



Dr. CR Soman Award
for the best Medical Postgraduate Thesis

Health Action by People offers the Dr. CR Soman Award, for the best Medical Postgraduate thesis from the medical colleges in Kerala, since 2010. This yearly award is named after Professor (Dr) CR Soman, eminent medical teacher, researcher, orator, and public health activist, and the founder chairman of HAP. We believe this award has encouraged original research work of postgraduate students, and over the decade, it has become a prestigious award within the medical fraternity.

The Award

The award shall include:

- A certificate of appreciation for the best research presentation.
- A cash prize of Rs. 25,000/-

The winners will be honored in a befitting academic ceremony.

Eligibility

1. Any postgraduate medical student in a medical college in the Modern Medicine stream, submitting a thesis to a University located in Kerala for an MD / MS degree in a particular academic year, can apply.
2. June 30th of each year will be the cutoff date for eligibility; those who submit the thesis between July 1st, 2020, and June 30th, 2021, will be eligible to apply for the award.
3. The head of the Department must endorse the entry.

The Process

1. A screening committee composed of medical teachers, including clinicians with a good publishing record and acquaintance with research methods, will shortlist up to four studies. We shall invite the shortlisted candidates to present their work before an academic audience in Trivandrum.
2. A jury consisting of eminent medical researchers will select the best thesis, and we shall provide certificates of appreciation for the others.

Criteria for assessment

1. The research question's originality and relevance.
2. The significance of the study (contribution to existing medical knowledge or its policy implications)
3. The soundness of the methods used like the clinical evaluation and the data collection tools used (appropriateness of design, the conceptual framework (if relevant), validity issues - design specific precautions including handling confounders and bias)
4. Quality of writing, photographs, and other illustrations used. (E.g., presenting conclusions, handling the limitations, clarifying points for discussion, and the overall flow and rigor of presentation.

How does one apply for the award?

A structured abstract (we prefer an extended abstract of fewer than 1000 words) with the following subheadings are preferred.

- I. Title
- II. *Introduction, background and objectives (150-250 words)*
- III. *Methods (200-400 words);*
- IV. *Results (200-400 words)*
- V. *Discussion & Conclusion (150-200 words).*

The abstract may include up to two appendices (one table and one chart (or both tables or charts) and should mention statistical details such as 'p' values for significance. —the extended abstract needs to be **uploaded online** at <https://goo.gl/forms/bbpBRw8XnHeb8xg83> on or before **September 30th, 2021**.

Plagiarism check using professional software is among the first screening methods. The soft copy of the entire work, including charts, figures, and references in PDF format, should be mailed to info@hapkerala.org. The subject of the e-mail should be “**Application for Dr. CR Soman Award 2021**”. Also, send a *print copy of the entire dissertation* to ‘The Secretary, Health Action by People, TC 1/1706, Navarangam Lane, Medical College P.O., Thiruvananthapuram – 695011’. Kindly write/print “Application for Dr. CR Soman Award 2021” on the envelope in a prominent way. Please also do send an advance soft copy to info@hapkerala.org.

The print copy of the research work should be accompanied by a duly filled-in application form endorsed by the head of the department/ head of the institution.

A copy of the template is given below.

1	Name of the Applicant	
2	Communication Address	
	e-mail address :	
	Home telephone:	
	Mobile Number:	
3.	Postgraduate course completed	
4	Department	
5	Institution	
	University	
6	Title of thesis/ clinical work	
7		
	Date of submission of the thesis to University	
8	Signature of the Head of the Department	
9	Outline the significance of the study (In less than 100 words)	

The last date for receipt of the application will be September 30th, 2021