

## **Knowledge management of biomedical research data**

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The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has generated a large volume of data over the years from its extramural and intramural research programmes. Most of the research data of past five years are in digitized form. However, the data are not stored centrally, nor in uniform format, but in individual PCs of scientists. This results in data loss when scientist leaves ICMR.

This paper describes initiatives of ICMR in creating a central repository of all ICMR data, building a data warehouse after cleaning the data, applying full range of Business Intelligence tools such as data mining, text mining, Online Analytical Processing (OLAP) *etc.* This will form an ongoing activity of ICMR. The information available in the warehouse will be mined periodically to generate knowledge base of research findings of ICMR. The knowledge base can be used to decide research policies and priorities. It can also be used to find the gaps between the research priorities and actual research work, duplication of research efforts *etc.* The research data can also be made available for secondary analysis to other scientists.