



**Date: 02-06-2023**

## **ICMR-NITM Clinical Trial Network for Integrative Health**

ICMR-NITM Clinical Trial Network for Integrative Health is an initiative to build a network of hospitals and Research Institutes with a common goal of providing evidence-based, robust, and culturally sensitive integrative health solutions for public health.

ICMR-NITM is a permanent institute of ICMR focussing on Integrative Health by integrating evidence-based practices in traditional/AYUSH with modern medicine. Hence NITM proposes to establish a network of institutions for integrative health that will conduct robust clinical trials for integrative practices that may be developed as policy input.

### **Need**

The network will provide evidence-based, cost-effective, scientifically sound, and culturally appropriate solutions to diseases and health issues of national and/or regional importance that will have the best of both worlds i.e. traditional and modern medicine. It will provide a single platform to conduct a range of randomized clinical trials (RCT) that will facilitate uniformity of trial methods, pooling of results timely completion of the projects, and will have representation across the country. Additionally, this network will also help to train manpower for research on integrative health across the country. The trainees will acquire the requisite skills to plan and conduct RCTs and to analyze and disseminate the results that could inform policy and practice.

### **Structure of network**

The network will have a hub and spoke model with ICMR-NITM as the hub for activities initiated by ICMR-NITM or any of the Institutes of ICMR. The sites i.e. hospitals/institutes/organizations would be spokes/sites in different regions. The DHR network of Multi-Disciplinary Research Units (MRUs) / Model Rural Health Research Units (MRHRUs) may also support the activity for daily functioning and monitoring of the trials in their respective areas. The study sites (spokes) will be selected based on the specialty/ research question to be answered. The sites will be provided with the logistics, human resources, and training required for the individual trials.

[In cases where the partner institutions in the network provisions funds to carry out trials, they would be free to do so and will be helped to function as the Hub and other sites may participate as Spokes. ICMR-NITM will facilitate and provide technical assistance].

### **Eligibility for the Network**

1. Government or Private Medical Colleges, and Institutions, having well-equipped Modern Medicine Hospitals also providing AYUSH treatments i.e., having (or willing to start) Integrative practices.
2. Hospitals having experience in conducting RCTs

### **Criteria for selection of Investigator**

- a. Endorsed by the Head of the Institute/College
- b. Experience in initiating/participating in multi-centric RCT
- c. Good quality publications on RCTs
- d. Subject specialization
- e. Preferably a multi-disciplinary team of investigators to be involved, with at least 2 of the team members being mid-level faculty (associate or additional professor, or equivalent experience)
- f. Trained in Good Clinical Practice (GCP) and well-versed in ethical guidelines.

### **Criteria for Selection of Institute**

- a. Community outreach program.
- b. Access to potential trial participants, both in-patient and outpatients.
- c. Competence, and history of collaboration with other institutes/medical colleges/community-based organizations.
- d. Catchment area catering to various geographical and population groups.
- e. Presence of requisite infrastructure and space.
- f. Having DHR registered Institutional Ethics Committee.

### **Trials to be conducted by the network**

The network will focus on national and/or health priorities of urgent and important nature. Among others, the areas which will be covered are mainly non-communicable diseases, difficult-to-treat diseases, and viral infections. To begin with, the network will be initiated with trials on integrative therapy for cancer, arthritis, and diabetic foot ulcer. These projects would be of 2-3 years duration. The projects will be primarily funded by ICMR through intramural research grants from ICMR-NITM.

Interested parties should fill out the Google form at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/jiJcngMd9QCJhA2J9>

**The last date for receiving applications: 30/06/2023**

For further information, Please contact:

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Tel No.: **0831-2475477**  
Fax No.: **0831-2475479**

## BIODATA

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1. Name (Dr./Kum./Smt./Shri)

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First name(s)      Surname

2. Designation:

3. Complete Postal Address, Telephone Number, Fax, e-mail etc.

4. Date of Birth:

5. Educational Qualification : Degrees obtained (Begin with Bachelor's Degree)

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Degree	Institution	Field(s)	Year
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6. Research/Training Experience

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Duration	Institution	Particulars of work done
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7. Research specialization (Major scientific fields of interest)

8. Important recent publications (last 5 years, with titles and References), including papers In press

9. \*Financial support received

1. From ICMR

Past

\*Present

\*Pending

2. From other sources

Past

\*Present

\*Pending

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\* This information must be given, otherwise the application will be returned. In case no financial assistance has been received, nil should be stated. Indicate titles of the projects and reference number, if available, for ICMR grants.

(To be printed on Institutional Letterhead)

**Endorsement from the Head of the Institution  
ICMR-NITM Clinical Trial Network**

This is to certify that:

1. We..... (Name of Hospital/Institute/Organization)  
.....(Place)..... (District) .....(State)  
are willing to participate in ICMR-NITM Clinical Trial Network.
2. Dr.....(Name),.....(Qualification)  
.....(Designation) .....(Department) is a permanent  
or regular employee of ..... (Name of  
Hospital/Institute/Organization) and has minimum of 5 years of regular service left before  
superannuation. He / She will act as the coordinator for the network.
3. The Hospital/Institute/ Organization will provide infrastructure, support, and cooperation in  
conducting clinical trials.
4. Coordinator will facilitate the process of identifying a suitable Principal Investigator (PI) and a  
research team from the Hospital/Institute/ Organization and coordinate with ICMR-NITM,  
Belagavi.
5. The Hospital/ Institute/Organization assumes to undertake the financial and other  
management responsibilities of the research project on their involvement in the project. The  
institute undertakes to provide a utilization certificate (UC) and audited statement of  
expenditure (SoE) from time to time-related to the project(s).
6. We understand that the projects to be carried out will be funded individually by appropriate  
funding agency(ies) and there will be no financial benefits for the coordinator and/or  
investigators.
7. We understand that ICMR-NITM may enter into project-based MoU/MoA on the selection of  
our Hospital/ Institute/Organization as a site.
8. We understand that a team from ICMR/NITM may visit our Hospital/ Institute/Organization  
for facility evaluation if required.

Seal of  
Institute/Organization/Hospital

Signature  
Head of the Institute/ Head of organization / Director of  
Hospital

Date:

Name: