



A meeting of IIPS-IRB was held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026, from 11:00 A.M. to 02:30 P.M. in online mode under the chairmanship of Prof. D. P. Singh. The Convener welcomed the members to the second IRB meeting of the year and informed that two research proposals had been placed for review and discussion, both of which were forwarded from the PRCs of two universities. The participants are: Dr. D. P. Singh, Dr. Aparajita Chattopadhyay, Dr. Archana K. Roy, Dr. Shireen J. Jejeebhoy Dr. Gajanan D. Velhal, and Dr. Sivakami; Dr. Lalita S. Savardekar and Ms. Sushmita Das attended the meeting for a brief period.

The Convener introduced the third agenda item, which pertains to a request from the Editor of the journal *Scientific Reports* for IRB certification of a research paper. The Convener informed the Board that she would refrain from discussing this item, as she is a co-author of the paper based on her student's Master's dissertation, which uses civil registration mortality data and pollution data.

The committee discussed the ethical issues of two research proposals, one journal paper, IRB-SOP, ethical training workshop and approved project status.

S. No.	Name of the project	Principal Investigator	Presentation Time	Discussion Time
1	Acceptance of Injectable MPA (Antara Programme) with a special focus on the causes of discontinuation of subsequent 2nd, 3rd and 4th doses	Dr. Sagar Rajput, Field Investigator, PRC-Baroda	11:00 A.M. - 11:20 A.M.	11:20 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.
2	Role of Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) in Active Case Finding (ACF) Outcomes of Tuberculosis in High Burden Areas of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh	Dr. Rajesh Kumar Aggarwal, Associate Professor, PRC-Chandigarh	11:40 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M. - 12:20 P.M.
3	Paper: Landfills, air quality, and premature mortality: Empirical evidence from dumping ground in Mumbai	Dr. Soumya Pal, Assistant Professor, IFMR Graduate School of Business Krea University	12:20 P.M. - 12:30 P.M.	12:30 P.M. - 12:40 P.M.
4	Discussion on SOP, Workshop and Audit	Dr. Archana K. Roy, IRB member, IIPS	12:40 P.M. - 01:00 P.M.	01:00 P.M. - 01:15 P.M.

5	Issues of IRB (updates on project that received IRB clearance, brief minutes, BOS comments, tenure)	Dr. Aparajita Chattopadhyay, IRB Convener, IIPS	01:15 P.M. - 01:25 P.M.	01:25 P.M. - 01:45 P.M.
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The PI/s and presenting author are required to resubmit a revised proposal and guidelines for IRB review.

The Project Status Report, as part of the routine audit conducted by IIPS IRB, was presented. Discussions were held on the SOP, BoS comments regarding ethics committee prerogatives, audit processes, tenure and DHR certification.

Members stated firmly that many among them have experience serving on IRBs at both national and international levels. They emphasized that there is no basis for limiting IRB review solely to consent forms or narrowly defined ethical issues. Rather, it is both essential and ethical for the IRB to examine the entire proposal, including its scientific and methodological soundness, to uphold the integrity of research. The members expressed strong objection to any suggestion that the IRB's role should be restricted in this manner.

It was reaffirmed that summary minutes will be placed in the public domain. Detailed comments and recommendations will be communicated directly to the Principal Investigators to maintain confidentiality.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks

**As approved by all IRB members dated 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026.**

IRB Members

S. No.	Name of the official	IRB Committee
1	Dr. D. P. Singh	Chairperson
2	Dr. Aparajita Chattopadhyay	Convener
3	Dr. Archana K. Roy	Member
4	Dr. Shireen J. Jejeebhoy	Member
5	Dr. Gajanan D. Velhal	Member
6	Dr. Lalita S. Savardekar	Member
7	Ms. Sushmita Das	Member
8	Dr. M. Sivakami	Member