



INDIAN  
INSTITUTE  
of PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
ESTABLISHED BY PHFI

GANDHINAGAR | HYDERABAD | DELHI  
BHUBANESWAR | SHILLONG | BENGALURU

**AcSYR**  
Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research



## Integrated MSc & PhD in Clinical Research

A two-year Master's program in Clinical Research,  
with the option of pursuing a PhD, if eligible, as an Integrated MSc-PhD in Clinical Research

(AUGUST 2021 SESSION)

Venue: Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH)-Delhi

# Integrated MSc & PhD in Clinical Research



## BACKGROUND

Any research that impacts the care and well-being of human population come under the domain of clinical research. Clinical research in a broader sense involves epidemiologic studies, clinical trials, translational research, patient-oriented research, behavioral science, and health service research. High quality data and reliable results are key to generate evidence for decision making and to provide impetus for improving patient care. To produce such data, a systematic and multidisciplinary approach is required involving a range of disciplines like basic sciences, biotechnology, pharmacology, clinical medicine, statistics, public health, and behavioral sciences.

## DEGREE AWARDING AND REGISTERING BODY

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in collaboration with Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) brings you this unique opportunity to further your career in the area of clinical research through the Integrated MSc & PhD program.

The MSc & PhD (in clinical research) programme is jointly conducted by PHFI and AcSIR and the degrees will be awarded by Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR). For more information visit <http://acsir.res.in>.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

### Masters in Clinical Research

The MSc program in Clinical Research is an intensive 2 year, full time program focusing on the scientific, ethical, and operational issues related to clinical research. Four semesters will be completed in 24 months. First three semesters include class room based, face to face teaching, tutorials and practical. The final semester includes 6 months of internship and project work (dissertation). The student needs to complete 11 compulsory core courses (modules), 4 elective courses (modules) in 18 months and submit the project report along with the internship completion certificate to be awarded the MSc degree.

### PhD in Clinical Research

The students who complete the Master's program with a GPA of 8 and above will be eligible for the PhD program. A formal application needs to be submitted which will be screened & enrolment will be finalized by the PhD screening committee. This full time and project based PhD program is for a minimum of 3 years. The research topic for PhD will be developed under the guidance of mentors from PHFI and AcSIR. The students are free to choose any topic of their interest ranging from basic sciences to community based studies. The student can be allocated to any of the CSIR Labs participating in the collaborative program on mutual consent.

## PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND LANGUAGE

This on-campus, full-time program is offered from the Indian Institute of Public Health-Delhi (IIPH-D), Public Health Foundation of India ([www.phfi.org](http://www.phfi.org)). The main language of instruction would be English.

## PROGRAM CONTENTS

The multi-disciplinary curriculum will be covered under the core & elective courses (modules). The core modules include: Basic Epidemiology, Basic Bio-statistics, Clinical Trials-Design and Analysis, Conduct and Operational Issues in Clinical Trials, Bioethics and Regulatory Affairs, Systematic Reviews, Proposal Development and Medical Writing, Data Management, Drug Development, Pharmacovigilance and Project Management. Under elective courses we offer various areas that will fall under Research Methods, Statistics and Laboratory Sciences. To know more about the course (module) information of this program, visit the website: [https://phfi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/faq\\_and\\_program\\_details\\_2021.pdf](https://phfi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/faq_and_program_details_2021.pdf)

Following are the **core competencies** acquired by the candidates at the end of the Master's program:

- Reviewing existing evidence in literature
- Developing a grant application in bio-medical research
- Managing ethics and regulatory approvals of protocols
- Managing a research project
- Managing research data
- Planning and executing statistical analysis
- Communicating research results to a scientific community

## TARGET AUDIENCE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This program is relevant to those wishing to gain an in depth understanding in research methods & also keen to specialize in specific areas in clinical research.

### Minimum Academic Qualifications

- Applicants with graduate qualifications in: medical and allied fields like dentistry, AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy), pharmacy, physiotherapy, nursing, and veterinary science.
- Applicants with graduate qualifications in: biological and life sciences (microbiology, biochemistry, biotechnology, botany, zoology), basic sciences (chemistry), occupational therapy and bio-statistics.
- All applicants should have basic computing skills and proficiency in English.

## SELECTION PROCESS

All candidates should submit the application form for the Integrated MSc & PhD program in the prescribed format, which can be downloaded from PHFI website [https://phfi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Integrated\\_MSc\\_CR\\_Application-Form\\_31-May-2021.pdf](https://phfi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Integrated_MSc_CR_Application-Form_31-May-2021.pdf) The application consists of registration form, proof of academic credentials, work experience, contact details of 2 referees (academic and/ or professional) and a statement of purpose. The applicants will be short-listed based on their academic qualifications, relevant experience and statement of purpose. This will be followed by an interview. The selection of candidates will be executed by a specially constituted screening committee represented by PHFI and AcSIR.



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The final selection of the candidate for MSc is based on qualifications, relevant experience, statement of purpose and interview. The weightage for each component are as follows:

Qualification	-	25%
Relevant experience	-	5%
Statement of purpose	-	10%
Interview	-	60%
Total	-	100%

Reservation of seats in admissions will be as per Government of India policy as applicable from time to time.

Decisions taken by the selection committee will be final. The selection into this program does not guarantee entry into PhD program. Selection for PhD will be made strictly on the basis of merit and performance in the MSc program.

## TEACHING AND TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The course utilizes a variety of teaching / learning techniques, which includes lectures, group discussions, student presentations, hands on practice in statistical softwares, basic sciences laboratory, workshops and field visits. During the project work and internship the students will get an opportunity to engage in research related activities that could be based in a community, hospital or a laboratory.

## FACULTY

A team of experienced and multidisciplinary faculty from PHFI and AcSIR would be engaged in teaching. The students will also be exposed to lectures delivered by invited faculty of national and international acclaim. Guides will be identified from both the organizations for mentoring during project work and internship.

## CREDIT AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The program will follow a credit and grading system consistent with AcSIR norms. Credits are awarded for successful completion of each course (module) and thesis. A total of 64 credits need to be earned for awarding the degree. Student evaluation for each course (module) would be through a concurrent evaluation during course work (that includes test/assignments, attendance and classroom participation) and marks scored in the end of semester unseen written examination. The weighted average of both will contribute to the course (module) GPA. A detailed evaluation frame work will be provided to the students before the beginning of the course.

## PROGRAM FEES

The fee structure for MSc (Clinical Research) program for the candidates admitted in the year 2021-23 will be as follows:

### For Indian and South Asian Nationals

#### Tuition Fee:

The annual tuition fee for the students admitted in academic year 2021-23 is INR 2.00 Lakhs per student per academic year (The total tuition fee for the two year program is Rs. 4,00,000/- which includes Rs. 10,000/- admission fees and Rs. 10,000/- examination fees)

### For International Candidates

#### Tuition Fee:

The annual tuition fee for the students admitted in academic year 2021-23 is USD 5,600 per student per academic year.

#### Scholarship:

Limited number of scholarships for MSc may be awarded for deserving and meritorious candidates, subject to availability of funds.

## PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The project work and internship during the MSc program would provide the candidate with an opportunity to interact with potential researchers. The setting may be a hospital, research organization or a CSIR laboratory. The placement cell will also strive to arrange for campus interviews with companies in clinical research pursuits. However, no formal guarantee will be provided to any candidate regarding future job selection after completion of the program.

## ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION OF INDIA (PHFI)

PHFI is a public-private initiative that collaboratively evolved through consultations with multiple constituencies, including Indian and international academia, state and central governments, multi- and bi-lateral agencies, and civil society groups. PHFI aims to address the limited institutional capacity in India for training, research, and policy development in the area of public health through establishment of Indian Institutes of Public Health across the country.

Indian Institute of Public Health - Delhi is one of the five academic institutions under PHFI. The institute is actively involved in conducting academic programs both on-campus and eLearning. Apart from Clinical Research, it also offers on-campus programs, PG Diploma in Public Health Management and Master of Public Health. The eLearning courses include, PG Diploma in Public Health Nutrition; Epidemiology; Management of Reproductive and Child Health Programs; Health Economics; Healthcare Financing & Policy. Certificate courses in Sexually Transmissible Infections & HIV/AIDS; Monitoring & Evaluation of Health Programs; GIS Application in Public Health; Research Ethics; Clinical Research Methods; Public Health Development.

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## ABOUT ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (AcSIR)

The Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR) has been established as an 'Institution of National Importance' with a view to maximize the number of qualified researchers and professionals of impeccable quality in the domain of science & engineering; and to equip them with the skills to innovate and conduct seamless interdisciplinary research. AcSIR was established by an Act of Parliament, the Academy of Scientific Innovative Research Act, 2011 vide The Gazette of India No.15 dated February 7, 2012 and notified on 3rd April 2012.

The Academy has adopted the mandate to create and train some of the best of tomorrow's science and technology leaders through a combination of innovative and novel curricula, pedagogy and evaluation. AcSIR's focus will be on imparting instructions in areas that are not routinely taught in regular academic universities in India. AcSIR also provides research opportunities in these areas with the help of 37 CSIR laboratories. Some of the CSIR laboratories will be involved in the delivery of the clinical research course. Please visit <http://acsir.res.in> for more information.

## UNIQUENESS OF THE PROGRAM

This clinical research program is a blend of principles of basic and advanced research and its application in health sector. It supports, AcSIR's mission and vision of affordable health care by advancing knowledge and technology. It also fulfils PHFI's mandate of improving research by imparting training to health professionals. This program delivered by PHFI in partnership with AcSIR aims to contribute in innovative ways to promote health and improve healthcare management in India. During the academic tenure, apart from the program activities and academic support from the faculty, the students will be exposed to certain workshops relevant to the specific course (modules) and due importance will be given to impart so skills that enhances their placement opportunities. Successful completion of the MSc program may serve as excellent foundation to go on to take higher degrees like PhD (within and outside India).

## OTHER PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH AcSIR

### Integrated MSc & PhD in Health Informatics

Integrated MSc & PhD in Health Informatics is a full time program being offered jointly by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR) from the academic year 2013-14 at the Indian Institute of Public Health-Hyderabad. This multi-disciplinary program focuses on applications of informatics and technologies in public health. It aims to bring the best in health care and technology based on research and innovations on one platform for students across India and South Asia. Log on to [www.phfi.org](http://www.phfi.org) for more information about this program.



For more information about the program and to download the program brochure and application form visit:  
[www.phfi.org](http://www.phfi.org)

Please send your filled application form to the address given below:

**Senior Program Officer**

**Academic Programs**

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