

Value-Added Course: Fundamentals of Research Methodology and Literature Search

Date: 9th and 10th January 2025

Organized by: Department of Public Health Dentistry

Venue: Auditorium, Basaveshwara Hospital, Kalaburagi

Institution: H.K.E. Society's S. Nijalingappa Institute of Dental Sciences & Research, Kalaburagi

The Department of Public Health Dentistry successfully organized a one-day value-added course titled “*Fundamentals of Research Methodology and Literature Search*” on 9th and 10th January 2025. The session was conducted at the auditorium of Basaveshwara Hospital, Kalaburagi, with the aim of enhancing research knowledge and skills among postgraduate students and academic professionals.

The guest speaker for the event was **Dr. Umesh Wadagave**, a freelance researcher and expert biostatistics consultant. His extensive experience in research design and data interpretation provided the participants with valuable insights into the practical and theoretical aspects of conducting research in health sciences.

This transdisciplinary workshop was carefully tailored to meet the academic and professional development needs of postgraduate students. A total of **93 participants** attended the session, reflecting keen interest and enthusiasm for research training within the institution.

Objectives of the Program

1. **To introduce the fundamental principles of research methodology** and foster a clear understanding of the research process among postgraduate students and faculty members.
2. **To enhance the ability to formulate research questions, hypotheses, and objectives** based on scientific rationale and societal relevance.
3. **To provide practical knowledge on sampling techniques and study designs**, ensuring participants can select appropriate methodologies for their research projects.
4. **To familiarize participants with data collection tools and ethical considerations**, enabling them to collect accurate and reliable data while adhering to ethical research standards.
5. **To develop competencies in literature search techniques**, including navigating academic databases, using search strategies, and identifying high-quality, evidence-based sources.
6. **To cultivate critical thinking and analytical skills** necessary for the interpretation of research findings and scientific writing.
7. **To encourage the application of research skills in academic and clinical settings**, promoting a research-oriented mindset among health professionals.
8. **To support the institution's goal of building a strong research culture**, thereby contributing to scholarly advancements and evidence-based dental practice.

The course focused on building foundational knowledge in research methodology, emphasizing clarity and accuracy in scientific inquiry. The major **topics covered** included:

1. **Research Design:** Understanding various types of research designs, the formulation of research questions, setting appropriate objectives, and hypothesis development.
2. **Sampling Techniques:** Strategies for selecting representative samples, sampling errors, and ensuring validity in study populations.
3. **Data Collection Methods:** Practical approaches to gathering data through surveys, interviews, and observational techniques, ensuring data reliability and ethical considerations.
4. **Literature Search Techniques:** Effective navigation of academic databases, use of keywords, and identification of credible scientific sources to support evidence-based research.

This value-added course was especially beneficial for **postgraduate students (PGs)**, equipping them with the necessary tools to undertake independent research and contribute meaningfully to academic literature. The initiative aligns with the institution's vision of fostering a robust research culture and enhancing academic excellence.





