



Randomized Controlled Trial Governance in Nepal

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Institute of Medicine
Kathmandu, Nepal

The Ethics of Belief

William Kingdon Clifford



The Perfect Library

1876 AD

“It is wrong always,
everywhere, and for
anyone, to believe
anything upon
insufficient evidence.”

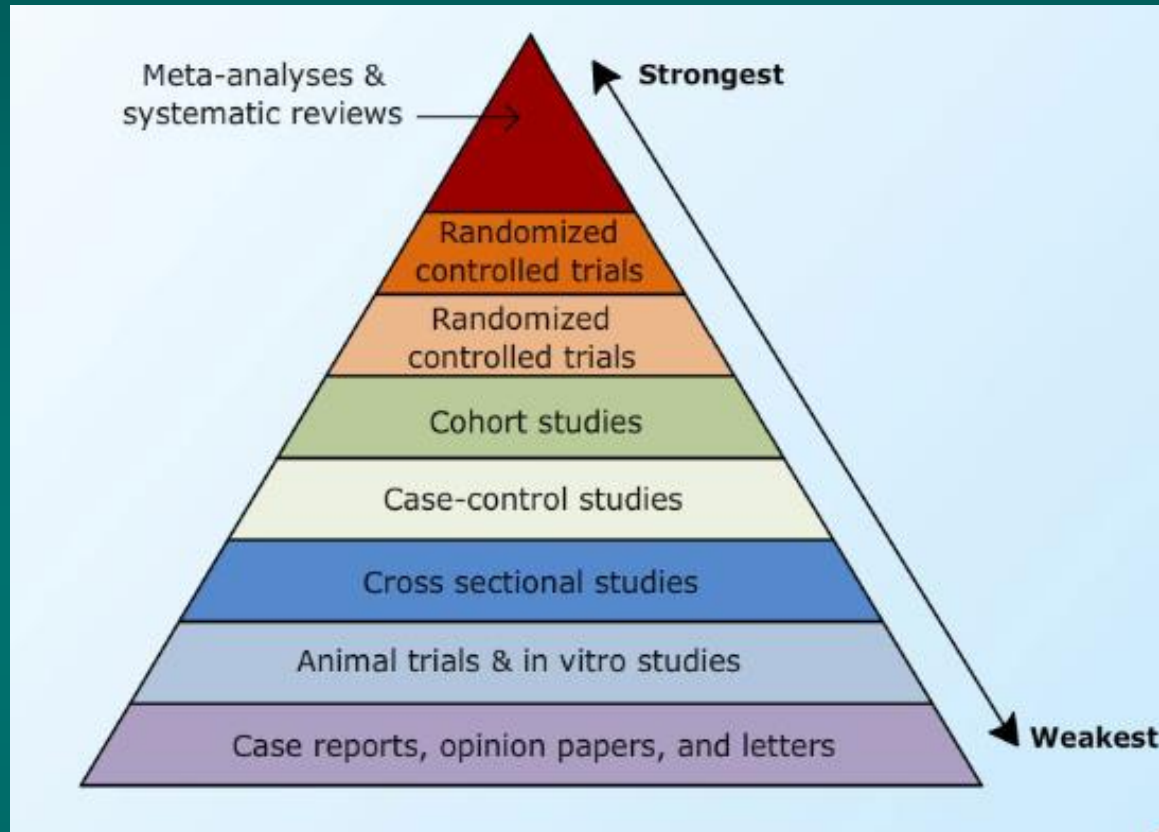
Reasons for Generating New Evidence

Most scientific method to:

- Understand the epidemiology of the disease
- Determine the utility and applicability of diagnostic tests
- Select best treatment modalities
- Develop new tools and methodologies to measure and promote health equity

Commission on Health Research for Development. Health research: essential link to equity in development. Oxford University Press; 1990

Hierarchy of Evidence



‘Supreme court’ of evidence!

World

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

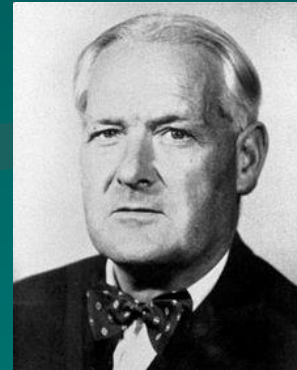
LONDON SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1948

STREPTOMYCIN TREATMENT OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS A MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL INVESTIGATION

The following gives the short-term results of a controlled investigation into the effects of streptomycin on one

The Control Scheme

Determination of whether a patient would be treated by streptomycin and bed-rest (S case) or by bed-rest alone (C case) was made by reference to a statistical series based on random sampling numbers drawn up for each sex at each centre by Professor Bradford Hill ; the details of the series were unknown to any of the investigators or to the co-ordinator and were contained in a set of sealed envelopes, each bearing on the outside only the name of the hospital and a number. After acceptance of a patient by the panel, and before admission to the streptomycin centre, the appropriate numbered envelope was opened at the central office ; the card inside told if the patient was to be an S or a C case, and this information was then given to the medical officer of the centre.



Sir Bradford Hill
(1897-1991)

Nepal

CENTER FOR HUMAN NUTRITION

Nepal Nutrition Intervention Project - Sarlahi (NNIPS)

THE LANCET

Vol 338

Saturday 13 July 1991

No 8759

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Efficacy of vitamin A in reducing preschool child mortality in Nepal

KEITH P. WEST, JR R. P. POKHREL JOANNE KATZ
STEVEN C. LECLERQ SUBARNA K. KHATRY
SHARADA R. SHRESTHA ELIZABETH K. PRADHAN
JAMES M. TIELSCH M. R. PANDEY ALFRED SOMMER

Est in 1989 as a collaboration between the Johns Hopkins University & Nepal Netra Jyoti Sangh

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled community trial of 28,630 children aged 6-72 months

Demonstrated a 30% reduction in child mortality, leading to substantial changes in both Nepali and other government's Vitamin A programs.



ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Safety and Efficacy of a Recombinant Hepatitis E Vaccine

Authors: Mrigendra Prasad Shrestha, M.B., B.S., Robert McNair Scott, M.D., Durga Man Joshi, M.D., Mammen P. Mammen, Jr., M.D., Gyan Bahadur Thapa, M.B., B.S., Narbada Thapa, Ph.D., Khin Saw Aye Myint, M.B., B.S., ⁺⁸, and Bruce L. Innis, M.D. [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

Published March 1, 2007 | N Engl J Med 2007;356:895-903 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa061847 | VOL. 356 NO. 9

A collaboration between U.S. Army and Royal Nepal Army sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline from July 2001 to January 2004

A phase 2 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of rHEV vaccine to evaluate safety & efficacy in 1794 subjects

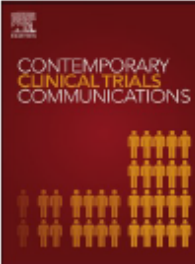
Vaccine efficacy - 95.5%



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/conctc



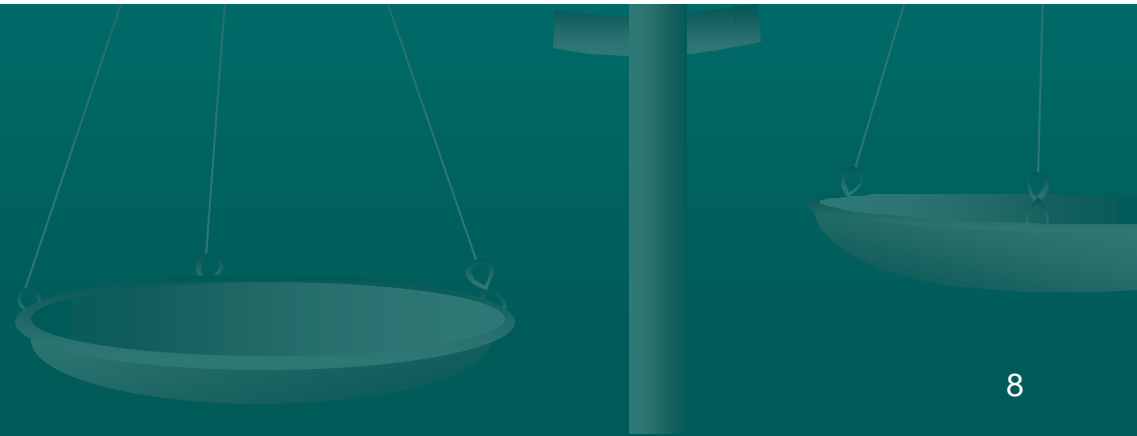
Revisiting the clinical trial history and regulatory mechanisms in Nepal in the context of COVID-19 pandemic

Suman Sharma Paudel^{a,*}, Yunima Sapkota^a, Pradip Gyanwali^a, Meghnath Dhimal^a,
Namita Ghimire^a, Suman Pant^a, Dinesh Bhandari^{a,c}, Shrawan Kumar Mandal^b

^a Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC), Nepal

^b Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital (STIDH), Kathmandu, Nepal

^c School of Nursing and Midwifery, Monash University, Australia



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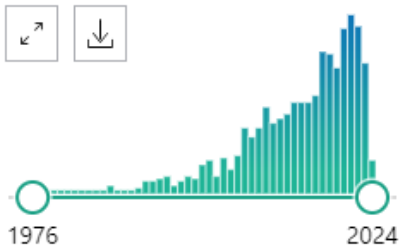
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of 86



RESULTS BY YEAR



Effectiveness of oral health education intervention among 12-15-year-old school children in Dharan, **Nepal**: a **randomized controlled trial**.

1

Cite

Subedi K, Shrestha A, Bhagat T, Baral D.

Share

BMC Oral Health. 2021 Oct 14;21(1):525. doi: 10.1186/s12903-021-01877-6.

PMID: 34649553 [Free PMC article](#). [Clinical Trial](#).

The objective of this study was to assess the effectiveness of an oral health education (OHE) intervention on oral hygiene knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP), plaque control and gingival health among 12-15 years old school children in Dharan sub-metropolitan city, **Nepal** ...

A highly complex, time-consuming, risky and costly task

Clinical Trial Governance



- A systematic approach to maintaining and improving the quality of clinical trials
- Ensuring that:
 - Research has been done in line with:
 - Established ethical principles
 - Guidelines for responsible research conduct
 - Relevant legislation and regulations
 - Institutional policy

Objectives

- Reduce trial start up times
- Optimize recruitment and recruitment time frames
- Better engage trial sponsors
- Improve consistency in trial service delivery

National Clinical Trials Governance Framework, Australia, 2022

Specific Objectives

- Describes the clear role of PI, site PI, coordinator, research officer, pharmacist, etc
- Provides standards against which the performance of the trial will be assessed
- Help develop strategic and operational plans
- Helps with accreditation and training of IRCs, trial centers
- Eliminates duplicates and delays

National Clinical Trials Governance Framework, Australia, 2022

Elements of Research Governance

- Ethical approval
 - Compliance with legislation, regulations, guidelines and codes of practice
 - Legal matters, including contracts or insurance frameworks
 - Financial management
 - Risk assessment & management
 - Managing collaborative research
 - Monitoring of trials- protocol compliance, SAE,AE, etc
 - Ensuring responsible research conduct and managing research misconduct
 - Reporting requirements
- 



The National Clinical Trials Governance Framework

and user guide for health service
organisations conducting clinical trials

February 2022



Governance in Nepal



- Accreditation of IRCs
- Periodic training of IRC members
- Research promotion training
- Approval and monitoring of trials
- Vaccine trials – cabinet

Training programs

189

Training programs
since 1991

5013

Participants

8

Types of trainings

Nepal Clinical Trials Registry (NCTR)

NHRC Guideline for CME/CPD Accreditation
(For Health Science Professionals)

Entry into force: 15 November 2017

Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) in Health Sciences

NHRC CPD Guidelines for Providing Credit Hours to Participants of Research Trainings and conferences

This guideline is applicable for providing credit hours for health professionals attending research trainings and participating in health research related conferences, summits, workshops, and seminars.

NHRC Raw Data Research - Introduction

**NATIONAL GUIDELINE
ON CLINICAL TRIALS WITH THE USE OF
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS**

Editors

Dr. Sachey Kumar Pahari
Professor (Dr.) Ramesh Kant Adhikari
Dr. Shanker Pratap Singh
Dr. Rajendra Kumar BC
Ms. Pearl Banmali

Assisted by

Ms. Shailee Singh Rathour

Edition: First 2005

Clinical Trial Process for
Vaccine (खोपको क्लिनिकल
ट्रायलसम्बन्धी प्रक्रिया)

**National Ethical Guidelines for Health Research in
Nepal 2022**



**Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC)
Ram Shah Path, Kathmandu, Nepal**

January 2022

National Ethical Guidelines for Health Research in Nepal 2022

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Department of Drug Administration



औषधि ऐन, २०३५

प्रमाणीकरण र प्रकाशन मिति

२०३५।७।८

संशोधन गर्ने ऐन

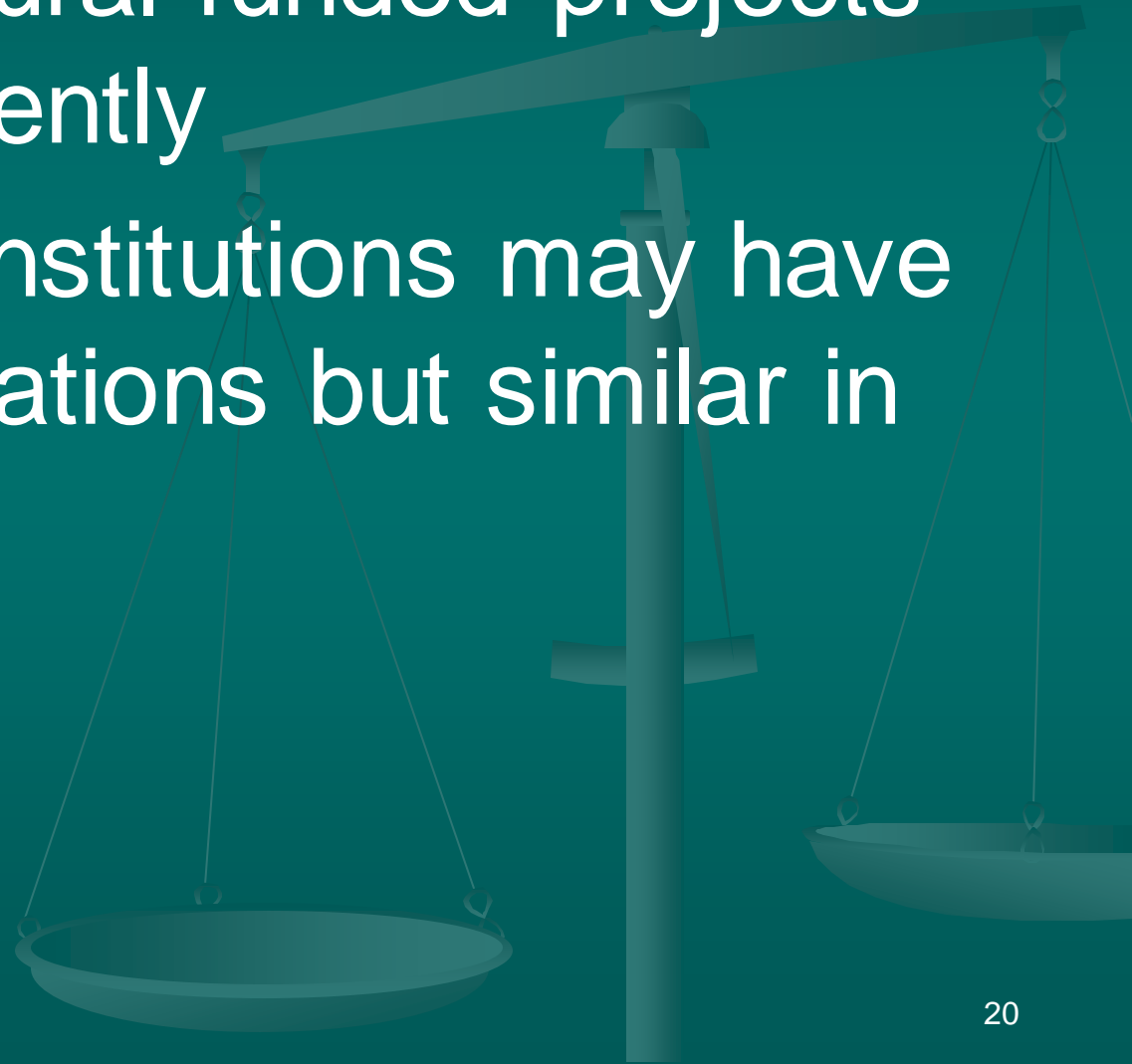
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| १. औषधि (पहिलो संशोधन) ऐन, २०४५ | २०४५।७।१० |
| २. औषधि (दोस्रो संशोधन) ऐन, २०५७ | २०५७।८।१४ |
| ३. गणतन्त्र सुदृढीकरण तथा केही नेपाल कानून संशोधन गर्ने ऐन, २०६६ | २०६६।१०।७ |

३१. नयाँ औषधिको क्लिनिकल ट्रायल गर्न विभागबाट अनुमतिपत्र लिनु पर्ने : कसैले कुनै नयाँ औषधिको क्लिनिकल ट्रायल गर्न चाहेमा सो कामको लागि विभागबाट तोकिए बमोजिम अनुमतिपत्र लिनु पर्नेछ ।

स्पष्टीकरण : यस दफाको प्रयोजनको लागि "क्लिनिकल ट्रायल" भन्नाले कुनै नयाँ औषधि प्रयोगमा ल्याउन उचित छ वा छैन भन्ने कुरा यकीन गर्ने उद्देश्यले अनुमतिपत्रमा तोकिए बमोजिम अस्पताल वा यस्तै अन्य चिकित्सालयमा रोगी वा अन्य व्यक्तिको स्वेच्छानुसार निजलाई सेवत गराई परीक्षण गर्ने कार्य सम्भन्नु पर्छ ।

Institutions

- Trials/ extramural funded projects handled differently
- Different Uni/institutions may have different regulations but similar in nature



त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय
अनुसन्धान/शैक्षिक विकास परियोजना व्यवस्थापन कार्यविधि, २०७२

प्रस्तावना:- त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय अन्तरगतका निकायहरूमा अध्यापन, अनुसन्धान कार्यमा संलग्न शिक्षकहरूले विश्वविद्यालय र देशको शैक्षिक, सामाजिक, आर्थिक, बैज्ञानिक र प्राविधिक उन्नयनका लागि सञ्चालन गर्ने अल्पकालीन र दीर्घकालीन अनुसन्धान/शैक्षिक विकास परियोजनाहरूलाई स्वायत्त ढंगबाट सञ्चालन तथा व्यवस्थापन गर्न गराउनको लागि त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय संगठन तथा शैक्षिक प्रशासन सम्बन्धी नियम, २०५० को नियम १३३ (२) र ३९७ ले दिएको अधिकार प्रयोग गरी त्रि.वि. कार्यकारी परिषद्ले देहाय बमोजिमको कार्य व्यवस्थापन प्रणाली बनाई लागु गरेको छ ।

त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय
चिकित्साशास्त्र अध्ययन संस्थान
अनुसन्धान परियोजना कार्यान्वयन कार्यविधि, २०७७
(संशोधन सहित)
संशोधन मिति २०७७/२/१५

परिच्छेद ४
अनुसन्धान परियोजना संचालन स्थायी समिति गठन

अनुसन्धान परियोजना कार्यान्वयन समितिको गठन

Barriers and Solutions



- **Insufficient research capacity**
 - Research centers/depts. in major institution a must
- **Inadequate research enthusiasm**
 - Periodic training
 - Encouragement & mentorship by the seniors
 - Incentives for researchers (Job opportunities, higher salary, and faster career advancement)

Barriers and Solutions...

➤ **Lack of expertise**

- More training courses
- Short-term visits to international research centers or inviting international experts to train the local scientists

➤ **Lack of funding**

- Increasing awareness among potential researchers
- Lobbying the policy makers
- Collaboration

➤ **Brain drain**

- Developing adequate infrastructure at home
- Providing “protected” research time
- Ensuring financial security for the researchers

Miscellaneous Issues

- Trial registry
- Harmonize regulatory, legal and administrative requirements to facilitate pragmatic, efficient and achievable standards in clinical trial
- Promote routine data-sharing systems to prevent unnecessary duplication of trials
- Clear trial governance framework publication
- Availability of Contract Research Organizations (CROs)
- Need of reporting requirement and handling misconduct policies

Conclusion



सानुबन्धेन जीवितः
“Through continuity survives.”
- Sushruta