



جامعة الإمام عبد الرحمن بن فيصل  
IMAM ABDULRAHMAN BIN FAISAL UNIVERSITY

وزارة التعليم  
Ministry of Education  
043

المملكة العربية السعودية  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

College Of Medicine Vice Deanship of Research & Innovation | وكالة كلية الطب للبحث العلمي والابتكار

## RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS Research and Innovation Policy

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May 25, 2025	Signature	7
<b>Latest Revision</b>		
May 25, 2028		

### Definitions and Key Terms

- **Institution:** Refers to the College of Medicine at Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University (IAU), which oversees and supports the academic and research activities covered by this policy.
- **University:** Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University (IAU), a higher education institution responsible for setting overarching academic, research, and innovation strategies.
- **Residency Programs:** Structured postgraduate training programs offered by IAU under the College of Medicine, specifically the IAU Fellowship Residency Programs, designed to develop advanced clinical and research competencies in specialized fields.
- **Resident:** A postgraduate medical trainee currently enrolled in one of the IAU Fellowship Residency Programs. Residents are expected to engage in clinical practice, academic learning, and research activities as part of their training.
- **Students:** Refers to undergraduate medical students currently enrolled in the College of Medicine at IAU. While not the primary focus of this policy, students may be involved in research activities under faculty supervision and in accordance with institutional guidelines.

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## 1 Purpose

The research policy aims to establish a framework that guides the institution's activities in promoting scholarly, innovative, and collaborative research by establishing clear standards for scientifically sound methods, ethical conduct, integrity, and social accountability. The policy also ensures that the institutional research activities are aligned with the university's mission and strategic goals and the Kingdom Vision 2030.

## 2 Scope

This policy applies to all residents in all IAU fellowship residency training programs at the College of Medicine.

## 3 Jurisdiction

The oversight and implementation of research and innovation activities within the residency programs fall under the collective responsibility of designated academic and administrative bodies. These entities ensure strategic alignment, ethical compliance, and operational excellence in research governance:

**3.1 Research and Innovation Committee:** This committee is composed of faculty members, administrators, and sometimes student representatives, and it oversees research activities and policy implementation.

**3.2 Vice Dean for Research & Innovation:** Provides overall leadership, strategic vision, and resource support and/ or management for faculty research and innovation projects and is a member of the Deanship of Research.

**3.3 The Dean of Medicine:** Provides overall leadership, strategic vision, and resource support and/ or management for faculty research and innovation projects.

**3.4 Dean of Scientific Research:** The Dean provides vision and leadership for the university's research agenda, aligning it with institutional goals and priorities and supporting research initiatives.

**3.5 Dean of Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** The Dean provides vision and leadership for the university's innovation agenda, aligning it with institutional goals and priorities and providing support for innovation initiatives.

**3.6 Vice President for Research and Innovation:** A senior administrator who leads the University's research and innovation agenda, coordinates between colleges, and ensures alignment with the university's strategic goals.

#### 4. Role and responsibilities

The following roles and responsibilities outline the core functions necessary for the governance, implementation, and continuous enhancement of research and innovation within the residency programs:

**4.1 Research and Innovation Policies and Procedures Oversight:** The Vice Dean for Research & Innovation, in collaboration with the Research and Innovation Committee, oversees the consistent implementation and adherence to research and innovation policies across all levels of the institution. This includes monitoring the compliance of faculty, residents, and students with established guidelines, ensuring that research activities uphold scientific integrity, ethical conduct, and institutional accountability. The committee also plays a key role in identifying policy gaps, recommending updates, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement in research governance.

**4.2 Continuous training and development:** A comprehensive suite of training activities and workshops is regularly organized to equip postgraduate residents and fellows with the necessary competencies in research methodology, scientific writing, and data interpretation. These programs are designed to build capacity in evidence-based research practices, enhance academic writing proficiency, and promote a deep understanding of ethical research conduct. The training initiatives support residents in developing high-quality, publishable research and contribute to fostering a scholarly culture within the institution.

**4.3 Comprehensive Regular Audits and Reviews:** Regular audits and annual evaluations of research activities, funding utilization, and compliance practices are conducted to ensure alignment with institutional policies, ethical standards, and funding agency requirements. These reviews also aim to identify areas for improvement, enhance accountability, and support evidence-informed decision-making across research programs.

**4.4 Transparent and Responsive Reporting Mechanisms:** Confidential and well-structured reporting channels are established to allow residents, faculty, and stakeholders to raise concerns related to research misconduct, ethical violations, or policy non-compliance. These mechanisms are designed to uphold transparency, promote accountability, and ensure the timely and impartial resolution of reported issues. The system encourages a culture of openness and reinforces institutional commitment to ethical research practices and continuous improvement.

**4.5 Clear and Strategic Performance Metrics:** Defined performance indicators are implemented to systematically evaluate the quality, relevance, and impact of research activities conducted within the residency programs. These metrics assess a range of dimensions, including research productivity (e.g., publications, presentations), innovation output, ethical compliance, funding acquisition, interdisciplinary collaboration, and alignment with institutional strategic goals and national priorities such as Vision 2030. These metrics support data-driven decision-making, foster continuous improvement, and ensure accountability across all research engagement levels.

**4.6 Active Stakeholder Engagement:** To foster a collaborative research environment, structured and inclusive engagement mechanisms are in place for all key stakeholders, including residents, faculty, and administrative leaders. Quarterly meetings are held to review departmental research progress, share updates, address challenges, and align research priorities with institutional goals. In addition, annual surveys are distributed to gather comprehensive feedback on research experiences, support systems, and barriers faced by participants. These engagement activities aim to promote transparency, encourage shared ownership of research development, and ensure that continuous improvements are informed by the voices of those directly involved in research initiatives.

## 5. Ethical Standards

All research conducted in the department will require IRB approval to commence, to ensure that research conducted adheres to the highest standards of ethics and respect for participants. The research policy mandates strict compliance with Institutional Review Board (IRB) guidelines to date. Safeguard confidentiality and patient data privacy throughout all research activities conducted within the clinical department. By upholding these ethical standards, the department fosters a culture of trust and accountability, which is crucial for maintaining public confidence in clinical research. These standards are:

### 5.1 Informed Consent:

**Articulation:** "All participants must provide informed consent prior to their involvement in research. Researchers are responsible for ensuring that participants understand the nature, risks, and benefits of the study."

## 5.2 Confidentiality and Privacy:

**Articulation:** "Researchers must take all necessary measures to protect the confidentiality and privacy of participants. Personal data should be anonymized or coded to prevent identification."

## 5.3 Risk Minimization:

**Articulation:** "Research should be designed to minimize risks to participants. Any potential risks must be clearly communicated to participants during the consent process."

## 5.4 Equity and Justice:

**Articulation:** "Research must be conducted fairly, ensuring that all groups have equitable access to participation and that no group is unfairly burdened by the risks of research."

## 5.5 Integrity and Honesty:

**Articulation:** "Researchers must maintain integrity and honesty in all aspects of their work, including data collection, analysis, and reporting of findings."

## 5.6 Oversight and Accountability:

**Articulation:** "All research activities are subject to oversight by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and must adhere to established ethical guidelines. Researchers are accountable for their adherence to these standards."

## 5.7 Withdrawal Rights:

**Articulation:** "Participants have the right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits. This right must be clearly communicated during the consent process."

## 6. Review and Revision:

This policy will be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure (every two years) compliance with evolving ethical standards and regulations.

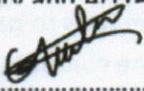
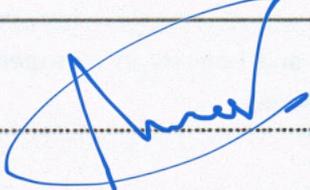
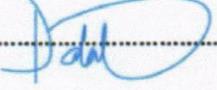
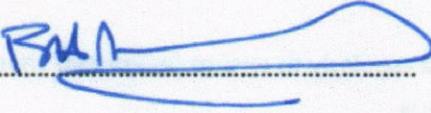


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<p><b>Revised by:</b></p> <p></p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Dr. Amal Al Ghamdi</b> Head of the Research Committee</p> <p></p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Dr. Dalal A. Bubshait</b> Vice Dean for Scientific Research and Innovation</p>	<p>Date Signed: <b>9 July 2025</b></p> <p>Date Signed: <b>9 July 2025</b></p>
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