

Basic Course in Biomedical Research (BCBR) for Postgraduate Medical Students and Medical Teachers

Evidence Based Medicine is an integral part of medical practice today and facilitates providing medical practitioners with the best available evidence for health care. To comprehend the evidence published in biomedical literature, doctors need to have an understanding of research methods and its principles. The National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the designated institution for the conduct of the online research methods' course (Basic Course in Biomedical Research) for postgraduate medical students and medical teachers in India.

For Postgraduate Medical Students: Acquiring competency in research methods is an integral part of postgraduate medical training in the country. To ensure that postgraduate medical students acquire the necessary skills, the Board of Governors in supersession of the erstwhile Medical Council of India notified amendments to the Postgraduate Medical Regulations on 11.12.2019 making it mandatory for all postgraduate students to complete an online research methods' course (Basic Course in Biomedical Research) to be conducted by ICMR-NIE, by the end of the second semester of their course.

For Medical Teachers: Medical teachers have the responsibility of mentoring and training medical students and also carrying out research work and publishing their work as part of their academic pursuit. It is equally important that they too acquire these research skills. To ensure that members of the faculty become competent to train medical students and also improve their own research capacity, amendments were made in "Minimum Qualifications for Teachers in Medical Institutions Regulations" on 12.02.2020, making it essential for medical teachers to have completed the Basic course in Biomedical Research (BCBR) provided by ICMR-NIE, for their promotions to various teaching designations.

The Designated Course

1. Basic Course in Biomedical Research (BCBR) allows a flexible pace for the participants for enrolment as the course will be open throughout the year and the participants can access the course according to their individual schedule. However, in order to receive the course completion e-Certificate, the participants are required to appear for an online, offsite, proctored examination, the details of which would be notified to the participants by ICMR-NIE on its official website.
2. The online e-Certificate alone **will be accepted as proof of completion of the course.**
3. The course schedule, course content, qualifying criteria, registration process and examination details would be available on the website of ICMR-NIE (https://nie.gov.in/icmr_sph/BCBR.html).