervisor.
 - b. The supervisor should perform his or her duties reliably, in particular do his or her best to ensure that research conducted under his or her supervision meets all the requirements of scientific work and that dissertation is free from unacknowledged borrowings from other authors.
 - c. The supervisor should ensure that his or her research student is familiar with ethical values in conducting research, and above all, should be a role model for his or her student.

Dean
Govt. Dental College & Hospital,
Ahmedabad-16



Institutional Ethics Committee
Govt. Dental College & Hospital (IEC GDCH)

Civil Hospital Campus, Asarwa, Ahmedabad-380016, Gujarat, India

6. Avoiding conflict of interest

- a. there are non-professional relationships between the evaluator and the evaluated, be that individual or institution;
- b. there is a connection between a member of the fund granting authority and a person or research unit to which these funds are granted.

REFERENCE:

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, which was declared in 2010 by the European Science Foundation (ESF). REFERENCES: Good Research Practice. Recommendations drawn up by the Ethics Team of the Scientific Research Committee (2000) Good Manners in Science. A Set of Principles and Guidelines drawn up by the Committee for Ethics in Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences (2001).

