Ph.D. ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

PAPER – I (Research) Theory: 180 hrs (*Credits: 6*); Practicals: 120 hrs (*Credits: 2*)

1. Introduction to Ph. D Programme:

Th:10 hrs

Introduction to the course, course objectives, Open House Discussion, timely submission of Half yearly Reports & Synopsis submission, publication and submission of articles.

National Knowledge Commission, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) & University Grant Commission (UGC)

2. Historical Perspectives:

Th:15 hrs

Historical narration about conduct of research on human subject, Biblical times, research on vulnerable population, tackling of ethical issues in the past century. Ethical code, Nuremberg code, Helsinki declaration, Belmont principles in conduct of research in human subject.

3. Ethical Issues in Research:

Th:40 hrs Pr: 6hrs

Th: 16 hrs; Pr: 25hrs

Background, general principles on ethical considerations involving human participants, general ethical issues, Ethical Review Committee – need, relevance and working rules & regulations as applicable in India. Ethical Review Procedures, IRB. Principles for clinical evaluation of drugs/devices/diagnostics/vaccines/ herbal remedies. Informed Consent Process – Preparing an informed consent for a research project.

4. Approach to Research in Health Science:

Research protocol development

Research Methodology – Defining research questions/Hypothesis, Study designs - cross sectional study, case control study and randomized clinical trials.

Clinical Trials – Introduction, composition, procedures & records, Informed consent, responsibility & rules applicable to investigators and sponsors, reporting of adverse events and other related ethical issues.

Good Clinical Practices (GCP) and safety, Good Laboratory Practices (GLP).

5. Grant Writing:

Th: 5 hrs; Pr: 8 hrs

Introduction, specific aims, review of literature, measures, methodology, study plan and statistical analysis. Protection of human participants, proposed budget and time line for the proposal. Pre-Clinical Research / Translational Research

Information regarding National /International organization to avail research grants

Patents and Intellectual Property/Rights

6. Manuscript Writing:

Th:5 hrs

Writing a scientific manuscript, structured writing and language editing, writing respondents & presentation, impact factor, plagiarism, bibliography, referencing & citations,

7. Critical Appraisal of Article Published in Scientific Journal: Th.-6 hrs; Pr.16 hrs

What is critical appraisal and why critical appraisal, present scenario of scientific publications, methodology of critical appraisal, format for critical appraisal

8. Thesis Writing: Th:5 hrs

Introduction to thesis writing, prescribed format for thesis writing, seminar presentations, preparation for Viva-Voce & communication skills.

9. Health care delivery systems in India:

Th:8 hrs

National Population Policy.

National Health Policy.

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM program).

RCH program.

Current Health Problems.

Environment & health related challenges of India.

Non Communicable Diseases

Biomedical waste management

Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in the world and in India.

Population explosion causes and its impact.

10. Scientific Conduct Th: 9Hr Pr: 3hrs

Ethics with respect to science and research Intellectual honesty and research integrity

Scientific misconducts: Falsification. Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP),Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing, Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data.

Legal aspects of research

11. Publication Ethics Th: 10 Hr Pr: 3hrs

Publication ethics definition, introduction and importance

Best practices/ standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.

Conflicts of interest, Publication misconduct: definition, concept. problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types, Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributor shipIdentification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals, Predatory publishers and journals

12 Open Access Publishing

Th. 9Hr Pr. 6 Hrs

Open access publications and initiatives, SHERPA/ROMEO online resource to check policies publisher copyright & self-archiving

Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU Journal finder /journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.

Critical appraisal of published literature

13. Publication Misconduct

Th. 6Hr Pr. 6 Hrs

Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship, Conflicts of interest, Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools

14. Databases And Research Metrics

Th. 6Hr Pr. 6 Hrs

Databases: Indexing databases, Citation databases: Web of Science. Scopus, etc.

Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report. SNIP, SJR, IPP, CiteScore

Metrics: h-index, g index, il0 index, altrmetrics

15. Online Certificate Course on "Health Research Fundamental" by ICMR: Pr: 5 hrs

16. Attending Ph.D. 6-monthly presentations: Th: 30 hrs

17. Visit to Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), Belagavi: Pr: 18 hrs

18. Visit to Basic Science Research Centre (BSRC): Pr: 18 hrs

19. Library Hours for Self Study: 50 hrs

Paper II (Syllabus related to Research Discipline)

Theory: 60 hrs (*Credits: 2*); Practicals: 120 hrs (*Credits: 2*)

1. Topics related to research discipline:

The paper II shall be on the topics related to the research discipline of the candidate and the research supervisors are required to submit the detailed syllabus to the Office of the Academic Affairs within three months of the registration of the candidate.

Th: 60 hrs; Pr: 30 hrs

2. Attending Discipline-related Workshops/CMEs/Seminars/Conferences: Pr: 35 hrs

3. Attending Ph.D. Open House Seminars: (Atleast 15) Pr: 25 hrs

4. Attending Ph.D. Open Defence Viva: (Atleast 15) Pr: 30 hrs

Paper III (Biostatistics) Theory: 90 hrs (*Credits: 3*); Practicals: 60 hrs (*Credits: 1*)

- 1. Introduction to Bio-statistics, translating research problem into hypothesis, hypothesis testing, Type I & Type II errors in statistics, checking errors in data and correcting them.
- 2. Sample size calculation for different study designs.
- 3. Types of variables and types of data measurements scales, Data Collection methods, presentation & organization of data Tabular / Graphical Form.
- 4. Sampling Designs, Descriptive Statistics Measures of central tendency & measures of dispersion, Correlation Analysis, Regression Analysis, Probability Theory Binominal distribution, Poisson distribution, normal distribution, concept of testing of hypothesis.
- 5. Test of Significance- Parametric tests-Z test, T test, ANOVA and Non Parametric tests- Chi-Square test, Wilcoxson Rank test, Kruskal Wallis test.
- 6. Devising conclusion from data analysis.
- 7. Use of computers, statistical software's, data cleaning.