



CENTRAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

KEMPEGOWDA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Athibabbe road, Banashankari 2nd stage, Bangalore 560 070

Ph: 080-26712546, E-mail: crlkimsb@gmail.com

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was entered into and executed on the 19th April 2025 between, **Central Research Laboratory**, Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), situated at Banashankari 2nd stage, Bangalore -560070 and **Central Research Laboratory, Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre (SVMCHRC)**, Ariyur, Puducherry 605102.

KIMS and Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre may be referred to herein collectively as the "Parties" or individually as a "Party" as the context requires.

WHEREAS, the **Central Research Laboratory, KIMS** is researching the Global Genomic Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance [Global Health Research Unit (GHRU-NIHR)]. Global surveillance of bacterial pathogens uses whole genome sequencing through appropriate sampling and analysis in sentinel surveillance sites within strategically relevant countries. The GHRU-NIHR employs whole genome sequencing of large numbers of isolates to create a picture of the evolution of drug resistance among the key priority pathogens on regional and global scales.

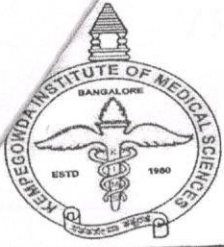
Central Research Laboratory, Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre is promoted by Ramachandra Educational Trust, Chennai.

Article 1: Objective

The Parties have indicated their mutual intention, to collaborate on a research project (GHRU-NIHR). The primary purpose of the project is to provide actionable data for public health policy to control high-risk bacterial pathogens through partnership.

Article 2: Funding and research

The Global Health Research Unit –National Institute for Health Research (GHRU-NIHR)/KIMS, Bangalore is funded by The UK Secretary of State for Health, acting through the National Institute of Health Research, UK. The project is disseminated through the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), DBT, Govt. of India. The Project relies on scientists and clinicians generously sharing samples and information to allow the intelligent study of populations of drug-resistant pathogenic



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organisms. Each project partner contributes samples for whole genome sequencing, along with associated metadata. Samples are sequenced at the Central Research laboratory, KIMS. All raw DNA sequence read data are released into the public archives at EBI and NCBI shortly after sequencing has been performed and quality has been checked; this is in line with Welcome Trust data sharing policy. The output of genomic analyses and metadata are stored in a managed access database. The database can be accessed by project partners.

Central Research Laboratory, Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre (designated as Project Partner) intends to submit retrospective isolates of susceptible and drug-resistant bacterial isolates of key priority pathogens collected for whole genome sequence analysis. Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre team will arrange to send the isolates to KIMS, Bangalore for the whole genome sequence. The samples provided by the participating centre are purely for research purposes only without commercial benefit.

Article 3: **Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre** will be reimbursed Rs.100/isolate and courier charges. The centre will be provided with appropriate storage mediums as per protocol.

Article 4: If a publication is generated using samples received from Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, the Institute and the Principal Investigator will be acknowledged as Co-Authors. **Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre** has all rights to publish the data for the isolates submitted from the centre.

Article 5: **Dr Madhan Sugumar**, Senior Scientific Officer from Central Research Lab (SVMCHRC), will act as Principal Investigator, he will be the responsible person to share the isolates and data information to the KIMS. The director, **Dr. S. Ratnasamy and Principal Investigator**, will assign technical staff to visit and get trained in the technology to further develop the laboratory in collaboration with KIMS. **Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital & Research Centre** will be included in the future research projects of the CRL-Oxford collaboration. The institution will provide an NGS wet lab, bioinformatics support, and hands-on training for interested students.



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Article 6: Term and Termination

This MoU shall have effect from the date first written above, and unless terminated earlier, shall continue in force for the complete period of the GHRU-NIHR project. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, either Party shall be free to terminate this MoU at any time, with or without cause and without any liability, howsoever arising, by giving notice in writing to the other Party at least 30 days in advance of the intended date of termination.

Article 7: Non-Binding Nature

This MoU is intended to be only a non-binding expression of the parties' present intention to work in good faith on the project. It does not, in and of itself, obligate either Party to any financial expenditure.

Prof. K.L. Ravikumar
Principal Investigator
Central Research Laboratory, KIMS,
Bangalore, Karnataka

Date 08/05/2025

Dr. K.L. RAVIKUMAR
Chief-Central Research Laboratory
KIMS, Bangalore-560 070
Tel:080-26712546. Mob:09902240344

Dr. S. Ratnasamy
Director,
Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College
Hospital & Research Centre,
Ariyur, Puducherry

Date: 19/04/25

DIRECTOR
Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College
Hospital & Research Centre
Ariyur, Puducherry - 605 102