

Scope: Policy related to investigators from institutions outside CAM conducting research within institutions under CAM

The institutions of the Mandal receive request from investigators from surrounding area for conduction of research on patients within the campus or various working areas of the Mandal. So far the requests were either to the Dean, CEO, Departmental Heads or Principals of the institutions and students often do not reach proper conclusion as they get conflicting responses at various levels.

To address this issue the following policies are being drawn up:

1. Every application for research from institutions outside CAM should be addressed to/directed to the Chairman, Research Group and submitted to the Manager, Central Research Services. The applicant should also at the same time submit a copy of the application to their respective Heads of the Department or Head of the institution for information. The research group will approve/not approve the proposal within 15 days and respond to the applicant. For the purpose of this application a full proposal is not mandatory, a one page summary describing the project should be sufficient. However, it is in the interest of the applicant that a full proposal along with a one page summary be submitted.
2. All proposals from outside the institution should have a collaborator from within the CAM institutions. Collaborator may be sought before it is put up to the Research Group or may be suggested by the Research Group.
3. If accepted the proposal should be put up for HREC review. This would entail submission of the proposal to the Member Secretary, HREC along with the approval letter from the institutional head.
4. The HREC being an independent body may accept the proposal or propose changes in the protocol. If during the discussion HREC finds that the research project is untenable in the Mandal then it may so recommend. In such a scenario decision of the HREC would be final.
5. In case of organizations which are large and send more than five proposals in the previous year, it would be prudent to have a MOU which will have mutual benefits to both organizations. In case mutual benefit is not foreseen then MOU is not desirable but a standard fee will be required per applicant. In case of MOU's where mutual benefit is not seen a yearly fee for the

MOU can be levied by CAM. In both these cases it is not mandatory that permission to research be granted because fees have been paid.

6. Research that is conducted should benefit the academic community and the population at large. The least common denominator for such benefit is the publication of the research done. Without this, research has no meaning what so ever. Hence within a period of two years of completion of project a publication should have been made in PubMed / EMBASE indexed journal. Other indexes may be considered on a case to case basis by the research group.
7. Collaborators from within the institution who have work on such proposals are required to publish within the time frame specified. In case this has not happened, then the Research Group will recommend not involving the said researcher for any further projects. Additionally projects from the external institution/ external researcher will also not be accepted.
8. If any researcher within CAM is aggrieved about the process and this relates to people or procedures within CAM then a specific email is to be sent to the Chairman of Research Group following which a meeting will be set up within a fortnight. In case the issue is not resolved then the researcher will inform the Chief Executive Officer, Charutar Arogya Mandal and steps to resolve will be initiated by the CEO.