

STANDARD OPERATING
PROCEDURES (SOP)
PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Publication Committee

D. Y. Patil Education Society (Deemed to be University), Kolhapur

Background

Analytical Philosophy that deals with the process of logical discourse and Applied Philosophy that addresses the practical application of ideas, are embedded in the thought and application of the arena of Research Ethics. The Theory of Value which deals with the philosophical study of goodness (Axiology) also contributes to the understanding of this field.

Kurt Baier (1991) stated that "...if a moral requirement or recommendation is to be sound or acceptable, complying with it <u>must be in accordance with reason</u>". This is, in some ways, in concordance with the categorical imperatives that underline the deontological moral philosophy of Immanuel Kant (1785). The third categorical imperative emphasizes that as rational beings, humans are bound by the knowledge of duty to respect other human beings. Even Stuart Mills' Utilitarian Theory of Ethics supports the use of reason to determine "that action" that "produces the greatest good for the greatest number".

In modern times, the principles of ethics were presented in the works of Tom L. Beauchamp and James F Childress in their landmark publication "Principles of Biomedical Ethics" in 1980. They expounded on the four pillars of biomedical ethics namely Autonomy, Beneficence, Non-Maleficence and Justice. The same principles apply to the area of research and must guide every researcher as they journey on the path of making new knowledge and discovering new worlds.

Just as honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility, respect and accountability are important for academic integrity, the principles are also important for the integrity and reliability of all research. It is important to incorporate these principles in all aspects of research from designing the protocol and conducting the research to sharing the knowledge and handling matters of financial and economic dealings.

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The aim of this SOP is to provide guidelines for publication of articles in journals for researchers from the D Y Patil Education Society (Deemed to be University), Kolhapur. They are based on convention, principles contained within the writings of the International Committee of Journal Editors, guidelines published by regulatory authorities and the provisions available within the University. Stakeholders are also requested to read the Research Promotion Policy, Policy on Plagiarism, Policy on Excellence in Research Award (Ph.D.), Consultancy Policy, Policy on Incentives for Research and Publication, Publications Policy, Policy on Dr. D. Y. Patil Research Fellowships for Ph. D. students, Policy for Incentives to Teachers for receiving State, National and International Awards/Recognitions and Intellectual Property Right Policy.

Approval of Research Protocol

The WHO's Standards and Operational Guidance for Ethics Review of Health-Related Research with Human Participants (2011) states that "A core component of all contemporary research ethics guidelines is that research should be subject to prior ethical review by a competent Research Ethics Committee (REC)".

At the D Y Patil Education Society (Deemed to be University), Kolhapur, the following aspects are to be noted:

- 1. Every student is assigned a Guide for the research thesis or dissertation. The Guide is assigned by the institution on random basis.
- 2. The student shall choose an area of research and the research topic in consultation with the Guide.
- 3. The final topic decided must be expanded in the format of the research protocol as defined by the institution.
- 4. The student in the presence of the assigned Guide shall present the proposed research

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All research work carried out in the university, must be subjected to the approval of the Institutional Research Committee and in case of biomedical research, to the Institutional Ethics Committee. In case of the latter, the approval letter of the IEC is mandatory for acceptance of the dissertation in the case of Post Graduate students and Research Scholars.

Publication Committee

The Publication Committee will be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The details are as below:

- 1. Nominated members will be representative of the constituent units conducting research.
- 2. The Chairperson will be a senior Professor with significant experience in research, and a recognized Research Guide. The Member-Secretary will be selected from amongst the appointed members, by the Chairperson.
- 3. The term of a Publication Committee will be Four Years.
- 4. Members will serve for not more than 2 consecutive terms.
- 5. New members can be added at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor.

Role of Publication Committee

It is essential that all published research meets the standards of integrity and originality aspired to by the University, and by regulatory bodies. Hence the roles of the Publication Committee will include:

- 1. The committee shall study the Plagiarism Report of work submitted by research scholars/students in the form of dissertations/theses. The level of Plagiarism shall not exceed 10% for PhD Dissertation and 15% for Post Graduate thesis. Any submission with higher levels of plagiarism will be dealt with as per the Plagiarism Policy.
- 2. Promotion for faculty from the D Y Patil Medical College includes prescribed regulatory criteria of minimum publications in specific indexing databases. The Publication Committee is responsible for confirming the eligibility of the faculty for promotion with respect to the publication requirements.
- 3. Any faculty/student desirous of support for purpose of publishing an article can approach the committee for journal recommendations after approval of the manuscript. The committee can also provide suggestions to improve the written work.

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Record & Report

The Minutes of the Meetings of the committee shall be made available for audit purposes as and when required.

The Publication Committee shall submit an annual report of the activities to the Registrar Office.

In the event of any challenge or complaint, the Vice-Chancellor shall arbitrate and decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.



D. Y. PATIL EDUCATION SOCIETY DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY, KOLHAPUR

Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade