

Indian patients being denied right to have newer medicines: ISCR President

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"There are many patients in India who are being denied the right to fair and equitable treatment to clinical trials and newer and more effective medicines that clinical research makes possible," remarked Ms Suneela Thatte, president, ISCR during an interaction with media on July 23, 2015 at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).

"It is ironical that while on one side we have success stories such as an indigenously developed and tested rotavirus vaccine which is now part of the national immunization schedule, on the other hand we have lost innovation opportunities due to the challenges we have had in the recent past. This is a compelling enough reason for us to ensure that over and beyond the regulatory developments, all of us work collectively towards rebuilding confidence and trust in doing clinical research in India so that our patients have access to news and better treatment," she added further.

To create an enabling environment for clinical research by raising awareness about its role and relevance, ISCR has launched a nationwide advocacy programme called NavChetana which operates through three tracks: Education Track which collaboration with educational institutions to sensitise students on clinical research; Professional Alliance Track which involves outreach with professional bodies, associations, NGOs, etc and Media Track which aims to generate mass awareness about clinical research.