

**To: Directors of Research Departments of Iranian Medical Universities  
Deputy Director for Medical Sciences of Islamic Azad University**

Due to prevalent ambiguities about the status of research projects in student research committees in terms of observing research ethics standards, we would like to inform you of the following:

١. Considering the establishment of research ethics committees in universities, faculties, and scientific-research institutes and centers, and the need for considering all research projects and clinical trials, which would be impossible to register in the Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials without an exclusive approval code issued by a competent research ethics committee, and also impossible to publish in domestic Farsi or English journals without such a code, all student research may be conducted provided that they are previously approved by competent research ethics committees. According to the Guideline on Research Violations, conducting biomedical research without approval of related research ethics committee shall be construed as a research violation.
٢. In all projects identified as student research, a faculty member of the related university shall be appointed as the lead researcher in order to supervise the research process. The advising professor of the related student shall hold full responsibility for compliance with ethical standards during the research process.

We would therefore like to ask you to kindly take the required measures for all student research projects, including proposals and theses, be also considered and approved by competent research ethics committees possessing exclusive codes, in order to guarantee their compliance with research ethics standards, and issue an ethical approval. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

**Dr. Masood Amanloo**

**Secretary**

**National Student Research Committee**

**Research and Technology Department**

**Dr. Ehsan Shamsi Goshki**

**Secretary**

**National Committee for Ethics**

**in Biomedical Research**