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INDIAN COUNCIL OF
MEDICAL RESEARCH

भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

वी. रामलिंगस्वामी भवन, अन्सारी नगर, पोस्ट बॉक्स 4911, नई दिल्ली - 110 029
V. RAMALINGASWAMI BHAWAN, ANSARI NAGAR, POST BOX 4911, NEW DELHI - 110 029

No.16/31/2020-Admn.II

Dated:20.3.2020

Office Order

Subject: Office order regarding research studies on Mass Drug Administration.

Sir/Madam,

The administration of drugs to whole population irrespective of disease status is referred to as Mass Drug Administration (MDA). Examples of MDA as a policy of Govt. of India are National programme to eliminate lymphatic filariasis and for control of soil transmitted helminth infections (deworming). It is important to understand that for any health condition, only after a robust review of existing evidence pointing towards benefit to the communities, MDA is accepted to be implemented by national bodies.

It is the responsibility of ICMR, being the nodal research organization of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to generate evidence towards efficacy and effectiveness of MDA via scientifically robust studies and ethical review processes that maintain high scientific standards.

ICMR institutes, before considering/embarking upon any MDA-based research study, need to seek approval of DG, ICMR. Expressions of interest and/or letters of intent/partnering with other organizations for MDA-based research projects should not be submitted to any funding agency unless approved by ICMR. Any past or current correspondence from interested parties about deployment of MDA must be forwarded to institute Directors as well as to DG. Ongoing projects that involve MDA must be informed and all documentation must be submitted to DG, ICMR.

The above order is effective from the date of issuance and is circulated with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Jagdish Rajesh)
Assistant Director General (Admn.)

All the Directors/Directors-in-charge
of ICMR Institutes/Centres

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