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Letter to the Editor Open Access

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India has become a global hub for outsourcing clinical trials for many Pharma giants situated in developed countries. e reason for this is quite understandable. We are a country with a large pool of heterogeneous patients, large number of medical expertise with

every approval/permission for conducting clinical trials now includes a condition that in case of study related injury or death; applicant will provide complete medical care as well as compensation for the injury or death which has been incorporated in the informed consent form. Now, registration of clinical trials in the Clinical Trail Registry of the Indian Council of Medical Research is mandatory. India has set up 12 new drug advisory committees to advice on matters to review clinical trials.

India is seen to be an attractive hub for drug innovation based on our cost and skills. However, out of over 1,00,000 human trials being conducted in 178 countries, less than 2,000 (2%) are being done in India compared to over 9,000 (9%) in China.

Blame it on lack of credible regulation. e fact is that our current legal framework is strong enough to ensure transparency and ethical practices during the conduct of clinical trials. Instead of dismissing clinical trials, we need to plug the loopholes and implement existing laws stringently to ensure that clinical trials are conducted with utmost transparency and diligence. If we curtail clinical trials and Pharma companies move to China, South Korea and other East and South Asian countries, as they are doing, we would end up losing our clients which would be a huge loss to our country.