

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)



सत्यमेव जयते



The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world.

As early as in 1911, the Government of India set up the Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) with the specific objective of sponsoring and coordinating medical research in the country. After independence, several important changes were made in the organisation and the activities of the IRFA. It was redesignated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with considerably expanded scope of functions.

The Council's research priorities coincide with the National health priorities such as control and management of communicable diseases, fertility control, maternal and child health, control of nutritional disorders, developing alternative strategies for health care delivery, containment within safety limits of environmental and occupational health problems; research on major non-communicable diseases like cancer, cardiovascular diseases, blindness, diabetes and other metabolic and haematological disorders; mental health research and drug research (including traditional remedies). All these efforts are undertaken with a view to reduce the total burden of disease and to promote health and well-being of the population.

The Governing Body of the Council is presided over by the Union Health Minister. It is assisted in scientific and technical matters by a Scientific Advisory Board comprising eminent experts in different biomedical disciplines. The Board, in its turn, is assisted by a series of Scientific Advisory Groups, Scientific Advisory Committees, Expert Groups, Task Forces, Steering Committees etc. which evaluate and monitor different research activities of the Council

In the context of the changing public health scene, the balancing of research efforts between different competing fields, especially when resources are severely limited, is a typical problem encountered in the management of medical research, particularly in developing countries. Infectious diseases and excessive population growth have continued to constitute the major priorities to be addressed in medical research throughout the past several decades. In addition to tackling these issues, in recent years, research has been intensified progressively on emerging health problems such as Cardiovascular diseases, Metabolic disorders (including diabetes mellitus), Mental health problems, Neurological disorders, Blindness, Liver diseases, Hearing impairment, Cancer, Drug abuse, Accidents, Disabilities etc.. Research on Traditional Medicine/Herbal Remedies was revived with a disease-oriented approach. Attempts have been made to strengthen and streamline Medical Informatics and Communication to meet the growing demands and needs of the biomedical community. The Council is alert to new diseases and new dimensions of existing diseases, as exemplified by the rapid organization of a network of Surveillance Centres for AIDS in different states of India in 1986.

**Dr. Vishwa Mohan Katoch**

Date of Birth: 18th February 1953
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List of ICMR PUBLICATION

- Indian Journal of Medical Research
- ICMR Priced Publications
- ICMR Bulletins
- ICMR Library Bulletins
- Annual Reports of DHR
- Annual Reports of ICMR Headquarters & Other ICMR Institutes & Other Institutes

ICMR institutes

The 21 institutes of ICMR and several regional centres are dedicated to medical research in India. They are involved in basic and applied medical research to generate new drugs and therapies in context of Indian population.

1. **National Jalma institute for Leprosy & Other Mycobacterial Diseases (NCJILOMD), Agra**
2. **National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad**
3. **National Center for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR), Bengaluru**
4. **Bhopal Memorial Hospital and Research Center, (BMHRC), Bhopal**
5. **National Institute for Research in Environmental Health (NIREH), Bhopal**
6. **National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis (NIRT), Chennai**
7. **National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai**
8. **National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS), Delhi**
9. **National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), Delhi**
10. **National Institute of Pathology (NIP), Delhi**
11. **National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad (NIN),**
12. **National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata**
13. **Centre for Research in Medical Entomology (CRME), Madurai**
14. **National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Mumbai**
15. **National Institute of Immunohaematology (NIIH), Mumbai**
16. **Enterovirus Research Centre (ERC), Mumbai**
17. **Institute of Cytology and Preventive Oncology (ICPO), Noida**
18. **Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna**
19. **National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune**
20. **National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune**
21. **Vector Control Research Centre (VCRC), Pondicherry**