



## Indian Council of Medical Research

### Press Release

#### **ICMR launches free ICMR – NvCCP Online Prescribing Skills Course 2020 for Indian Medical Graduates (IMG)**

*The course will improve prescription practices amongst medical graduates*

**September 17, 2020:** Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) launched an online course on Prescribing Skills for Indian Medical Graduates (pursuing or completed internship) on September 17, 2020 on the occasion of Patient Safety Day. The course is meant for improving prescription practices among Indian Medical Graduates and will be run by National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE), Chennai.

**Prof. Balram Bhargava, Secretary, DHR and Director General, ICMR** while launching the course said “ICMR is committed to ensuring that the country’s medical graduates are at par with their international counterparts. The Council, through its institute ICMR-NIE has successfully completed a Basic Course in Biomedical Research. The course has now been made compulsory for postgraduates by the Medical Council of India. Building on the success, we will ensure that this digital course on Prescribing Skills for Indian Medical Graduates is effective”.

**Dr. Rajni Kaul, Course Coordinator, ICMR,** informed “This course was guided by Technical Advisory Group (TAG) set up by ICMR. ICMR has established National Virtual Centre of Clinical Pharmacology (NvCCP) in the year 2019 comprising of 15 Rational Use of Medicine Centres (RUMCs) located in top medical institutions across the country. The course is the outcome of the work done by the experts from these medical colleges.”

**Dr. V.P. Kamboj, Chairman, Technical Advisory Group** said “The need and importance of the program were felt by Prof. Balram Bhargava. Subsequently feedback received from medical fraternity regarding prescription errors this activity was undertaken. The expert faculty members in clinical pharmacology and medicine from ICMR-NvCCP network have developed this online course on Prescribing Skills for Indian Medical Graduates covering topics relevant to India’s health problems.”

**Dr. Nilima Kshirsagar, Lead Expert** stated “The course is intended for Indian Medical Graduates during internship and deals with various aspects of Dos and Don’ts of prescribing, how to administer drugs and communicate instructions to patients, from general principle into specific prescribing for infections, eye, ear, skin, psychiatric diseases, women, children, elderly, emergency situations, chronic diseases of heart, high BP, diabetes and palliative care.”

The course constitutes 40 video lectures of 20 minutes to be taken online over 3 months at learners’ pace. The course involves a pre test to evaluate participants prior knowledge, MCQs to be answered after seeing the modules, evaluate a prescription for appropriateness, all this to assess if the course has improved the participants knowledge. A certificate of participation will be given on successful completion of the course. Interns are expected to register now, appear for pre test on October 4, 2020 or October 11, 2020. Then the IMG will have access to course from October 12, 2020 and it closes on December 30, 2020.

The enrolment for the course will start from September 17, 2020. The course details will be available at <https://main.icmr.nic.in/content/icmr-online-prescribing-skills-course-indian-medical-graduates-img>

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The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), is the apex government body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical and health research. It is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. Besides the headquarters in New Delhi, ICMR has 32 research institutes, centres and units across India. ICMR funds both intramural and extramural research in India. The priorities of ICMR coincide with the national health priorities and have the goal of reducing the total burden of disease and to promote health and well-being of India's population. As part of this agenda, ICMR is interested in improving the estimates of disease burden and risk factors in India, especially at the sub-national levels, for better health planning, policy framing and fund allocation. For more information please visit <http://www.icmr.nic.in>

The ICMR-NIE is one of the permanent institutions of the ICMR and a flagship organization for epidemiology, public health and biostatistics in India. ICMR-NIE is a catalyst for vibrant national health systems through responsive research, public health training and ICMR-NIE has been conducting two-year Masters' level programme in public health since 2001 and that of Biostatistics since 2016. Further, ICMR-NIE offers Ph.D., programmes in Epidemiology, Bio-statistics and Social work. The institute runs NIE-ICMR e-certificate (NIECer) courses in Health Research Fundamentals for any current or potential health researchers from any background. ICMR-NIE also runs the MCI mandated online course "Basic Course in Biomedical Research" for medical postgraduates and their teachers in medical institutions.

More info at: [www.nie.gov.in](http://www.nie.gov.in)

#### **Course link**

ICMR Website <http://www.icmr.nic.in>

<https://main.icmr.nic.in/content/icmr-online-prescribing-skills-course-indian-medical-graduates-img>

NIE website <http://www.nie.gov.in/>

For more information, please contact

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For further course information e-mail: <[rxcourse@nieicmr.org.in](mailto:rxcourse@nieicmr.org.in)> or Phone : 044-26136420 (9:30 am to 5.00 pm).

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