

## **BBDU RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

Babu Banarasi Das University (BBDU) endeavours to achieve high academic standard and is committed to promote a work culture having ethical standards in research, teaching, learning and professionalism. The ethics policy of the university aims to provide relevant policies, guidelines, and code of conduct to upholding legal, ethical and safety norms to faculties, research scholars and participants, patient care, and capacity building. An Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) has been constituted for this purpose as per National Ethical guidelines for biomedical and health research involving human participants, Indian Council of Medical Research: 2017 and functions as per Schedule ‘Y’ & ICH & GCP (International Council of Harmonization and Good Clinical Practices) guidelines.

### **SCOPE**

The policy of Ethics shall be applicable to all stakeholders in the university.

### **AIM**

- To foster a research environment which is conducted based on principles of integrity, academic excellence, accountability, inclusiveness, and professionalism.
- To ensure compliance of “Code of Ethics in Academic Research” where dignity, right and wellbeing of researchers and research participants is protected.
- To ensure that consistent ethical values and framework that involve International/national guidelines and standards are adhered to research, clinical practice, patient care, interpersonal relationships, and organizational activities.

- To provide advice and guidance to the academic community on all matters about academic research ethics and research publications.
- To critically analyse and look for opportunities to enhance the integrity of the institution and to cultivate a pluralistic and democratic exchange of ethical values and hold continuing education in research ethics and ethical aspects of clinical practice by holding seminars, workshops, and interactive discussions.
- To abhor and take relevant action against research, educational and professorial misconduct.

## **POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. The Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) of BBDU reviews, verifies, provides suggestions and decision on research projects submitted to it regarding ethical aspect of research.
2. All the research projects of faculties/PhD thesis/dissertations/projects of students of undergraduate and postgraduate programs of university are expected to follow the Ethics of research as described in the guidelines. The guidelines have been defined by various government agencies based on area of research and subjects involved and can be found on their websites.
3. The biomedical research involving human subjects protects the interests of participants and follows the principles of essentiality of the research, voluntariness, informed consent, non-duress and exploitation, confidentiality of the participants, accountability, and transparency. The guidelines can be found at: ([https://www.iitm.ac.in/downloads/ICMR\\_Ethical\\_Guidelines\\_2017.pdf](https://www.iitm.ac.in/downloads/ICMR_Ethical_Guidelines_2017.pdf)). The IEC of university ensures the adherence to these guidelines.

4. The Bureau of Indian Standards, Govt. of India, has laid down a code of safety for all labs working with chemicals. Guidelines are provided to recognizing potential chemical hazards and employs corrective measures to expeditiously minimize accidents. Researcher are expected to follow the guidelines. Details are given at: <https://images10.newegg.com/UploadFilesForNewegg/itemintelligence/Pacon/is.4209.19871453376681588.pdf>
5. The Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India, has set guidelines which apply to practices adopted and interventions applied while working with radiation sources. It ensures that the ionizing radiation and nuclear energy does not cause any risk to the health of patient, researcher, and the environment. Compliance to these guidelines is ensured in the respective department of the university so that the exposure to all sources of ionizing radiation should be 'as low as reasonably achievable. Details are available at: <https://www.aerb.gov.in/index.php/english/regulatoryfacilities/radiationfacilities/application-in-medicine/nuclear-medicine>
6. Department of Biotechnology has given guidelines for research work in bio-contaminant. The details can be found at: [https://ibkp.dbtindia.gov.in/DBT\\_Content\\_Test/CMS/Guidelines/20181115134719867\\_Regulations-Guidelines-for-Biocontainment-2017.pdf](https://ibkp.dbtindia.gov.in/DBT_Content_Test/CMS/Guidelines/20181115134719867_Regulations-Guidelines-for-Biocontainment-2017.pdf).
7. University shall take necessary steps against research misconduct. This includes but not limited to following acts: plagiarism, cheating, conflict of interest, piracy, abuse of research resources, defamation, misinterpretation, personation, fabrication, fraud, and sabotage.

8. University shall take necessary action against professorial misconduct which incorporates but not limited to misconduct in formal examinations, alcohol and drugs, disruption/obstruction, gambling, harassment, and bullying.
9. The University shall provide all assistance to faculty members, staff and students to take care of their Health and Safety. They also should ensure their and others' safety and health while executing some work within the campuses. Fire safety, safety while driving vehicles on the campuses and disposal of biomedical waste are very essential requirements of the University system and due care has been taken according to various guidelines.
10. All Schools of BBDU will take necessary steps to include research ethics-oriented courses/workshops at undergraduate/postgraduate/PhD levels to expose, train and educate students regarding importance of ethics in research.
11. The university shall provide a positive environment and vibe for professional ethics for teachers towards their authorities, colleagues, students, non-teaching staffs, guardians and society.