

1565 MEMBERS

91 CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY UNITS

33 COUNTRIES



INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK

INCLN is a unique international network of healthcare professionals (clinical epidemiologists, biostatisticians, health social scientists, and other health professionals) who apply multidisciplinary approaches to identify best practices to improve "health for all" in local, national, regional and global settings

Vision.

To attain equity in health for development through essential research and training in clinical epidemiology and related disciplines



Mission

We are a unique global network of clinical epidemiologists, biostatisticians, social scientists, and other health professionals affiliated with key academic healthcare institutions.

We are dedicated to improving the health of disadvantaged populations, particularly in low-and middle income countries, by promoting equitable health care based on the best evidence of effectiveness and the efficient use of resources.

We achieve this by using the network to conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research on high-priority health problems, and to train future generations of leaders in health care research.

Strategic Objectives

- Establish INCLIN Leadership through INCLIN Institute of Global Health (IIGH) as a research, training, translation and resource generation platform and adapt the overall goal of INCLIN to the currently prevailing challenges in global and international health
- Projects and talent building
- Knowledge exchange using modern tools and processes
- Advocacy for effective, evidence informed policy, program and practice actions at national, regional and global levels
- Network consolidation and expansion



INCLIN Network

INCLIN is an international not-for-profit organization registered in India as The INCLIN Trust International. INCLIN Inc. is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization in the USA.

INCLIN network is comprised of 59 CEUs and 31 CERTCs based at medical institutions/universities in 34 countries around the world with over 1800 faculty members trained in health research. The membership of INCLIN is primarily anchored to institutions to ensure stability and sustainability of the Network.

INCLIN network includes seven regional networks:

INCLIN Africa, LatinCLIN, INCLIN-ASIA, IndiaCLIN, ChinaCLIN, Euro-MediterraneanCLIN and CanUSACLIN. INCLIN operates through a decentralized network management mechanism for smooth operation.

Additionally, in India, INCLIN also has a strong and dynamic collaborative network of 160 Medical Schools, 10 Public Health Institutions, 23 Research Institutions, 12 non-medical Universities and 9 Non-government Organizations. This network is called the INCLIN Program Evaluation Network (IPEN) (website: www.ipen.org). This network has conducted 16 countrywide public health systems

History

INCLIN was established in 1980 by Rockefeller Foundation with the aim of improving health in the developing world through the dissemination and application of new discipline of clinical epidemiology to clinical practice.

INCLIN was formally launched as an independent non-profit organization in UAS in 1988. Between 1980 and 1999, over 700 faculty members from 27 developing countries were trained in clinical epidemiology, epidemiology, biostatistics, health economics and health social sciences. Trained INCLIN faculty members set up INCLIN units in

their parent institutes. These are called Clinical Epidemiology Units (CEU). Over time new CEUs have been added and some of the CEUs were upgraded to Clinical Epidemiology Research and Training Centers (CERTCs) for advancing the capacity building and research efforts.

Following an external evaluation in 1999, Board decided to shift the Network leadership in 2000 to a south based scientists, and INCLIN was transformed into a Network of Networks. Since 2005, the global headquarter has shifted to New Delhi, India.



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Strengths of INCLEN

INCLEN Network provides solutions to public health and clinical challenges of poor and disadvantaged populations through:

- Global network of critical mass of trained researchers at academic institutions mostly in developing countries
- Primary focus for policy and program relevant research and capacity building in LMICs
- Long standing reputation and credibility in multidisciplinary research
- Leveraging on existing network, multi-centric research activities rolled out in short period
- Rich experience of grant management with well established financial, administrative and grant management procedures and processes
- Provision of attractive and enabling environment

for researchers to operate large multipartner studies

- Disburse and manage funds globally with mechanisms for fund transfer established in 34 countries for immediate scale up of projects
- Long standing experience of efficient communication and network management at country, regional and global level
- Strategic dissemination of research findings; leveraging linkages with the local governments for translation of research into policy and practices
- The Executive Offices at New Delhi, India and Philadelphia, USA complement each other providing seamless communication for grant and network management.

Governance and Leadership

INCLEN is governed by Board of Trustees represented by individuals of international repute from academia, research, international organizations from across the globe and heads of the regional networks. This body provides strategies directions for operations of INCLEN. The activities are implemented under leadership of The Executive Director.

The Executive Director's Office (INCLEN Executive Office) links the seven regional networks, facilitating their ability to conduct collaborative and multicenter studies, identifying study specific partners and sustaining their efforts to expand the pool of trained health researchers in LMIC.

INCLEN activities and expertise

Network activities include

- Applying cross cultural and multidisciplinary research methods to discover what interventions work best; understand why aberrant practices continue in the face of good knowledge and to effect the adoption of more rational practices.
- Using the best available evidence to make appropriate healthcare decisions and conveying important research results to policy makers
- Strengthening national healthcare systems by improving health care practices globally



Priority Research domains of INCLEN

Health research is a core activity of INCLEN, for generating new knowledge that influences the health of people in developing countries. INCLEN's key research domains are:

Biomedical Research

- **Child health:** etiologies of childhood morbidity and mortality including diarrhea, pneumonia, newborn sepsis and vaccine preventable diseases.
- **Maternal health:** maternal mortality, reproductive health, STD, domestic violence against women,
- **Infectious and tropical diseases:** respiratory pathogens (S. Pneumoniae, H. Influenzae, Influenza), Tuberculosis, Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Dengue.
- **Nutrition:** undernutrition, nutritional anemia, micronutrient deficiencies and healthy eating strategy.
- **Chronic diseases:** overweight/ obesity, metabolic syndrome and consequences, hypertension and CVDs.
- **Mental health:** neurodevelopmental disability in children
- **Environmental health:** indoor air pollution, hazardous environmental toxins and occupational exposures.
- **Surveillance:** Demographic and environmental health surveillance sites
- **Health systems research and program evaluation:** health systems, governance, access to health care and public health program evaluation.
- **Patient safety and quality of care:** Injection practices, quality of care.
- **Vaccine research:** Rotavirus vaccine, Influenza vaccine trials
- **Health technology assessment:** mobile and IT

the context of whole of society transformation

Research Leadership

- **Research priority setting:** Assisting national governments in identifying the research priorities to achieve MDGs and national health goals. Established partnership with Child Health and Nutrition Research Initiative (CHNRI) for using the CHNRI methodology.

Technical Assistance

- Technical assistance for national policy and program in designing new national programs and program implementation plans.
- Knowledge translation and policy advocacy at national, regional and global level through strategic engagement with policy makers.

Hosting Secretariats

- National Certification Committee for Polio Eradication (NCCPE), an independent body of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India for monitoring the polio eradication efforts in India and guide for strategic directions is based at INCLEN.
- Child Health and Nutrition Research Initiative (CHNRI), research promotion and advocacy initiative of Global Forum for Health Research to improve child health and nutrition and achieve MDGs. CHNRI Secretariat is based at INCLEN Executive Office, New Delhi.
- Somaarth- Demographic and Environmental Surveillance Site: INCLEN has established a demographic and environmental surveillance (DESS) site at Palwal, Haryana, India, about 80kms from Delhi. Somaarth DESS site covers 48 villages with about 200,000 populations. Several community based projects including clinical trials are underway in this DESS site.
- INCLEN Independent Ethics Committee (IIEC)

Research Capacity Building

Health research capacity building is an integral part of INCLEN philosophy. INCLEN has an established track record of health research capacity building in developing countries. Training of over 700 faculty members from developing countries in health research is a significant contribution of INCLEN. INCLEN has strengthened research capacity by:

Developing and sustaining indigenous proficiency for health research in developing countries through training programs in clinical epidemiology and related research disciplines; providing institutional support and building a “critical mass” or cadre of trained faculty; and using multidisciplinary and “networking” approaches to reinforce and enhance research skills.

and other allied subjects for students, researchers and faculty members.

Learning-by-doing initiative: Developing countries suffer from shortage of human resource in health. Long absence from workplace for undertaking fulltime degree course is difficult. This innovative capacity building initiative blends training in research methodology and research and program management skills to the ongoing research projects. The young researchers are included as co-investigators in the projects and mentored through structured program on protocol development, study tool development, data collection and management, quality assurance, data analysis, report writing, and dissemination. The researchers are tutored through mix of intermittent contact and virtual learning sessions with experienced researchers as Mentors guiding them. They also undergo structured periodic assessments. This flexible learning program enables the researchers participating in research projects to acquire knowledge and build capacity being at their place and continuing regular tasks. This process is integral part of all INCLEN projects.

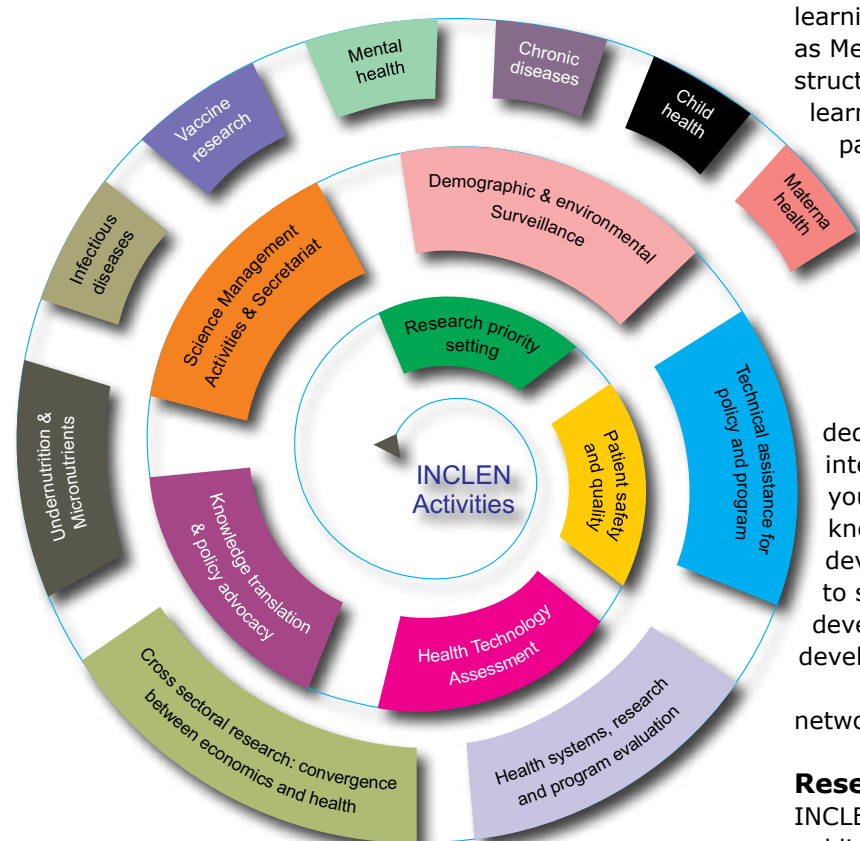
Internship Program:

INCLEN also provides opportunity for dedicated, enthusiastic and talented young international and national students and young professionals to acquire hands-on knowledge of real-world settings located in developing countries. Interns are exposed to skill building activities including proposal development, field research, instrument development and validation, advocacy and

networking.

Research communication

INCLEN's success is documented in the various publications in peer-reviewed journals. **Journal of Clinical Epidemiology** (JCE) is the official journal of INCLEN network. INCLEN Network members serve on JCE editorial board and actively contribute to the publications. INCLEN also uses strategic communication leveraging its access and collaboration with the policy and program managers at various levels for knowledge to action translation of the research findings.



Among the INCLEN units, 15 units offer PhD, 36 units offer Masters, and 8 units offer Diploma level courses in clinical epidemiology, biostatistics and other allied subjects. Also 7 units offer Distant Learning Masters and Diploma level courses. Additionally, all the INCLEN units provide short workshops and course on research methodology, biostatistics,

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INCLEN Institute of Global Health

INCLEN has adopted a Strategic Plan for evolution into next phase of its existence and contribution to health of poor and underserved populations across the world. The Strategic Plan is a road map to:

- Guide sustainability and growth of INCLEN for next decade and,
- Foster accountability of what the INCLEN aims to achieve (establishing measurable milestones).

INCLEN Institute of Global Health (IIGH) is the key strategic transformation of INCLEN. IIGH is the research, training, translation and resource generation platform to adapt the overall INCLEN goal to the currently prevailing challenges in global and international health and ensure further development and sustainability of INCLEN.

IIGH is:

- A strengthened INCLEN Executive Office with Global Representation
- To facilitate engagement of research and capacity building leaders from health and non-health sectors from within and outside the INCLEN Network to achieve its objectives
- An engine for program development, execution, and policy translation
- A Strategic Think Tank
- Accelerate health research capacity strengthening through strategic partnership with universities in North and South
- A mechanism to generate resources through greater participation of donors and funders in INCLEN affairs
- An instrument to achieve INCLEN vision and

mission

IIGH will plan, execute and coordinate efforts and strategies to achieve INCLEN vision and mission. IIGH shall exist on a steel frame comprised of INCLEN Network and operate as an institution with flexible contours to accommodate individuals, institutions and issues for larger aim of improving health of people.

IIGH is probably the first international effort to establish an institution in a developing country and dedicated to address global health issues through context specific capacity building, generating evidence and advocacy. IIGH aims at capacity building of the young researchers in health research methodology and project management integrating the learning-by-doing process and tailored area specific modules via virtual campus.

IIGH with its hybrid nature; global health institute in a developing country with a pre-existing network of well trained faculty members and researchers will attract researchers and faculty from across the globe to work to undertake projects with high policy, programs and clinical practice impact potential. IIGH as an institution will also attract funders and donors for assured investment for valued return.

IIGH will be based at INCLEN Executive Office, New Delhi, India. IIGH will collaborate and affiliate with universities for provision of structured training and awarding degrees.



Collaborations and Partnerships

INCLIN has functional collaboration with Indian Council of Medical Research, Public Health Foundation of India, INDEPTH Network, International Epidemiological Association, McGill University, University of Berkley, Johns Hopkins University, Boston University, University of Tromso and several other national and international universities to further capacity building and research mandate.

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