

Enabling biomedical research in India through funding and engagement

The Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance is a visionary partnership funded equally by the Wellcome Trust, UK, and the Indian government's Department of Biotechnology. It aims to build excellence in the Indian biomedical research community by identifying and supporting future leaders in basic, clinical and public health research for improving human and animal health.

Since its inception in 2009, the fellowship programme has awarded 280 fellowships at 82 different institutions in 29 Indian cities. About a third of the Fellows are women and about a quarter do clinical and public health research. The focus is on funding the best people early in their careers and set them on a leadership track.

Besides supporting exceptional biomedical research scientists at Indian institutions through fellowships and a continuous system of engagement and mentoring, India Alliance aims to build a strong research ecosystem in India that can drive innovations to tackle health challenges, and inspire the next generation of researchers.

Training workshops for biomedical scientists and clinicians

Science Communication workshops

To train Indian scientists in communication, the India Alliance conducts one-day SciComm101 and two-day SciComm workshops. Since 2011, more than 2,000 PhD students, postdoctoral scientists and clinicians from around 100 institutions have received communication training through these workshops. In 2016, India Alliance formed a partnership with Nature India and Nature Jobs (India) for Science Communication and Career workshops, held in tandem with major scientific meetings. In 2017, India Alliance and Nature India held a two-day workshop Visualising Science that armed scientists and those in allied fields

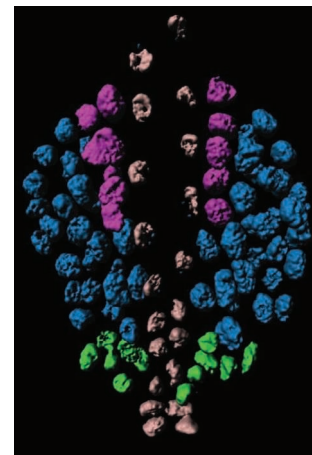
with visual tools and methods to convey their research more effectively.

Research Leadership workshops

Leadership and management skills are critical for a successful science career. India Alliance organizes leadership workshops for its Fellows and other young Indian researchers to help them recognize and develop their leadership style, and gain critical lab management and communication skills.

Developing Indian Physician Scientists (DIPS) workshops

India Alliance launched Developing Indian Physician Scientists (DIPS) workshops in 2017 to ignite the research interests of young doctors, while promoting an understanding of the frontiers of medicine and



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related sciences. The workshops, presented by eminent physician-scientists, provide training in quantitative methods and research methodology, and an opportunity to discuss biomedical research and career options.

Supporting interdisciplinary scientific meetings in India

India I EMBO Symposia

The India Alliance and European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) co-fund up to three meetings per year in India to address interdisciplinary discovery and innovation.

Public Engagement

Connecting science to society

The India Alliance also aims to improve science and health understanding through engagement activities while bringing scientists and the public together to debate, deliberate and collaborate on issues affecting human health. India Alliance regularly organizes public events in different Indian cities and supports its Fellows, and organizations that undertake public engagement activities. ■

For more information on India Alliance programs visit www.wellcomedbt.org



Training workshops for scientists and creative public engagement programs are central to India Alliance's vision of building a robust biomedical research ecosystem in India. Top image represents hematopoietic stem cells (purple), progenitor cells (blue), niche cells (green) and cardioblasts (orange) in a Fruit fly.

