

# **CARMEL COLLEGE OF NURSING**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR**

### **RESEARCHERS**



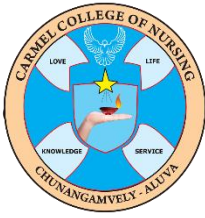
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## Code of Conduct for Researchers of

### As per ICMR guidelines

#### PREAMBLE

Research is an essential component in the advancement of nursing education, healthcare practice, and community well-being. Carmel College of Nursing is committed to promoting ethical, responsible, transparent, and scientifically sound research practices among faculty, students, and collaborators.

This Code of Conduct is formulated in accordance with the ethical principles and recommendations of the Indian Council of Medical Research guidelines for biomedical and health research involving human participants. It aims to uphold the dignity, rights, safety, and confidentiality of research participants while fostering integrity, accountability, and professionalism in all research activities.

All researchers associated with the institution shall adhere strictly to this code during planning, implementation, documentation, publication, and dissemination of research.

#### AIM

- The aim of this Code of Conduct is:
- To ensure ethical and scientific integrity in all research activities conducted under Carmel College of Nursing.
- To protect the rights, dignity, privacy, and safety of research participants.



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- To promote honesty, accountability, transparency, and professionalism among researchers.
- To ensure compliance with the ethical guidelines of the Indian Council of Medical Research and Institutional Ethics Committee requirements.
- To foster a culture of responsible research and publication practices.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCHERS**

### **1. Ethical Approval**

Every research study involving human participants shall obtain prior approval from the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) before commencement.

Researchers shall conduct studies only after receiving written ethical clearance.

### **2. Respect for Human Participants**

Researchers shall respect the autonomy, dignity, beliefs, culture, and rights of all participants.

Participation in research shall always be voluntary.

### **3. Informed Consent**

Written informed consent shall be obtained from participants before data collection.

Participants shall be informed regarding the purpose, procedures, benefits, risks, confidentiality, and their right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

### **4. Confidentiality and Privacy**

Researchers shall maintain strict confidentiality of participant information and research records.

Personal identifiers shall not be disclosed without permission.



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Data shall be stored securely and accessed only by authorized persons.

## **5. Beneficence and Non-Maleficence**

Researchers shall ensure that research benefits outweigh potential risks.

No physical, psychological, social, or emotional harm shall be intentionally caused to participants.

## **6. Scientific Integrity**

Researchers shall maintain honesty and accuracy in data collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting.

Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, and manipulation of data are strictly prohibited.

## **7. Professional Competence**

Researchers shall undertake studies only within their area of competence and expertise.

Adequate guidance and supervision shall be provided to student researchers.

## **8. Conflict of Interest**

Researchers shall disclose any financial, personal, or professional conflict of interest that may influence the research process or outcomes.

## **9. Responsible Publication Practices**

Research findings shall be reported truthfully and transparently.

Proper acknowledgment shall be given to contributors and sources.

Duplicate publication and unethical authorship practices shall be avoided.

## **10. Respect for Institutional Policies**

Researchers shall comply with the policies and regulations of Carmel College of Nursing and other statutory bodies governing research.



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## **11. Data Management and Retention**

Research data shall be preserved safely for the period prescribed by institutional and regulatory authorities.

Misuse, unauthorized sharing, or destruction of research data is prohibited.

## **12. Protection of Vulnerable Groups**

Extra care and safeguards shall be ensured while conducting research involving children, pregnant women, elderly persons, mentally challenged individuals, or other vulnerable populations.

## **13. Environmental and Social Responsibility**

Researchers shall ensure that research activities do not adversely affect society, healthcare settings, or the environment.

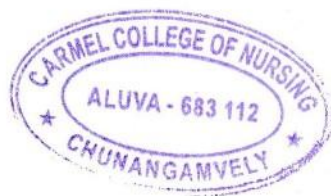
## **14. Accountability**

Researchers shall be accountable for the ethical conduct and quality of their research work.

Any misconduct or violation of ethical standards shall be reported to the concerned authorities.

## **CONCLUSION**

Carmel College of Nursing believes that ethical research practices contribute significantly to the development of nursing science and quality healthcare. All researchers are expected to uphold these principles and maintain the highest standards of integrity, respect, and professionalism in every stage of research.



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