



**MEENAKSHI**  
ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH  
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY U/S 3 OF UGC ACT, 1956



Executive Development Program titled



## HIV Testing & Counselling Training (HTCT)

("5 Cs" - Consent, Confidentiality, Counselling, Correct test results and Connection)

An Online Certification Training Program – Session VIII

**WHAT:** This HIV Testing and Counselling Training (HTCT) certification course is meant for the professionals in the healthcare settings including blood bank. This course provides training on pre and post-test counselling, HIV-testing (as per the NABL-112), occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), legal and ethical issues related to the HIV testing.

**WHOM:** Professionals from hospitals, clinical laboratories and blood banks which are National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), ISO 15189: 2022 and National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) accredited or under preparation for accreditation can participate:

- **Diagnostic laboratory professionals (Pathologists, Microbiologists, Biochemists, Quality Managers).**
- **Medical Officers and other staff in health-care settings.**

**WHEN:** Online 2-day (1.30 PM – 5.30 PM) virtual program on **18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> August 2025.**

**HOW:** Lectures, case studies and interactive sessions. Professionals including laboratory experts, clinicians, scientists with years of HIV/AIDS training experience will facilitate the program.

The participants can enroll for the program by paying **Rs. 1,500/-** per person and the payment can be done to **MAHER Professional Development Program Bank Account** by scanning **QR CODE** and complete online registration form using the following link: <https://forms.gle/FsxzBc3xZdBuGot26>

**Course Director:** Dr. Pachamuthu Balakrishnan, Email: [HTCT@maher.ac.in](mailto:HTCT@maher.ac.in) / WhatsApp: 7667444221



### Resource Persons



Dr. Pachamuthu Balakrishnan  
Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai



Ms. Chaitra Nair, Asha Kirana Hospital, Centre for AIDS Care and Research, Mysuru



Dr. Srirama, Asha Kirana Hospital, Centre for AIDS Care and Research, Mysuru



Dr. VHT Swamy, Asha Kirana Hospital, Centre for AIDS Care and Research, Mysuru



Dr. Sree T. Sucharitha, Adolescent Health Foundation of India / Kairos Kinetic / SVMCHRI, Chennai

MAHER Advanced Research Centre for Health Sciences  
Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (MAHER)  
Deemed to be University, Chennai-600078



National AIDS Control Organisation

ART Centre (Supported by the NACO Program)  
Meenakshi Medical College Hospital and Research Institute (MMCHRI) Kanchipuram-631552

## BACKGROUND & ABOUT THE COURSE

As per the World Health Organization (WHO) Geneva, HIV testing and counselling is a package service intended to allow people to make informed decisions regarding knowledge of their HIV status and the implications of those decisions. HIV testing and counselling helps people to cope with their HIV sero-status, make informed choices about their future practices and modify risk behaviors. Importantly, it is a gateway to prevention, care, treatment and support.

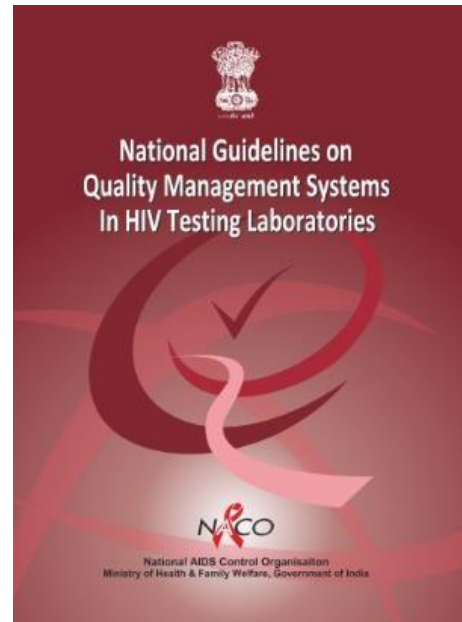
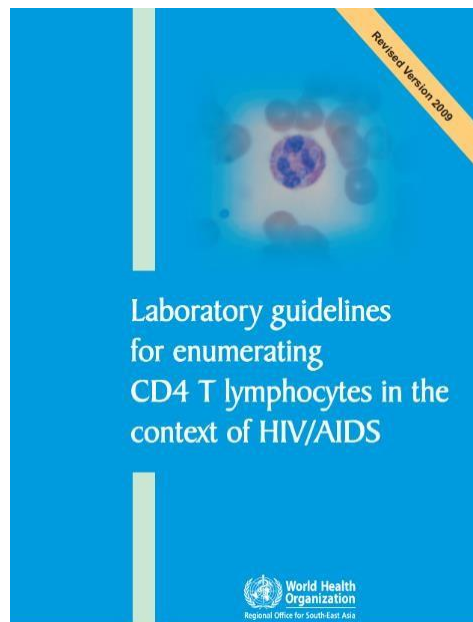
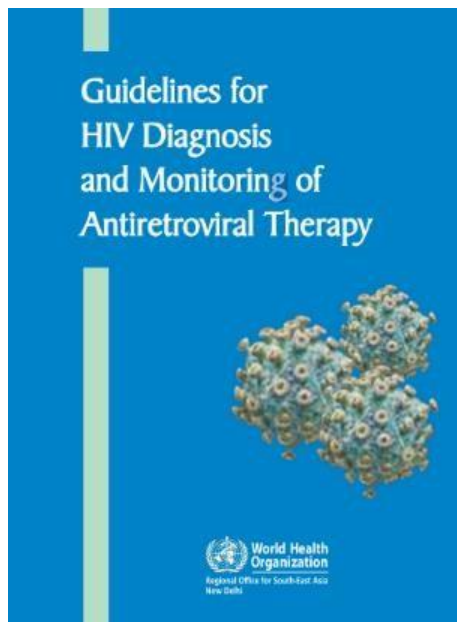
As per the **National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), Government of India, New Delhi** the health care settings should offer a service to protect an individual and their families by practicing the “5 Cs - Consent, Confidentiality, Counselling, Correct test results and Connection)”. This **HIV Testing and Counselling Training (HTCT)** program consists of 5 core components: 1. Pre-test counselling that outlines the testing process 2. A risk-behavior assessment 3. Informed consent of each participant 4. Administration of the HIV test 5. Post-test counselling based on the test result(s). This is also implemented through the standards and guidelines of the **NABL** and **NABH** in public and private health care settings.

### ABOUT THE MEENAKSHI ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (MAHER)

MAHER, a Deemed to be University (<https://maher.ac.in/>), is a multidisciplinary institution that has carved a niche itself in the field of higher education. Established in the year 2004, the institution has made remarkable strides in all spheres, making it a sought-after institution by all stakeholders.

MAHER conducts an array of Professional Development Programs, Executive Development Programs and Management Development Programs to the benefit of the faculty and the profession at large. This program is yet another endeavor towards quality management in laboratory settings.

**About Course Director:** **Dr. Pachamuthu Balakrishnan** has more than 25 years of experience in the field of HIV/AIDS research and diagnostics. He was trained at the HIV Branch, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, USA and several universities/institutions in USA and Australia. He also contributed to the development of international (World Health Organization) and national (National AIDS Control Organization, Government of India, New Delhi) guidelines for HIV testing and Quality System Management (QMS) as an expert, which are accessible online: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/205162>, <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/205403> and <http://naco.gov.in/lab-services-1>



### About Resource Persons Institutions:

**Asha Kirana Hospital, Centre for AIDS Care and Research, Mysuru** (<https://www.ashakirana.org>) is a not-for-profit private organization recognized by the DSIR and providing out-patient and in-patient services as HIV specialty tertiary care centre.

**Adolescent Health Foundation of India (AHFI), Chennai** (<https://www.ahfi.in>) is a not-for-profit private organization working on adolescent health, sexuality and related infections. Kairos Kinetic (OPC) Pvt. Ltd, Chennai (<https://kairoskinetic.org/>) and Sri Venkateswara Medical College Hospital and Research Institute (SVMCHRI), Chennai.