

Research Cell

Overview

The Research Cell of Dr. Vithalrao Vikhe Patil Foundation's College of Nursing, Ahilyanagar is a dedicated academic body established in accordance with the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (UGC), Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS), and other regulatory authorities to promote excellence in nursing research, innovation, and evidence-based healthcare practices.

The Research Cell serves as the nodal centre for planning, coordinating, promoting, and monitoring research activities undertaken by faculty members, postgraduate students, undergraduate students, and research scholars. It aims to cultivate a vibrant research culture that encourages scientific inquiry, critical thinking, innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the generation of quality evidence to improve nursing education, clinical practice, public health, and patient care.

The Cell provides comprehensive support throughout the research process, including identification of research problems, preparation of research proposals, protocol development, ethical clearance, grant applications, data collection, statistical analysis, scientific writing, publication in indexed journals, intellectual property rights (IPR), patent facilitation, and dissemination of research findings. It actively promotes evidence-based nursing practice through regular research methodology workshops, biostatistics training, journal clubs, seminars, conferences, faculty development programmes, and continuing nursing education activities.

The Research Cell functions in close collaboration with the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC), Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), academic departments, healthcare institutions, universities, and research organizations to ensure that all research activities are conducted in accordance with ethical principles, scientific rigor, regulatory guidelines, and research integrity. The Cell also encourages multidisciplinary and collaborative research addressing regional, national, and global healthcare priorities, particularly in nursing, community health, maternal and child health, mental health, geriatric care, and public health.

The Cell facilitates intramural and extramural funded research projects, student research initiatives, dissertation work, thesis supervision, innovation activities, and participation in national and international scientific conferences. Special emphasis is placed on promoting responsible conduct of research, plagiarism prevention, academic integrity, innovation, entrepreneurship, and the translation of research findings into nursing practice and healthcare policy.

Through its various initiatives, the Research Cell strives to develop competent nurse researchers capable of generating high-quality evidence that contributes to professional excellence, improved patient outcomes, healthcare advancement, and the overall well-being of society.

Vision

To foster excellence in nursing research, innovation, and evidence-based practice for advancing quality healthcare and improving the health and well-being of society.

Mission

1. To create and sustain a research-oriented environment that promotes scientific inquiry and innovation among faculty and students.
2. To strengthen research competencies of faculty members, undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students through education, training, and mentorship.
3. To encourage and facilitate intramural and extramural funded research projects in nursing and allied health sciences.
4. To promote evidence-based nursing practice through quality research and dissemination of scientific knowledge.
5. To provide guidance and support for research projects, dissertations, theses, systematic reviews, and scholarly publications.
6. To uphold research ethics, academic integrity, and responsible conduct of research through ethical review, monitoring, and compliance.

7. To promote awareness regarding plagiarism prevention, intellectual property rights (IPR), innovation, and research commercialization.
 8. To encourage interdisciplinary, collaborative, and community-based research addressing emerging healthcare challenges.
 9. To recognize and reward excellence in research, innovation, and scholarly contributions.
 10. To establish the institution as a centre of excellence in nursing research and evidence-based healthcare.
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Objectives

- Promote a strong research culture within the institution.
 - Encourage faculty and students to undertake quality nursing and healthcare research.
 - Enhance research skills through structured training programmes and workshops.
 - Facilitate funded research projects from national and international funding agencies.
 - Support publication of research papers in peer-reviewed indexed journals.
 - Promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and intellectual property generation.
 - Strengthen collaborations with healthcare organizations, universities, and research institutions.
 - Ensure ethical conduct and integrity in all research activities.
 - Encourage evidence-based nursing practice and translational research.
 - Contribute to institutional, regional, national, and global healthcare priorities through impactful research.
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Major Activities of the Research Cell

- Organize periodic Research Review Meetings to monitor ongoing research projects, dissertations, theses, and funded studies.
- Conduct workshops on Research Methodology, Biostatistics, Scientific Writing, Systematic Reviews, Evidence-Based Practice, and Reference Management.
- Facilitate preparation and submission of research proposals to funding agencies including ICMR, MUHS, DST, DBT, ICSSR, UGC, AICTE, and other national and international organizations.
- Support undergraduate and postgraduate students in research projects, dissertations, thesis work, and ICMR Short-Term Studentship (STS) programmes.
- Organize training programmes on Research Ethics, Publication Ethics, Good Clinical Practice (GCP), Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Patent Filing, and Innovation Management.
- Conduct Journal Clubs, Research Forums, Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) programmes, seminars, and scientific conferences.
- Promote interdisciplinary and collaborative research with healthcare institutions, universities, industries, and research organizations.
- Facilitate plagiarism screening of dissertations, theses, manuscripts, and academic documents using approved plagiarism detection software.
- Provide mentorship for manuscript writing, journal selection, publication, conference presentations, and research dissemination.
- Maintain institutional databases of research publications, funded projects, citations, patents, copyrights, innovations, awards, and research collaborations.
- Coordinate with the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC), IQAC, and academic departments to ensure compliance with ethical and regulatory standards.
- Encourage community-based participatory research addressing public health priorities and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- Promote innovation, entrepreneurship, startup initiatives, and translation of research findings into nursing practice and healthcare services.
- Organize annual research competitions, poster presentations, paper presentations, innovation exhibitions, and research awards.
- Recognize outstanding research contributions through Best Researcher Awards, Best Publication Awards, Best Student Research Awards, and Innovation Awards.
- Develop collaborations with national and international academic institutions and professional organizations to strengthen research capacity.
- Foster a culture of lifelong learning, scientific inquiry, innovation, and academic excellence that contributes to quality nursing education, improved patient care, and societal development.