'research culture' is the responsibility of Medical college establishment. Student participation in scholarly activities is something the teaching faculty can inspire. Mandatory student project should be the final step in the entire process and implemented over time.

The epidemiological/biostatistical methods currently part of Community Medicine teaching is integral to proposed Undergraduate Research Module. Some of the other basic research skills and attributes that can be covered include information gathering, systematic literature review, critical appraisal, study design and methodology, data handling, statistical interpretation, medical writing, and ethical/governance aspects. The module may be introduced in a phased manner so that research skills are developed incrementally and applied fully in a research project in the final year of training or during internship.

Medicine curriculum for undergraduates should provide a strong foundation for research attributes and empower students to develop more specialized research skills in future. Implementation of a well thought out research training module is the need of the hour. Integrated models for developing research skills are previously implemented in the West [3]. Meta-analysis of published studies about undergraduate participation in research, and expert recommendations for designing undergraduate curriculum are helpful [4,5].

*GP PRASHANTH AND UWE WERNER FASS
Department of Pediatrics and Human Genetics, Oman Medical College, Sohar, Al Batinah, North Oman.
prashanth_lucknow@rediffmail.com

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Clinical Trials: A Step Closer to Universal Data Sharing

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) requires registration of clinical trials in a public trials registry at or before enrolment of first participant as a condition to be considered for publication [1]. All clinical trials should be prospectively registered in one of six primary registries recommended by World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP).

Conducting trials is a tedious task as it consumes time, manpower and finances. Participants are exposed to intervention risks. To minimize research duplication in a specific setting, it is necessary to share results and trial data avoiding individual participant identification. To fulfil these aims, ICMJE has mandated that from July 1, 2018, manuscripts of results of clinical trials must have a data sharing statement and trials enrolling first participant from January 1, 2019 must have a data sharing plan [2].

As trial participants expose themselves to potential risks, it is ethical obligation of medical fraternity to maintain confidentiality of patient information. On the other hand, we are heading towards a future where all patient data is shared and easily available to researchers. A practical way to maximize benefits and exclude misuse of data is to be urgently worked out.

*SHAHID AKHTAR SIDDIQUI AND ANUBHA SHRIVASTAVA
Department of Pediatrics, SN Children Hospital, MLN Medical College, Allahabad, UP, India.
sha.akht@yahoo.com

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