

F.No. M-11021/11/2026-CG (8428003)
Centre for Evidence for Guidelines
Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

2ndFloor, IRCS Building,
Red Cross Road, New Delhi,
Dated: 6 October 2026

CIRCULAR

Subject: Submission of Ethics Committee-approved research proposals involving minimally manipulated stem cells in human participants to NSRC.

This has reference to the Department of Health Research (DHR) Order dated **24th March, 2026** regarding the constitution of the **National Stem Cell Research Regulation Committee (NSRC)**, for overseeing and regulating stem cell research in human participants that have undergone minimal manipulation.

2. All research proposals involving the administration of minimally manipulated stem cells (as defined by CDSCO in the clarification issued under Section 33P dated 09.02.2021) in human participants, and that do not fall under the regulatory purview of CDSCO as new drugs (stem cell derived products), shall fall under the scope of NSRC.

3. The following is hereby communicated for information and necessary action by all concerned:

- i. All Ethics Committees (ECs) duly registered with the National Ethics Committee Registry for Biomedical and Health Research (NECRBHR), Department of Health Research, must submit the **EC-approved research proposals** falling within the aforesaid scope to DHR at **necrbhr-dhr@gov.in** for final vetting by NSRC. Such research can only commence after the EC approved proposals have also been vetted by the NSRC.
- ii. In addition to the electronic submission, hard copies of the relevant documents (ethics committee approval letter and detailed research proposal along with such other relevant documents as may be applicable) shall also be forwarded to the

following address:

**National Ethics Committee Registry for Biomedical and
Health Research
Department of Health Research
2nd Floor, IRCS Building
Red Cross Road
New Delhi – 110001**

4. All Ethics Committees are, therefore, requested to **take note of the above arrangement, and shall make submissions of such research proposals to NECRBHR, DHR as detailed above.**

5. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Digitally signed by
Karmarkar Tushar Arun
Date: 06-10-2026
19:40:14

**(Tushar Karmarkar)
Deputy Secretary**

To:

- i. All Ethics Committees registered with DHR

Copy to:

- i. PSO to Secretary, Department of Health Research/DG, ICMR, New Delhi
- ii. PPS to Joint Secretary (MS), Department of Health Research, New Delhi
- iii. Head, ICMR-Bioethics Unit.
- iv. All stakeholders/public at large.
- v. Copy for DHR Website
- vi. Guard file