

AN OVERVIEW

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Introduction

The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy was formally constituted on the 30th March, 1978 as an Autonomous Organisation under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. It was, however, only in January 1979 that the Council started functioning as an independent organisation.

Main Aims And Objects

The main aims and objects of the CCRH are as under:

1. The formulation of aims and patterns of research on scientific lines in Homoeopathy.
2. To undertake any research or other programmes in Homoeopathy.
3. The prosecution of and assistance in research, the propagation of knowledge and experimental measures generally in connection with the causation, mode of spread and prevention of diseases.
4. To initiate, aid, develop and co-ordinate scientific research in different aspects, fundamental and applied of Homoeopathy and to promote and assist institutions of research for the study of the diseases, their prevention, causation and remedy.

Organisation

In order to achieve the above aims and objects, the Council has established a network of 51 Institutes/Units throughout the country. These are:

Central Research Institute	—	1
Homoeopathic Drug Research Institute	—	1
Homoeopathic Research Institute for Filaria	—	1
Regional Research Institute	—	3
Clinical Research Units in general areas	—	14
Clinical Research Units in tribal areas	—	22
Clinical Verification Units	—	3
Drug Standardisation Units	—	3
Drug Proving Units	—	2
Survey of Medicinal Plants and Collection Unit	—	1

These Institutes/Units are located in the various parts of the country.

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Management

1. Governing Body

The management of the affairs of the Council is vested with Governing Body. The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare is the President of the Governing Body.

2. Standing Finance Committee

The Standing Finance Committee deals with matters having financial implications and assists the Governing Body on such matters.

3. Scientific Advisory Committee

All new schemes and research programmes of the Council in the various fields are examined by the Scientific Advisory Committee. This committee also periodically evaluates the existing programmes and provides overall guidance and directions on all technical matters.

4. Working Groups

Various Working Groups have been constituted under different areas of research. These are: 'Working Group on Clinical Research', 'Working Group on Drug Proving and Verification', 'Working Group on Drug Standardisation' and 'Working Group on Literary Research'.

Strategies And Approaches

The research programmes of the CCRH are drawn in the light of its identified issues and goals as recommended by the Working Groups and approved by the Scientific Advisory Committee as per the overall directions of the Governing Body. Besides devoting to application-oriented research in Homoeopathic drugs, high priority is accorded to action-oriented, problem-solving and operational research. There are several million people in tribal areas who have no easy access to health care facilities. Keeping in view the general policy directions of Government of India, this Council has established 22 Clinical Research Units in different tribal areas.

All the research programmes of the Council are evaluated by the Working Groups/Scientific Advisory Committee from time to time.

Activities And Achievements

1. CLINICAL RESEARCH

Clinical Research in Homoeopathy is an important area of research. It includes fundamental studies, therapeutic studies and medical care as well.

Problems under study:

1.1 Drug Oriented

- 1.1.1** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of following drugs in Filariasis.
(1) *Rhus toxicodendron*, (2) *Apis mellifica*, (3) *Bryonia alba*, (4) *Rhododendron*, (5) Sulphur, (6) *Natrum muriaticum*, (7) *Mercurius solubilis*, (8) *Belladonna*, (9) *Pulsatilla* & (10) *Lycopodium*.
- 1.1.2** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of the following drugs in Helminthiasis: *Chelone*, *Embelia ribes* (*Biranga*), *Cuprum oxydatum nigrum*, *Teucrium*, *Cina* & *Thymol*.
- 1.1.3** To study the efficacy of Homoeopathic drug *Fel tauri* 2x or 3x (trit) in clinical cases of Gall Stones.
- 1.1.4** To study the efficacy of Homoeopathic drug *Ficus religiosa* (Mother tincture form) in Menorrhagia.
- 1.1.5** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of following drugs in Amoebiasis:
Achyranthes aspera, *Aegle folia*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Arsenicum album*, *Atista indica*, *Cinchona officinalis*, *Colchicum*, *Colocynthis*, *Cynodon dactylon*, *Holarthena antidysenterica*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Mercurius corrosivus*, *Mercurius solubilis*, *Nux vomica* & Sulphur.
- 1.1.6** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of following drugs in Bronchial Asthma:
Viburnum opulus, *Aspidosperma*, *Cassia sophera* & Coded drug.
- 1.1.7** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of *Cephalandra indica* in Diabetes Mellitus.
- 1.1.8** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of the following drugs in Intermittent Fever.
Alstonia, *Amoora rohituka*, *Apis mellifica*, *Arsenicum album*, *Caesalpinia bonducella*, *Chininum arsenicosum*, *Chininum sulphuricum*, *Cinchona officinalis*, *Eupatorium officinalis*, *Eupatorium perfoliatum*, *Gelsemium*, *Gentiana chirata*, *Ipecacuanha*, *Natrum muriaticum*, *Nyctanthes arbortristis* & *Vitex negundo*.
- 1.1.9** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of Iscador and indicated homoeopathic drugs in Malignant Diseases.
- 1.1.10** To clinically evaluate the efficacy of *Pulsatilla*

200 in Malposition of Human foetus.

- 1.1.11** To study the efficacy of *Arsenicum sulphuratum flavum* in Vitiligo.

1.2 Disease Oriented

- (1) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, (2) Allergic rhinitis, (3) Amoebiasis, (4) Behavioural disorders, (5) Bronchial asthma, (6) Cervicitis and Cervical erosion, (7) Diabetes mellitus, (8) Drug de-addiction, (9) Dysentery, (10) Epilepsy, (11) Filariasis, (12) Malaria, (13) Malignant disease, (14) Osteoarthritis, (15) Peptic ulcer, (16) Renal calculi, (17) Rheumatoid arthritis, (18) Sick cell anaemia, (19) Sinusitis, (20) Skin disorders (including Allergic dermatitis, Psoriasis), (21) Tonsillitis and (22) Vitiligo.

The Council has formulated Research projects.

A small group of drugs has been identified for the treatment of Bronchial Asthma, Malaria, Filariasis, Vitiligo, Psoriasis and Malignant diseases.

Clinical proving of *Tuberculinum* has been completed.

2. DRUG PROVING

Drug proving is peculiar to Homoeopathy where the drugs pathogenic effects are ascertained by experimentation on healthy human volunteers. The proving is conducted by double blind method of Drysdale.

3. CLINICAL VERIFICATION RESEARCH

In Homoeopathy Clinical Verification of drug pathogenesis is as important as original proving of drugs on healthy human beings as the signs and symptoms obtained during a proving need repeated confirmation through clinical application in order to make a successful prescription.

So far 58 medicines found useful in 30 clinical conditions have been discovered/popularised.

4. DRUG RESEARCH AND STANDARDISATION

Drug Research being conducted by the Council includes (i) Drug standardisation studies and (ii) Survey and collection of medicinal plants.

Physico-chemical, pharmacological and pharmacognostical standards have been suggested for 72 drugs.

The Council has successfully demonstrated the action of Homoeopathic (potentised) drugs on the growth of human and animal viruses.

A check list of 270 medicinal plants of Homoeopathy has been published.

5. LITERARY RESEARCH

The study of literature and its revival is an important background material for planning research programmes. Equally important is revision and updating of available data for its optimum and timely utilisation. As such, the Council has undertaken literary research as long term project.

The Council has updated and published MOUTH AND TEETH chapters of Kent's Repertory. Additions in Kent's Repertory on chapters Respiratory System, Eye and Mind are in progress.

6. CLINICAL RESEARCH IN EPIDEMICS

In view of the frequent incidence of Epidemics of various diseases in different parts of the country, the Council has established an 'Epidemic Cell' at its Headquarters to find out Genus Epidemicus, provide preventive treatment and to study various other aspects of the epidemics.

The Council has so far rushed to the need of the afflicted population in nearly 25 epidemics besides MIC Gas tragedy in Bhopal.

7. INSERVICE TRAINING PROGRAMMES (Workshops/Seminars)

For continuing education of the scientists and dissemination of the research findings of the Council, the CCRH has been organising Workshops/Seminars in the various fields.

12 Seminars/Workshops have been organised so far on subjects such as Management of Filaria, Malaria, Bronchial Asthma, Skin Disorders, Cancer, Clinical Verification and Epidemic Management etc.

8. DOCUMENTATION, LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS

The Council is providing documentation and library services to the research workers of the Council. It is also undertaking the following publications:

- i) **Quarterly Bulletin:** This contains a brief resume of research and allied activities carried out by the different Institutes/Units under the CCRH.
- ii) **CCRH News Letter:** This is published to percolate the information about Council's activities to the Homoeopathic fraternity.
- iii) **Monographs:** The Council publishes Monographs on homocopathic drugs which have been proved by the Council. The Council has published Monographs on Kali Muriaticum, Abroma augusta, Cassia sophera and Cynodon dactylon.
- iv) **Other Publications:** The Council has published a Handbook of Home Remedies in English and Hindi. 'Mouth' and 'Teeth' chapters of Kent's Repertory have been updated and published.

A check list of 270 medicinal plants used in Homoeopathy has been published.

The publications of the Council have been reviewed in the international journals of repute.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

NON PLAN

Year	Sanctioned	Expenditure
1985-86	Rs. 74.50 lakhs	Rs. 74.45 lakhs

1986-87	Rs. 69.80 lakhs	Rs. 69.80 lakhs
1987-88	Rs. 77.17 lakhs	Rs. 78.24 lakhs (including utilisation or recoveries)
1988-89	Rs. 89.90 lakhs	Rs. 86.34 lakhs
1989-90	Rs. 89.50 lakhs	Rs. 85.50 lakhs

PLAN

1985-86	Rs. 20.00 lakhs	Rs. 20.80 lakhs (including utilisation, recoveries and misc. receipts)
1986-87	Rs. 50.00 lakhs	Rs. 64.88 lakhs (including utilisation, recoveries and misc. receipts)
1987-88	Rs. 52.47 lakhs	Rs. 58.88 lakhs (including utilisation, recoveries and misc. receipts)
1988-89	Rs. 70.00 lakhs	Rs. 86.41 lakhs
1989-90	Rs. 80.00 lakhs	Rs. 80.32 lakhs

Total plan outlay approved for the 7th Five Year Plan of the Council was Rs. 300.00 lakhs against 550.00 lakhs proposed by the Council.

Future Projections and Approaches

- 1) The main strategy of the Council in the remaining part of the 7th Five Year Plan will be on consolidation and monitoring of the existing Institutes/Units rather than on expansion.
- 2) The Council also proposes to actively involve in the five National Health Programmes viz.:
 - i) Family Welfare and MCH, Immunisation, ORT
 - ii) Malaria
 - iii) Leprosy
 - iv) Blindness
 - v) Tuberculosis
- 3) In the 8th Five Year Plan, the Council proposes to:
 - a) Establish the Central Research Institute (H) Noida with 100 bedded hospital as a model Institute in the field of Homoeopathy. This will involve construction of building for the Institute and essential staff quarters.
 - b) Establishment of Homoeopathic Research Institute on Malaria in Jaipur
 - c) Establishment of Homoeopathic Research Institute on Communicable Diseases at Bhopal.
 - d) Establishment of Homoeopathic Research and Training Institute for Tribals at Diphu, Karbianglong (Assam).
 - e) Establishment of Survey of Medicinal Plants and Collection Unit at Dehradun.
 - f) Establishment of 10 units in general areas and 10 units in tribal areas.
 - g) Fencing of land, construction of office building and essential staff quarters for Survey of Medicinal Plants and Collection Unit, Ooty.