

Biomedical research in India is governed by the 'ICMR-National Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical and Health Research Involving Human Participants 2017'. These guidelines apply to all biomedical, social, & behavioral science research for health conducted in India involving human participants, material, or data. This infographic provides a checklist of questions to help ethics committees and individual researchers ensure that their research is ethical and compliant.



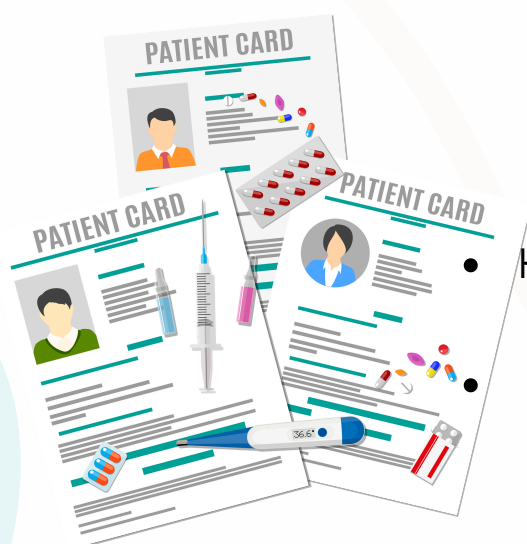
1. Essentiality

- Is human participation/samples/data essential for the proposed research?
- Are there any alternative experimental models available?



3. Non-exploitation

- Are the study's benefits and burdens distributed fairly without arbitrariness/discrimination?
- Are vulnerable populations a part of your study and how are their rights being protected?



5. Privacy & Confidentiality

- How are you protecting participants' privacy and confidential information?
- Will the participant data be identifiable or anonymized; if anonymized then reversibly or irreversibly?



7. Professional Competence

- Are you and your team qualified, trained, and experienced to undertake the proposed research?
- Is the study planned, conducted, evaluated, and monitored by competent professionals?



9. Institutional Arrangements

- Does your institution have adequate funds, manpower, training, and infrastructure for the research and to handle adverse events?
- Does it have policies for research governance and the infrastructure to support your research?



11. Totality of Responsibility

- How will you ensure that the stakeholders involved in your study are responsible for their actions and compliant with guidelines?
- Are their roles and professional, social, and moral responsibilities clearly defined?



2. Voluntariness

- Do the participants have the freedom to choose whether or not to participate in the study without any influence, bias, fear, or undue incentives?
- Are they informed about the study's purpose, time commitment, risks, benefits, alternatives, and their right to withdraw?



4. Social responsibility

- Does your research create or worsen social and historical divisions?
- Could it disrupt community harmony by increasing social divides?



6. Risk Minimisation

- What are the potential risks of your research, and how have you ensured care and compensation for participants?
- Can the risks and discomforts be further reduced?



8. Maximisation of Benefit

- What are the benefits of your study and do they outweigh the risks?
- How can you further maximize the direct and indirect benefits to the participants and society at large?



10. Transparency & Accountability

- How will you ensure transparency and communicate/ publish the research outcomes while safeguarding privacy and confidentiality?
- How will you conduct your research fairly, responsibly, transparently, and free of conflicts of interest?



12. Environmental Protection

- What steps have you taken to conserve resources and protect the environment at all stages of the study?

