

Fortnightly Digest by



Digest 29 and 30



Warm greetings!

We are pleased to bring you this fortnightly digest from the Health, Ethics and Law Institute (HEaL Institute) and the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* (IJME).

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## Newsletter Spotlight 1

### **‘Enhancing the Quality of Response of the Health Care System to Sexual Assault’ – A report by TISS and FMES**

A [report published by WHO](#) estimates that one in every three women worldwide experience physical and/or sexual violence, and the perpetrators include an intimate partner or non-partner in her lifetime. Similarly, as per the [data from India’s National Crime Records Bureau](#), in 2019, a total of 4,05,861 cases of crime against women were registered, which showed an increase of 7.3% with respect to the cases registered in 2018. Sexual violence leaves deep and long-lasting trauma and distress among the survivors, and negatively impacts women’s physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health.

To evaluate the current situation, FMES along with TISS undertook a comprehensive study of health care and medico-legal care for survivors of gender-based violence with special focus on domestic and sexual violence and identification of gaps in infrastructure and human resources. The findings of the study were also expected to support health facilities to follow the Ministry

Guidelines and enhance compliance with legal norms. The study was conducted in Pune district of Maharashtra and Karimnagar district, Telangana, India.

To record and disseminate the study findings, the researchers of this study have come out with a report titled '[Enhancing the Quality of Response of the Health Care System to Sexual Assault](#)' which was released through an online dissemination meeting held on Saturday, March 26, 2022.

# Enhancing the Quality of Response of the Health Care System to Sexual Assault

Dr Lakshmi Lingam, TISS, Mumbai  
Dr Sunita Bandewar, FMES, Pune  
Ms Sita Mamidipudi, Hyderabad

Funded by

Indian Council for Medical Research and  
the Department of Health Research,  
MoHFW, New Delhi, India

(Project Reference No. GIA/8/2014-DHR)

Tata Institute of Social Sciences  
Forum for Medical Ethics Society  
Mumbai

6 April 2021



Watch this space for more details and recording of the dissemination meeting.



Tata Institute of Social Sciences  
&  
Forum for Medical Ethics Society

invite you for online report dissemination meeting



## 'Enhancing the Quality of Health Care System Response to Sexual Assault: Study of Maharashtra and Telangana'

on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 4 - 6 pm

Introductory Remarks



Prof Shalini Bharat,  
Director, TISS

Chairperson



Dr Shireen Jejeebhoy  
Director, Aksha,  
Mumbai

Discussants



Vrinda Grover,  
Advocate,  
Supreme Court



Dr Avni Amin,  
SRHR - VAW, WHO,  
Geneva



Report to be presented by  
Prof Lakshmi Ling  
TISS, Mumbai



Dr Sunita Banded  
FMES, Pune



Ms Sita Mamidipati  
UCLA, USA

## Newsletter Spotlight 2

### FMES-IJME Ethics Awards 2020-21

FMES-IJME Ethics Awards were instituted in 2018 to recognise and honour individuals for their contribution to healthcare ethics and bioethics in India.

Under the aegis of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Bioethics Conference, FMES-IJME along with the Centre for Ethics, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) concluded with the award ceremony for the year 2020-21 and awarded four individuals and two organisations for their “**Outstanding Contribution to Ethical Practices and Improved Access to Healthcare for the Marginalised during the COVID-19 pandemic**”. The awards were divided in three categories as presented [here](#). The awards were virtually presented on Monday, April 11, 2022. The award ceremony included the information on the selection process by the [Selection Committee](#), followed by reading the citation for the awardees and speeches by the respective awardees. The link to the entire virtual event recording can be found .

**For Outstanding Contribution to Ethical Practices and  
Improving Access to Healthcare for the Marginalised  
during the COVID-19 pandemic**

**AWARDEES**

**ASHAs and ANMs**



**Pasavathy Muthurangam**  
VHN, PHC, Minjur Block,  
Tamil Nadu

**Nursing Professionals  
& Counsellors**



**Sanjana S. Chikhalkar**  
Chief Community Development  
Officer (CDO), Khan Bahadur Bhabha  
Municipal General Hospital,  
Kurla West, Mumbai

**Groups formed during  
COVID-19 to support  
vulnerable constituencies**



**SWAN**  
(Stranded Workers Action Network)  
Initiated in Jharkhand and covering South  
Delhi-Haryana, North, West and East Zones

**Appreciation awards**

**ASHAs and ANMs**



**A. Kokila**  
ASHA, PHC, Mannavanur Block,  
Palani, Tamil Nadu

**Nursing Professionals  
& Counsellors**



**Nazma**  
Community worker,  
Former Staff Nurse, HAHC Hospital, Delhi

**Groups formed during  
COVID-19 to support  
vulnerable constituencies**



**Covid warriors**  
Bangalore based Citizens' Group

**FMES-IJME Ethics Awards Program**

**Opening of the FMES-IJME Ethics Awards Presentation**

Welcome and congratulatory note by **Amrita Pitre**, Member, FMES Board of Trustees  
Introduction to FMES and FMES-IJME Ethics Awards by **Sunita Sheel**, Secy Gen, FMES  
Introduction to IJME by **Vijayaprasad Gopichandran**, Working Editor, IJME  
Introduction to Center for Ethics, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) by **Uma Kulkarni**, Faculty, Center for Ethics, YDU

**FMES-IJME Ethics Awards Selection Committee - Nominations and Screening Process**

**M Prakasamma**, Executive Director, ANSWERS, Hyderabad, Telangana  
**Sulakshana Nandi**, Co-Chair of People's Health Movement Global Steering Council  
**Pavitra Mohan**, Co-founder and Secretary, Basic Healthcare Services

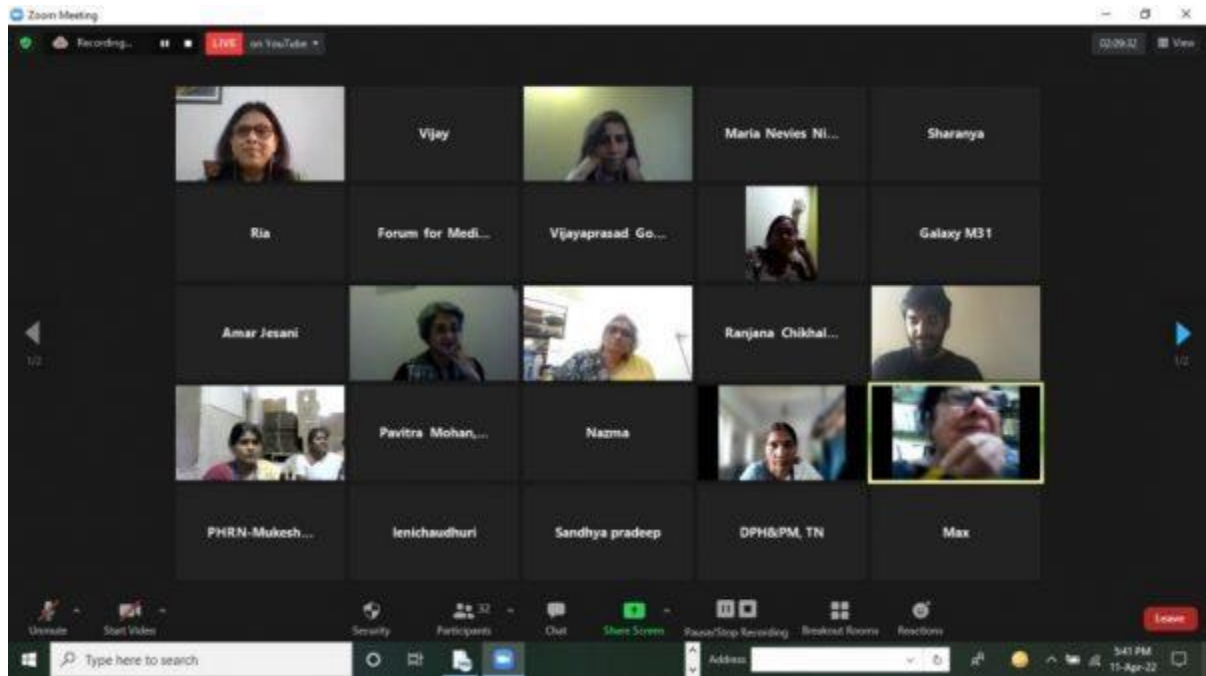
**Award Presentation and Speeches by Awardees - Citation reading**

**Mala Ramanathan**, Working Editor, IJME  
**Olinda Timms**, Adjunct Professor, Department of Health and Humanities, St. Johns Research Institute

**Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks by :**  
**Sanjay Nagral**, Chair, FMES

**FMES-IJME Ethics Awards 2020-21 Final Program**

Registration link for the e-ceremony. <https://forms.gle/w2wVCsQH16hDMz668>



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## Newsletter Spotlight 3

### Congratulations !

Dr Anurag Bhargava, the Editorial Board member of IJME, has been conferred the [2021 PRJ Gangadharam Award](#) for contributions to the field of TB in India by MGIMS and Kasturba Health Society. The award ceremony was an offline event where Dr Bhargava spoke on, “TB care and prevention in India: Towards a more holistic approach”.

Dr Bhargava is currently our collaborator on a project titled ‘[Eco-researchTM](#)’ (Engagement of Communities in research in Tuberculosis and Mental Health) which focuses on improving the community engagement in research and in social innovations to enhance healthcare delivery.

We once again congratulate Dr Anurag Bhargava on receiving this award. We wish him many more in the coming times.





## Online First from IJME

Balasi, I., Elahi, N., Ebadi, A., Hazrati ,M., Jahani , S. (2022). [Barriers and facilitators of professional autonomy of clinical nurses in Iran: A qualitative study.](#) *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, April 16, 2022.

Duggal, L. (2022). [Don't Look Up, or How not to deal with a disaster.](#) *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, April 26, 2022

Kambali, M., S. (2022). [Unjust exclusion from medical education of medical teachers with MSc \(Medicine\) and PhD \(Medicine\) qualifications.](#) *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, April 05, 2022

Nandimath, O., Suhas, S., Malik, Y., Malathesh, B., Math, S. (2022). [National Medical Commission Act, 2019 – the need for parity.](#) *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, April 25, 2022.

Varghese, J., Jacob, M. (2022). [Gift authorship: Look the gift horse in the mouth.](#) *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, April 21, 2022

[Read more](#)

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## Announcement from the local and global peer community

**Open letter by National and Global community condemning the increasing communalism and casteism in Karnataka which has deep implications for public health**

**[Open](#) for endorsements till 3 pm on 29th April 2022**

In light of the increasing communalism and casteism in Karnataka, prominent social activists, researchers, academics, institutions and organisations, and various other concerned citizens have written a letter condemning the growing state-led and state-sponsored targeted violence against Muslims, Christians and Dalit communities in Karnataka. The letter accounts various incidents of violence and describes how these incidents impact the physical and mental health of the victims. The entire letter can be read [here](#). The Kannada version by Bahutva Karnataka can be found [here](#).

## Forthcoming conferences and webinars

[APBEN Fourth Annual Conference – The New Norm of Professionalism, Bioethics and Beyond](#) | APBEN | May 21 and 22, 2022

[Activists and Civil Society – Post World TB Day Brainstorming Meeting](#) | Saturday, April

30, 2022 at 11 am (IST)

**JOIN US!**

✓ **REALITY CHECK**

POST WORLD TB DAY  
COMMUNITIES BRAINSTORMING  
(INDIA)



#INVESTINCOMMUNITIES  
#SAVELIVES  
#ENDTB

**ZOOM LINK**

[bit.ly/ActivistsAndCSMeeting](https://bit.ly/ActivistsAndCSMeeting)

Saturday

**30TH**

April 2022 @ 11 AM

For more information

Ganesh Acharya < 96199 54104 >

Meera Yadav < 80973 46005 >



**Concluded conferences and webinars**

### **Concluded conferences and webinars**

[Workshop on DeGrazia & Millum's "A Theory of Bioethics"](#) | Rutgers' Center for Population-Level Bioethics | April 22, 2022

[Girish Sant Memorial Annual Event – Professionals share experiences of working on India's environment and development issues](#) | Prayas (Energy Group) | April 16, 2022

[Regional dialogue: Preliminary recommendations to catalyze ethical research in emergencies \(in Spanish/English\)](#) | PAHO | April 8, 2022

[Lancet Citizen's Commission Public Webinar Series | Health Promotion for Well-being, Equity, and Sustainable Development](#) | South Asia Institute | April 7, 2022

[OA Switchboard Webinar: Lessons Learned to Make Reporting Easy](#) | OASPA | March 29, 2022

### **News articles and blogs on Bioethics**

[\*\*\*Coronacha Aarogya Dhada \(Health lessons from Coronavirus\)\*\*\*](#) | Dr Sanjay Nagral | Maharashtra Times (Marathi article) | April 8, 2022

### **Bioethics courses**

[NIE-ICMR-WHO online course – NieCer 102: Ethics Review of Health Research](#) | ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology

### NIE-ICMR e-Certificate (NleCer) 102

**INTENDED AUDIENCE**

- Members of India's institutional ethics committees & institutional review boards (including secretarial staff)
- Professionals engaged in biomedical research involving human participants (my current or potential health researchers (clinical/public health/labouratory researchers, physicians, research associates, allied health professionals, scientists, statisticians, research administrators / managers)

**Course process**

The participants can go through the learning materials and submit the self assessment quiz at any time after the enrolment into the course.

**LEARNING MODE**

- Video Lectures
- Lecture Handouts
- Discussion Forum
- Multiple Choice Questions
- Resource Materials
- Demos Videos

**E- CERTIFICATE**



**CONTACT US**

healthcourse@nie.ac.in  
http://www.nie.gov.in

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8, U-7, Second Main Road  
Third Floor, Sakinaka, Chetana  
Park, New Delhi-110017, India

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### FACULTY

Anand Bhar, Research Bioethics

V V Banu Reddy, ICMR National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis

Maha Ramasethy, New Ethics Tribunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology

Madhur Gupta, WHO India

P Marikakshi, ICMR National Institute of Epidemiology

Nandini K Kumar, Forum for Ethics Review Committees in India

Paul Kumaras, ICMR National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis

Rishi Rawat, Indian Council of Medical Research

Ravi Mathan, ICMR Biometrics Unit, ICMR National Centre for Disease Informatics & Research

Ranjay Maheshwari, Former Indian Council of Medical Research

Sangeeta Sankar, P. Datta Strategy Advisors Pvt. Ltd

Sarabjit Karanjwal, Translational Health Science & Technology Institute

Tarun Bhadriger, ICMR National Institute of Epidemiology

Urvika Thakur, Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital

Vasanthi Muthuswamy, Forum for Ethics Review Committees in India

Vijayprasad Dupichandran, ESI Medical College & PG Institute

**HOSTED BY**



## Capacity strengthening in bioethics and its sub-fields: Enquires for short-duration intensive training program

Please write to us on [fmesmumbai@gmail.com](mailto:fmesmumbai@gmail.com) and [admin@fmesinstitute.org](mailto:admin@fmesinstitute.org) with your enquiries for customized short-duration intensive training program in various sub-fields of bioethics. For over two decades, we have been organizing training program in bioethics sub-fields, amongst others, research ethics in social science research in health; public health ethics; clinical ethics, research ethics in public health research; implementation science and ethics, research ethics in mental health interventions; research ethics and digital technology-based health interventions; ethics of program monitoring and evaluations; and research ethics in research involving adolescents and children.

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The guidelines, tariff details, and payment details are available [here](#).

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SOCIETY**

**APPEAL TO PAY WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD FOR ACCESSING  
THE IJME and ITS DATABASE**

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