



Research Integrity Unit (RIU)

Preamble

With the timely advancement of medical knowledge throughout these years it is equally important to produce authentic and reliable scientific research data and publications. This is in addition to the recently mandated requirement of original research publications in indexed journals to ensure career progression in academic/medical institutions; thus, the need for ‘publications’ in scientific medical scholarly journals has increased substantially. But none the less this has also given an unprecedented rise to a number of standalone journals and publishers ‘**predatory**’ is the term, which is ready to process the manuscripts on priority with almost guaranteed publication, at a cost, but having no credibility to the research being published.

Therefore, it is imperative to foster awareness creation among all students at the postgraduate level and for faculty/scientists of various medical colleges and research institutions, to avoid these predatory journals. It is high time that the thinking among researchers of ‘publish or perish’ be changed to ‘Publish and Flourish’ by adopting stringent measures which have evolved over time to curtail this birch of predatory publishing. Not surprisingly, some of them may indulge in **research misconduct (fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results)** as also **publish papers in predatory journals**.

Recent media reports on research misconduct and publication of research papers in predatory journals even by our scientists speak of the growing menace of research misconduct. However, the issue of addressing the menace of predatory journals was tackled by us to some extent in the ICMR by organizing a series of Workshops in our quite a few institutes including Hqrs. and a review article published last year was made available to all our scientists.

With this backdrop as also to ensure that the image of the ICMR does not get tarnished, Sec. DHR & DG, ICMR has set up a **Research Integrity Unit (RIU)** in the Division of HRD, with the following broad aims:

- i. A **Research Integrity Officer (RIO)** has been designated in all ICMR institutes (by the concerned Director of the ICMR Institute) (List of RIOs [Link to be given]). The RIO will ensure [through a small internal Committee constituted by the Director/Division Head] that all research publications emanating are free from research misconduct by taking an Undertaking from the authors, if desired and are not intended to be sent to a predatory journal for publication.
- ii. It is mandatory and the RIO should ensure that all the research articles from their particular institute/center are checked by anti-plagiarism software, to avoid any kind of research misconduct and fraud, before submitting to any Indexed Journal for publication.
- iii. To ensure a functional **Journal Club** exists in all ICMR Institutes including Hqrs.
- iv. To initiate any other new activity/programme as may come up during feedback of various programmes.

The “**ICMR-Policy on Research Integrity and Publication Ethics**” (ICMR-RIPE) has now been released and is available on the link given: <http://ethics.ncdirindia.org//asset/pdf/RIPE.pdf>.

List of Research Integrity Officers (RIOs) of ICMR Network of Institutes

S. No.	Name of RIO and ICMR Institute	Email ID
1	Dr. Sukhdev Mishra, Scientist-C ICMR-NIOH, Ahmedabad	sd.mishra@gov.in, mishra.sukhdev@gmail.com
2	Dr. Harsha Hegde, Scientist-D ICMR-NITM, Belagavi	harshah@icmr.gov.in drhvhegde@gmail.com
3	Dr. Roli Mathur, Scientist-E & Head ICMR Bioethics Unit ICMR-NCDIR, Bengaluru	mathurr.hq@icmr.gov.in
4	Dr. Pradyumna Kumar Mishra, Scientist-E ICMR-NIREH, Bhopal	pkm_8bh@yahoo.co.uk
5	Dr. Sukhpreet Kaur, Professor ICMR-BMHRC, Bhopal	drsukh_kaur@yahoo.co.in
6	Dr. Banu Rekha, Scientist-D ICMR-NIRT, Chennai	banurekha@nirt.res.in bhannu@gmail.com
7	Dr. Prabhdeep Kaur, Scientist-E ICMR-NIE, Chennai	kprabhdeep@gmail.com prabhdeepkaur@nie.gov.in
8	Dr. Saritha Nair, Scientist-E ICMR-NIMS, Delhi	saritha_nair@yahoo.co.uk
9	Dr. Anup Anvikar, Scientist-F ICMR-NIMR, Delhi	anvikar@gmail.com
10	Dr. Ruchi Singh, Scientist-E ICMR-NIOP, New Delhi	ruchis@icmr.org
11	Dr. G. Bhanuprakash Reddy, Scientist-F ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad	geereddy@yahoo.com
12	Dr. P. Suresh, Scientist-G & Director-in-Charge ICMR-NARFBR, Hyderabad	sureshpothani@gmail.com
13	Dr. Tapas Chakma, Scientist-G ICMR-NIRTH, Jabalpur	tapas_chakma@rediffmail.com chakmat@gmail.com
14	Dr. S. S. Mohanti, Scientist-E ICMR-NIIR-NCD, Jodhpur	ssnmir@gmail.com
15	Dr. Nabendu Sekhar Chatterjee, Scientist-F ICMR-NICED, Kolkata	chatterjeens.niced@gov.in
16	Dr. V. Baburao, Scientist-F ICMR-NIIH, Mumbai	vbaburao@hotmail.com
17	Dr. Geetanjali Sachdeva, Scientist-F ICMR-NIRRH, Mumbai	sachdevag@nirrh.res.in
18	Dr. Shashi Sharma, Scientist-G ICMR-NICPR, Noida	datta582002@yahoo.co.in
19	Dr. Nisha Mathew, Scientist-F ICMR-VCRC, Puducherry	nishamathew@yahoo.com
20	Dr. Vandana Saxena, Scientist-D ICMR-NARI, Pune	vsaxena@nariindia.org
21	Dr. Kavita Lole, Scientist-F ICMR-NIV, Pune	lolekavita37@yahoo.com
22	Dr. Srikanta Kanungo, Scientist-C ICMR-RMRC-Bhubaneswar	srikantak109@gmail.com
23	Dr. S. K. Sharma, Scientist-G ICMR-RMRC-Dibrugarh	sksharma.rmrcne@gov.in
24	Dr. Kamran Zaman, Scientist-C ICMR-RMRC, Gorakhpur	drkamran.niv@gmail.com, kamran3zaman@gmail.com

25	Dr. Ap Sugunan, Scientist-G ICMR-RMRC, Port Blair	apsugunan@gmail.com
26	Director, ICMR-NJIL&OMD, Agra	To be nominated by Director, ICMR-NJIL&OMD, Agra
27	Director, ICMR-RMRIMS, Patna	To be nominated by Director, ICMR-RMIMS, Patna

For details contact:

Dr. N.C. Jain

Scientist G & Head,

Division of HRD,

Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO)

Indian Council of Medical Research

V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan,

Ansari Nagar, New Delhi- 110029, India

Email: jainnc.hq@icmr.gov.in
