



AVICENNA
Batumi Medical University

Approved

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Codified

By Decision No. 01-07/10 of the Academic Council of Avicenna – Batumi Medical University LLC, dated 16 January 2025

Avicenna – Batumi Medical University LLC
Scientific Research Development Policy

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Record of Amendments

N	Date	Order No	Document Approving Authority	Description of Change	Version	Note
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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2	16.01.2025	01-07/10	Academic Council	Codified	02	

Article 1. General Provisions

1.1. This Policy defines the scope of measures aimed at supporting the implementation of scientific research at Avicenna – Batumi Medical University LLC (hereinafter referred to as the “University” or “Avicenna”). It establishes institutional research priorities based on contemporary challenges in the field of medicine and the needs of the region, and also takes into account the material and human resource capacities of the University for the implementation of research of a similar nature by the University itself, its partner medical institutions, and international higher education institutions.

1.2. This Policy is derived from the University’s Strategic Development Plan and specifies the directions related to research support, cooperation in the research field, and internationalization as outlined in the Strategic Development Plan.

Article 2. Objectives of the Scientific Research Development Policy

2.1. The main objectives of the present Scientific Research Development Policy of Avicenna are to:

- a) develop the research potential of the University;
- b) promote the implementation of relevant, applied, region-specific, and socially significant scientific research;
- c) integrate the University into the international medical scientific community;
- d) enhance awareness of the research profile and research activities of the University’s academic and invited staff;
- e) ensure the integration of scientific research outcomes into the teaching and learning process;
- f) promote the internationalization of research activities.

Article 3. Principles of Conducting Scientific Research at the University

3.1. The main principles governing the conduct of scientific research at the University are:

- a) transparency, academic integrity, and accountability to the University Director, the Rector, and the Academic Council;
- b) institutional support of the research process by the University, both at the organizational level and in terms of research funding;
- c) student involvement in scientific research;
- d) internationalization of research;

- e) objective evaluation of research outcomes;
- f) conduct of research in accordance with the research priority areas established by the University.

Article 4. University Research Priorities

4.1. The University's research priorities are defined as research areas in the field of healthcare existing in the region, as identified and analyzed by the University's Scientific Research Center.

4.2. The research areas determined by the University include public health, biomedicine, and clinical medicine; among these, priority is given to the further development of scientific research activities already undertaken by the academic staff in the following areas:

- a) study of biomarkers associated with respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and the genetic loci responsible for their synthesis;
- b) identification, prevention, and management of regional, epidemiological, and socio-economic markers of bronchial asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- c) post-COVID population health;
- d) liver transplantation and immunology;
- e) growth and development of children of pre-pubertal and pubertal age, including global development;
- f) biomarkers and genetic aspects of cardiovascular system diseases;
- g) cancer screening in asymptomatic populations using multiple tumor markers;
- h) research on coagulopathies across different cohorts.

Furthermore, taking into account global health priorities and regional medical needs, the following areas have been selected as scientific research priorities:

- i) addictology;
- j) diabetes mellitus and thyroidology;
- k) research on air and seawater pollution;
- l) women's rights and prevention of femicide.

Article 5. Mechanisms for the Implementation of the Scientific Research Policy

5.1. The mechanisms for the implementation of the Scientific Research Policy at Avicenna – Batumi Medical University include:

- a) the existence of a research-supporting structure within the University’s organizational framework, namely the Scientific Research Center;
- b) the introduction of research support mechanisms, including a university-level research funding system;
- c) promotion of the development of research skills of the University’s academic and invited staff (training / professional development);
- d) conduct of scientific research in accordance with the University’s research priorities;
- e) support of scientific research activities of the University’s academic and invited staff;
- f) establishment of a network of local partners in the research field;
- g) establishment of a network of international partners in the research field;
- h) participation of the University in national and local research grant competitions;
- i) participation in international research grant competitions;
- j) integration of research outcomes into the University’s educational programs;
- k) promotion of student involvement in research conducted by the University;
- l) introduction of a system for the objective evaluation of research outcomes and research productivity;
- m) adherence to high standards of research ethics and academic integrity.

5.2. In accordance with the mechanisms for implementing the present Research Policy, the University has developed corresponding development objectives for these mechanisms (Annex 1 to this Policy).

Article 6. Responsible Persons and Structural Units

6.1. Responsibility for the development and implementation of Avicenna’s Scientific Research Development Policy lies with the University’s Scientific Research Center, Quality Assurance Service, the University Director, the Rector, the Vice-Rector, and the University’s core educational unit—the School of Medicine—acting in accordance with Avicenna’s internal legal acts and the present Policy, and based on the principles of cooperation, transparency, respect, and accountability.

6.2. The coordination of research activities is ensured by the University’s Scientific Research Center (hereinafter referred to as the “Center”). The activities of the Center are governed by the University Charter and the Center’s Statute

Article 7. Monitoring of the Achievement of Research Objectives

7.1. Monitoring of the achievement of research objectives involves reporting on and controlling the implementation of the University’s research development and support

policy and the objectives reflected therein, in order to ensure the attainment of the University's goals.

7.2. Monitoring of the implementation of the Policy is carried out by the University's Scientific Research Center.

7.3. Within one month after the end of each academic year, the structural unit responsible for coordinating the objectives defined by the University's research policy (the Center) shall submit to the Rector and the Director information on completed, ongoing, and unfulfilled objectives, as well as information on the involvement of other structural units and students in the fulfillment of research objectives, including the quality and effectiveness of their cooperation.

7.4. Based on the conclusions drawn from the evaluation of reports submitted by all structural units involved in research activities, the Head of the University's Scientific Research Center shall submit an annual report to the University Director, the Rector, and the Academic Council on the implementation of the research policy. The report shall include information on completed and unfulfilled objectives, as well as planned future activities.

7.5. Following the review of the report submitted by the Head of the Center regarding the implementation of the research policy, the Academic Council is authorized to adopt a decision on amending the plan(s) for specific research objectives.

Article 8. Final Provisions

8.1. The present Scientific Research Development Policy has been adopted and approved by the University's General Assembly of Partners in accordance with the University Charter and shall enter into force upon its approval.

8.2. Following the establishment of the Academic Council, the approval of a revised version of the Policy, as well as any amendments and supplements thereto, shall be carried out by the Academic Council.

*Annex 1 to the Scientific Research Development Policy
of Avicenna – Batumi Medical University*

Objectives for Achieving the Research Support Mechanisms

- 1. Commencement (activation) of the activities of the research-supporting structure provided for in the University’s organizational framework in accordance with the University Charter—the Scientific Research Center for Health and Longevity (hereinafter referred to as the “Center”):**
 - 1.1. development of the legal act regulating the activities of the Center;
 - 1.2. staffing of the Center;
 - 1.3. development of the Center’s action plan.
- 2. Introduction of research support mechanisms – establishment of a university research funding system:**
 - 2.1. approval of the regulations governing university research support mechanisms, including the rules for funding university research grants (grant competitions);
 - 2.2. allocation of appropriate financial resources in the University budget for funding university research grants;
 - 2.3. periodic organization of university research grant competitions.
- 3. Development of Research Skills of the University’s Academic and Invited Staff:**
 - 3.1. assessment of professional development needs of academic and invited staff in the field of scientific research;
 - 3.2. planning of activities/events aimed at developing the research skills of academic and invited staff;
 - 3.3. professional retraining of academic and invited staff, as necessary, to enhance research productivity.
- 4. Implementation of Scientific Research in Line with Research Priorities:**
 - 4.1. determination of a research activity plan aligned with research priorities by the Academic Council;
 - 4.2. announcement of research competitions for academic and invited staff in accordance with the research activity plan and research budget;
 - 4.3. dissemination of research results (presentation, publication) within the scientific community and to the general public.
- 5. Support of Scientific Research Activities of Academic and Invited Staff:**

- 5.1. support for other research activities of academic and invited staff, including articles, conference presentations, and similar outputs;
- 5.2. ensuring the support of partner clinical bases during the research process of academic and invited staff;
- 5.3. support for academic and invited staff in the process of preparing research grant applications.

6. Establishment of a Network of Local Research Partners:

- 6.1. establishment of cooperation with local medical institutions in the field of scientific research;
- 6.2. Involvement of university clinics in the University's research activities;
- 6.3. establishment of cooperation with local research institutions in the field of scientific research;
- 6.4. establishment of cooperation with local higher education institutions in the field of scientific research.

7. Establishment of a Network of International Research Partners:

- 7.1. establishment of cooperation with international higher education institutions in the field of scientific research;
- 7.2. establishment of cooperation with international medical institutions in the field of scientific research.

8. Participation in National and Local Research Grant Competitions

- 8.1. preparation of project proposals for grant competitions of LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia;
- 8.2. preparation of project proposals for grant competitions announced by the Government of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara;
- 8.3. preparation of project proposals for scientific research competitions announced by other donors.

9. Participation in International Research Grant Competitions:

- 9.1. preparation of applications for Jean Monnet grant projects;
- 9.2. preparation of project proposals for scientific research competitions announced by other international donors.

10. Integration of Research Results into the University's Educational Programs:

- 10.1. Inclusion of research projects within educational programs;
- 10.2. training of academic and invited staff in supervising student scientific research projects;
- 10.3. development of a funding mechanism for student research.

11. Student Involvement in Research

- 11.1. organization of extracurricular student research competitions and activities;
- 11.2. encouragement of student participation in research activities outside the University;
- 11.3. organization of student scientific conferences.

12. Introduction of a System for Objective Evaluation of Research Results and Research Productivity

- 12.1. incorporation of research productivity assessment into quality assurance procedures;
- 12.2. periodic reporting by academic and invited staff on research productivity;
- 12.3. annual publication of an institutional research report.

13. Ensuring High Standards of Research Ethics and Academic Integrity

- 13.1. implementation of an electronic anti-plagiarism system;
- 13.2. observance of the principles of academic integrity / adoption of academic honesty standards;
- 13.3. adoption of standards of scientific research ethics.