

WHAT IS MEDICAL RESEARCH?

Medical research is sometimes referred to as biomedical research, as defined by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), comprises:

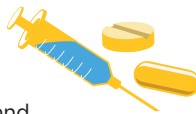
The study of specific diseases and conditions (mental or physical), including detection, cause, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of persons.



The scientific investigation required to understand the underlying life processes that affect disease and human well-being, including areas such as the cellular and molecular bases of diseases, genetics, and immunology.



The design of methods, drugs, and devices used to diagnose, support, and maintain the individual during and after treatment for specific diseases or conditions.



Any individual whose work falls within the definition of medical research is part of the medical research community. Thus, the medical research community is highly diverse. It includes, but is not limited to, basic, translational, and clinical researchers working in a wide range of disciplines, including biology, chemistry, immunology, physics, engineering, and computer science; physician-scientists; health care providers; and population scientists.

Adapted from (36)