

PUBLICATION, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Council continued its activities in publication, information and communication during the year also. The Indian Journal of Medical Research (IJMR) has been included in med IND full-text online database and is available full-text free on the internet. Lectures/debates were organized on health topics in Hindi for increasing health awareness among the community.

The Council maintains its web site (<http://www.icmr.nic.in>) which contains information about activities of headquarters and all its Institutes and Centres.

PUBLICATIONS PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

Indian Journal of Medical Research

The IJMR continued to be indexed and abstracted by all major global current awareness and alerting services. The journal is available full-text free on the internet (www.icmr.nic.in) and has also been included in the medIND, the online full-text database of Indian biomedical journals developed by the ICMR-NIC Centre for Biomedical Information.

During the period under report, a special issue on "HIV/AIDS" was brought out in April 2005. Dr Robert C. Bollinger was the guest editor of this special issue. Another special issue on "Leishmaniasis" was brought out in March 2006 with Drs. C. P. Thakur and S. K. Bhattacharya as guest editors. Review articles contributed by eminent scientists from India and abroad on topics of contemporary interest such as Dengue Vaccines, Breast Tuberculosis, Brucellosis in India, Epigenetic Therapy, etc. were published.

ICMR Patrika

The issues of the ICMR *Patrika* i.e. from May-June to December, 2004 were brought out during the period under report.

Annual Report

English and Hindi versions of the Annual Report of the Director General for the year 2004-2005 were

brought out during the year with impressive cover page design and improved lay out of text pages. The Council's website <http://www.icmr.nic.in> contains Annual Reports of the Council's Hqs. as well as its institutes.

Other Periodical Publications of the ICMR

All the Institutes of the Council bring out their monthly newsletters and other publications in English/Hindi.

INFORMATICS AND COMMUNICATION

Biomedical Information

The ICMR-NIC Centre's webpage, giving details of the services provided crossed over 3,40,000 hits. The webpage, <http://indmed.nic.in> continued to be ranked amongst the top Indian health websites by the Google directory and is currently ranked the number 1 health website. The Centre received 806 searches this year over postal mail and email. The medIND database at present covers 38 journals and the prospective coverage of the journals from 2003 and 2004 has been completed while 2005 and 2006 coverage has been completed in case of new journals and journals received in soft copy format. The retrospective coverage from 2000 has been completed for journals that have provided the content. The indexing of journals, for IndMED database is ongoing and at present it contains over 36,000 records. The Union Catalogue of Biomedical Periodicals, available from <http://uncat.nic.in> has been updated to include latest holdings from over 40 libraries. Three training programmes on "Biomedical Information Retrieval" were held in 2005-06. The participants were medical/library professionals. The training manual was made available from the Centre's website as well a hard copy was distributed amongst the participants.

Scientometric Studies

Scientometric study of ICMR Institutes from the inception is being carried out. So far, six institutes viz.,

NICED, Kolkata, TRC, Chennai, VCRC, Pondicherry, NMRI (MRC), Delhi, IIH, Mumbai and CRME, Madurai have been covered. Apart from regular publication analysis –year wise, journal analysis , authorship productivity (year wise,) and identification of most prolific authors, coverage of articles over the years by global secondary services , JCR covered papers have been analysed on the basis of normalized impact factors also. Over the period, a trend analysis of subject areas covered by articles have been computed for all these institutes individually. The total number of papers published by these institutes were as follows: NICED, Kolkata (1964-2000)-721; VCRC, Pondicherry (1977-2000)-488; IIH, Mumbai (1952-2000)-441; NIMR (MRC 1977-2000) – 628; TRC, Chennai (1958-2000) –521; and CRME, Madurai (1981-2000) –70. The coverage of articles by Index Medicus and Journal Citation Reports for all these institutes has indicated an increase in numbers over the years along with selection of journals with relatively high impact factors. The authorship pattern shows increasing number of collaborative research papers with more than 3 or 4 authors (also from institutes other than ICMR). The subject wise analysis also indicated that in most of the cases the institutes are covering their area of mandate.

A searchable database is being developed for all the ICMR institutes with bibliographic details of papers published in scholarly journals only. So far eight institutes have been covered in this database.

The meeting of the Expert Committee to evaluate and select applications for the ICMR Grant for Excellent Research Output (III Batch) was held on October 29, 2005 at the ICMR Hqrs., New Delhi and Dr. M Raghunath, Dy Director, NIN, Hyderabad was selected.

Bioinformatics Centre

The ICMR web site <http://www.icmr.nic.in> is updated regularly. Annual reports of all ICMR institutes and of the Hqrs., full text version of IJMR, searchable information about extramural and intramural research of the Council, bioethics pages for human and animal research, HIV repository, announcements of training programmes, conferences, employment opportunities, short term studentships, awards, emeritus scientists etc. are some of the salient features of the website. For

extramural research projects a new option to view the status of the proposal submitted to ICMR is made available on the website. On an average, monthly hit of ICMR website was 6.9 lakhs.

The publications of the Council such as ART Guidelines, Ethical Guidelines for Research on Human Subjects, Guidelines for Management of Type II Diabetes, Guidelines for International Collaboration in Biomedical Research, IPR Policy Guidelines *etc.* are also available on the site.

Application formats for applying for *ad hoc* research schemes/fellowships, scientific posts, ICMR awards *etc.* can be downloaded from the site.

File movement software called Office Procedures Automation (OPA) developed by NIC has been implemented in ICMR. The software has been installed on the BIC server. The inter divisional file movements are through this software which has made locating any file very easy.

Databases of extramural research are maintained by the Centre. It is planned to make access to these databases through web. A modern IBM series computer system is being procured which can be used to achieve this.

The Centre has completed a project of networking all ICMR Institutes and Centres. As part of this project local area network (LAN) has been installed/upgraded at 32 locations of ICMR. A mail server *icmr.org.in* has been created and all the scientists of ICMR have been provided email access through this server. ISDN connections for mail and internet access have been provided to all the locations.

Dissemination of Health Information

On the occasion of Hindi day celebrations a scientific debate in Hindi was organized at the ICMR Hqrs. on September 20, 2005. The topics were: (i) *Samaj par Stem Cell Anusandhan ke Bhawi Prabhav*; and (ii) *Swasthya par Barhte Shahrikaran ke Parinam*. A total of 16 scientists from the ICMR Hqrs./ its institutes located in Delhi participated in the debate. The winners were awarded prizes and certificates.