

**Press Note on**

**Anna University – Apollo Hospitals Training Programs in Clinical Research area.**

Clinical Trial or Testing refers to the rigorously controlled test that any new drug or new invasive medical device on human subjects is subjected to, before being made available for general clinical use. In the drug development process, a crucial component is the conduct of controlled clinical trials on humans, after pre-clinical studies to determine their safety and efficacy have been successfully carried out. There has been an estimate that by 2010, the clinical research industry in India will be worth about two billion dollars, and the requirement of trained professionals for the management of clinical trials in India alone could be around 50,000.

In India there are many training programs in the Clinical Research area -- Full Time or Part Time, Contact classes or Distance learning mode, Certificate level or Diploma level, etc. Most of them are offered by private training institutes, with only a couple of the programs being affiliated to universities. There is a large variation in the practical content of these programs, with only a few of them offering practical/internship training at hospitals or clinical trial sites, and the rest providing only theory-based programs. Similarly, the fees charged too vary greatly, extending from about Rs.30,000/- to about Rs.4.0 lakhs. The overall result of this has been that a large number of candidates who come out of the such training programs do not find suitable placements, while at the same time the industry does not find suitable candidates to hire. There is thus a need in this space for quality training programs that are affordable and oriented to the needs of the Indian Clinical Industry.

It is to meet this need that AU-KBC Research Centre of Anna University, Chennai and Apollo Hospitals Educational & Research Foundation (AHERF) Chennai have come together to offer the “Advanced Certificate Program in Clinical Trial Management (ACC-CTM)” with One Year duration. Advised by a Committee of eminent experts, it optimally combines the theoretical and training rigour of Anna University with the practical experience and expertise in Clinical Research of Apollo Hospitals. The Program is meant for Graduates/Post Graduates from Biological and Chemical Sciences, Dental, Pharmacy, Medicine, other Allied Systems of Medicine, Paramedical & Allied Fields, etc. For about 1500 contact hours, inclusive of 6 months of CRC Traineeship, this program has a fees of Rs.1.75 lakhs payable in four installments.

AU-KBC and AHERF are also offering a Part-time (Week-end) Program of “Certificate Course in Clinical Research (CCCR)” of 6 months duration along with 2 weeks of internship, meant specially for working professionals in the health care domain to get an introduction to the Clinical Research area. The fees for this program of about 500 hours of duration is Rs.80,000/- payable in four installments.

The enclosed posters and brochures give further details of these programs; the same are also available at: [www.au-kbc.org](http://www.au-kbc.org) & [www.apollohospitals.com/research](http://www.apollohospitals.com/research)

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