

**File No. ECR/1534/Ahalia/Inst/KL**  
**Government of India**  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Directorate General of Health Services  
Office of Drugs Controller General (India)  
Central Drugs Standard Control Organization

**FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road,**  
**New Delhi – 110 002, India**  
**Dated: 22/12/2017**

To

**The Chairman**  
**Institutional Ethics Committee**  
**Ahalia Foundation Eye Hospital**  
**Ahalia International Foundation (AIF)**  
**Ahalia Campus, Kozhipara (PO)**  
**Palakkad- 678557, Kerala, India**

**Sub:** - Ethics Committee Registration No. **ECR/1007/Inst/KL/2017** issued under Rule 122DD of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

**Sir/Madam,**

Please refer to your application submitted to this Directorate for the Registration of Ethics Committee.

Based on the documents submitted by you, this office hereby registers the **INSTITUTIONAL ETHICS COMMITTEE** situated at **AHALIA FOUNDATION EYE HOSPITAL, AHALIA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (AIF), AHALIA CAMPUS, KOZHIPARA (PO), PALAKKAD- 678557, KERALA, INDIA** with Registration number **ECR/1007/Inst/KL/2017** as per the provisions of Rule 122DD of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 subject to the following conditions:

1. This Registration is subject to the conditions specified under Rule 122DD and Appendix VIII of Schedule-Y of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945.
2. The Ethics Committee shall review and accord its approval to a clinical trial and also carry ongoing review of the trial at appropriate intervals as specified in Schedule Y and the Good Clinical Practice Guidelines for Clinical Trials in India and other applicable regulatory requirements for safeguarding the rights, safety and well-being of the trial subjects.
3. In the case of any serious adverse event occurring to the clinical trial subjects during the clinical trial, the Ethics Committee shall analyze and forward its opinion as per procedures specified under APPENDIX XII of Schedule Y.
4. The Ethics Committee shall allow inspectors or officials authorized by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization to enter its premises to inspect any record, data or any document related to clinical trial and provide adequate replies to any query raised by such inspectors or officials, as the case may be, in relation to the conduct of clinical trial.
5. The licensing authority shall be informed in writing in case of any change in the membership or the constitution of the ethics committee takes place.
6. All the records of the ethics committee shall be safely maintained after the completion or termination of the study for not less than five years from the date of completion or termination of the trial (Both in hard and soft copies).
7. If the Ethics Committee fails to comply with any of the conditions of registration, the Licensing Authority may, after giving an opportunity to show cause why such an order should not be passed, by an order in writing stating the reasons therefor, suspend or cancel the registration of the Ethics Committee for such period as considered necessary.
8. This registration shall be in force for a period of three years from the date of issue, unless it is sooner suspended or cancelled. Provided that if the application for re-registration is received by the Licensing Authority within three months before the expiry, the registration shall continue to be in force until orders are passed by the said authority.

- a. The Licensing Authority shall be informed in writing in case of any change in the membership or the constitution of the Ethics Committee takes place.
9. Ethics Committee shall consist of not less than seven members and is subject to a maximum of 15. One among its members, who is from outside the institute, shall be appointed as chairman, one member as a Member Secretary and rest of the members shall be from Medical, Scientific, Non-Medical and Non-scientific fields including lay public.
10. The committee shall include at least one member whose primary area of interest or specialization is Non-scientific and at least one member who is independent of the institution, Besides; there should be appropriate gender representation on the Ethics Committee.
11. The Ethics committee can have as its members, individuals from other Institutions or Communities, if required.
12. Members should be conversant with the provisions of clinical trials under this Schedule, Good Clinical Practice Guidelines for clinical trials in India and other regulatory requirements to safeguard the rights, safety and well-being of the trial subjects.
13. For review of each protocol the quorum of Ethics Committee shall be at least five members with the following representations:
  - I. Basic medical scientist (preferably one pharmacologist)
  - II. Clinician
  - III. Legal expert
  - IV. Social scientist or representative of non-governmental voluntary agency or philosopher or ethicist or theologian or a similar person.
  - V. Lay person from community
14. The members representing medical scientist and clinicians should have Post graduate qualification and adequate experience in their respective fields and aware of their role and responsibilities as committee members.
15. As far as possible, based on the requirement of research area such as HIV, Genetic disorder, etc., specific patient group may also be represented in the Ethics Committee.
16. There should be no conflict of interest. The members shall voluntarily withdraw from the Ethics Committee meeting while making a decision on an application which evokes a conflict of interest which may be indicated in writing to the Chairman prior to the review and be recorded so in the minutes. All members shall sign a declaration on conflict of interest.
17. Subject experts or other experts may be invited to the meetings for their advice. But no such expert shall have voting rights.
18. This certificate is issued to you on the basis of declaration/submission by you that yours is an Institution and registration is sought for Institutional Ethics Committee.
19. Funding mechanisms for the Ethics Committee to support their operations should be designed to ensure that the committees and their members have no financial incentive to approve or reject particular studies.
20. SOP's for funding of the Ethics committee in order to support their operations must be maintained. The records of income & expenditure of Ethics Committee shall be maintained for review and inspection.
21. The Chairman of Ethics Committee shall enter into MOU with head of institution, that necessary support and facilities and independence will be provided to Ethics Committee and their records will be maintained as long as required.
22. Ethics Committee may undertake the review and monitoring of clinical trial protocols of other investigator(s) and site(s) who do not have their IEC, subject to the condition that the other sites are within the loco- regional and community settings similar to that of the registered Ethics committee. The approving ethics committee must be willing to accept their responsibilities for the study at such trial site(s) and the trial site(s) willing to accept such an arrangement.
23. Ethics Committee shall review and approve the suitability of the investigator and trial site for the proposed trial. The ethics committee shall undertake proper causality assessment of SAE's with the help of subject experts where required, for deciding relatedness and compensation, as per condition no ( 3) mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dr. G. N. Singh)

Drugs Controller General (I) & Licensing Authority