



LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
&
LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE**

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is a world-leading centre for research and postgraduate education in public and global health.

The School's mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

Founded by Sir Patrick Manson in 1899, the School is now part of the University of London and has expanded in recent years at its two main sites on Keppel Street and Tavistock Place. Research funding has grown to over £79 million per annum from national and international sources including the UK government, the European Commission, the Wellcome Trust and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The School's multidisciplinary expertise includes clinicians, epidemiologists, statisticians, social scientists, molecular biologists and immunologists. The School works with its partners worldwide to support the development of teaching and research capacity, and School alumni work in more than 180 countries.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is one of the oldest medical research councils in the world. Established in 1911. Today it has blossomed into a vibrant network of 32 Institutes and over 70 field stations in various parts of the country, employing over 5000 personnel. Its mission is to conduct research (fundamental, applied, and operational) to find solutions to India's health issues. The ICMR has intramural and extramural research programmes. It is an autonomous organization under the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. It conducts and supports multi-disciplinary studies spanning communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, maternal and child health, reproductive health, with special emphasis on the health issues of the marginalized populations and impact of climate change on health.

WHEREAS, both the Parties, the Indian Council of Medical Research hereinafter called ICMR and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine hereinafter called LSHTM wish to collaborate in the development and expansion of research, public health education and clinical programmes in the areas of Health Research.

1. **Purpose of this MOU:** Mutual benefit may be derived from cooperation in research, academic exchange, education and technology and to this end and as far as resources available at the time may allow, the Parties agree to explore the possibilities of the following collaborations:
 - i. Co-operation in research projects for specified areas of development;
 - ii. Knowledge sharing;
 - iii. Organization of joint academic and scientific activities, such as academic exchange, short courses, seminars, workshops or lectures, pending funding;
 - iv. Collaborative research and possible exchange of scientists/students
 - v. Exchange of scientific materials, publications and other information.

2. **Areas for collaboration:** The ICMR and LSHTM agree that the purpose of this collaboration is to build upon the synergy of expertise of each Party for the promotion and conduct of research. The research projects shall be determined by mutual consultation and will involve the various Faculties and Departments of the School. It is expected that research efforts will develop particularly around the following topics:
 - i. Public Health, including evaluation and health systems research
 - ii. Disabilities(Prevention and Rehabilitation) and Impact of Environment on Health
 - iii. Infectious Diseases including vector borne diseases
 - iv. Maternal and Child health
 - v. Nutrition (under- and over-nutrition), including the role of Agricultural policy and practices
 - vi. Statistics and methodology
 - vii. Research support to National Health Mission of India
 - viii. Other areas of mutual interest

3. **Implementation:** ICMR and the LSHTM shall promote direct cooperation likely to be advantageous to both organizations through:
 - i. **Leadership:** The ICMR and the LSHTM will be responsible for coordination between the Parties and with other related organizations in connection with research conducted pursuant to this MoU. The Heads of each of the Parties will communicate with each other on a regular basis in order to provide oversight to the implementation of this MoU and to evaluate performance of the MoU.
 - ii. **Joint Steering Committee (JSC):** The Parties shall establish a Joint Steering Committee consisting of up to four (4) members from each organization. This Committee shall meet at least annually and with alternate countries as a location of meetings, or may conduct meetings through electronic or other means, at the discretion of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall advise, facilitate, evaluate and identify topics of particular strategic importance to the research cooperation between the parties. At least two members from each side will be required by JSC to meet. Expenses such as travel, accommodation, per diem, health insurance, local transport etc. of the JSC members shall be borne by the sending party. However the organizational expenses of the meeting would be met by the host country.

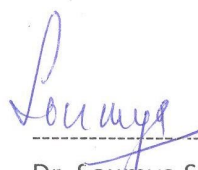
4. **Transfer of Biological Tissue and Samples:** The offices of ICMR and the School will assist and facilitate in completing required documents and procedures and contacting regulatory authorities, to permit the transfer of biological tissues/samples between India and the United Kingdom (as per rules/guidelines of respective countries) to allow the analysis of such tissue/samples for the efficient conduct of research and successful implementation of clinical programmes under the duly approved collaborative research projects.
5. **Research Proposal:** -Proposals on joint and collaborative research may be submitted by researchers to each of the Parties.
6. **Disputes:** In the event of any disagreement on the interpretation and implementation of this MOU, the parties, through the Steering Committee shall make every effort to amicably resolve such disputes, and if unable to do so at the Steering Committee shall submit the disputes to the Heads of the Parties for resolution.
7. **Exclusivity:** Both Parties agree that this relationship is not exclusive and that entering into this MoU will not prevent either Party from associating with any other Party for the purpose of conducting similar programmes. In the event that one Party desires to enter into a similar collaboration with any third Party it shall, as a matter of courtesy, inform the other Party to this MoU of its intentions.
8. **Ethical and Regulatory Issues:** Each Party recognizes the significance of appropriate regulatory ethical review of research projects and will follow such regulations as are applicable in both India and the United Kingdom.
9. **Intellectual Property:** The existing intellectual property rights of the scientists' institutions will be recognized and preserved. Rights with respect to any intellectual property created as a result of joint research conducted pursuant to this MOU will be addressed by the Parties in subsequent written agreements in accordance with the laws/regulations as applicable in respective countries.
10. **Financial Commitment:** - This MOU is not intended to create binding financial obligations between the Parties. Financial commitments related to collaborative research conducted pursuant to this agreement, or otherwise, shall be determined by subsequent written agreements. Research funded by third Parties shall include customary institutional overhead.
Each Party shall ensure that such activities fully comply with all recognized international and local laws, regulations and guidelines in relevant fields that are in force during the term of this MOU, including but not limited to internationally agreed principals on Good Clinical Practice, ethical issues, human data, bioethics, animal experimentation and human rights.

11. **Term of the MOU:** This MoU shall be in force as of the date of its signing by both Parties and shall remain in force for a term of five (5) years. Either Party may terminate the MoU upon three months notice. If the MoU is not terminated prior to the end of its initial term, it shall be renewed for successive five year term subject to mutual written consent of the Parties and due approvals as applicable in respective countries. If a Party terminates this MoU, such termination shall not affect obligations that may arise from subsequent specific agreements created during the term of this MoU. The MOU is not intended to create binding, legal obligations between the Parties.

The Parties hereto have signed this MOU to be executed as of the effective date.

Signed at London on 7th December, 2015 in English and Hindi languages, both in original and being equally authentic except in case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.

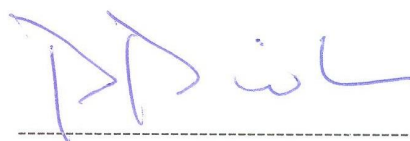
For ICMR



Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
Secretary,
Department of Health Research
& Director General
Indian Council of Medical Research
New Delhi, India

Date: 7/12/2015

For LSHTM



Prof Baron Peter Piot
Director,
London School of Hygiene
& Tropical Medicine
London, United Kingdom WC1E 7HT

Date: 7/12/15