



འབྲུག་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཀྱི་རྒྱུ་རྩུབ་པའི་
གསོ་སྐྱོལ་ལྷན་ཁག་།
ཐིམ་ཕུ་

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
THIMPHU : BHUTAN
P.O. BOX : 726



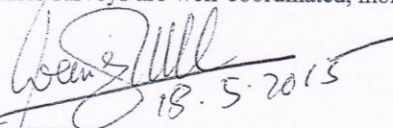
12th May, 2015.

MoH/SEC/33/2014-15/7021

OFFICE ORDER

The need for evidence-based health planning and policy decisions is being increasingly felt particularly in view of Bhutan's free health care policy and emerging health challenges. While there is a need to promote health research/studies in the country, it is equally important to ensure that research/studies are well- coordinated, monitored, and are of adequate quality. Therefore, you are requested to strictly comply with the following:

1. Any health related research/studies/surveys*, whether or not commissioned by the Ministry of Health, which requires use of Ministry of Health's resources shall seek necessary administrative clearance from the Health Ministry prior to **submission of protocol to Research Ethics Board for Health**. The resources under the Ministry of Health shall include but not limited to use of health facilities and its patients; health workforce; administrative and clinical data; and policy and program documents/reports and datasets.
2. Application for administrative clearance shall include a one page summary of study proposal clearly stating study topic, aims, objectives, methods and plan, and its expected outcomes. The application should be submitted to the Chief Planning Officer of the Ministry of Health who shall then direct the Head of Health Research Unit (HRU) to coordinate and process for necessary clearances from the Ministry.
3. In addition to fulfilling the above requirements, any new health related studies/research/surveys initiated **and funded by** the Ministry of Health shall closely collaborate with Health Research Unit, the nodal agency, during all phases of the proposed study. This is to ensure that research/studies/surveys are well-coordinated, monitored, and are of adequate quality.


18.5.2015
Dr. DORJI wangchuk
SECRETARY

Copy to:

1. PS to Honorable Health Minister for kind appraisal to His Excellency.
2. Director General, DMS, MoH for information and necessary action.
3. WR, WCO Bhutan, for kind information.
4. Director, Department of Public Health, MoH for information and necessary action.
5. President JDWNRH, Thimphu for information and necessary action.
6. Chairman, REBH, MoH, for information and necessary action.
7. All DHOs of 20 dzongkhags for information and necessary action.
8. All Chief of Divisions, MoH for information and necessary action.
9. All program/planning officers, MoH for information and necessary action.

*excludes routine data collection for administrative purposes.