Ref.No.NBE/Acc/2012

Sub: Comprehensive Training Support; Thesis Support – Regarding

Kind Attn: Heads /DNB Coordinators of Accredited Hospitals /Institutions

Dear Head of Institution /Programme Coordinator (DNB),

As you are aware that National Board of Examinations has published revised accreditation criteria in 2011 wherein the requirements of specialists, PG teachers and teaching /research facilities as required in the smooth conduct of Diplomate National Board programme have been clearly specified. You may kindly refer to Information Bulletin and Application Form Accreditation for (Fresh /Renewal) Diplomate National Board (DNB) 2012-13 for details. A copy of the same is available at the website of NBE under the link Accreditation. Your kind attention is sought to the following:

a. Comprehensive Training Support (Page 9, para 7.1.5)

"The department should have facilities for thesis support, museum, for teaching specimen, library facility and designated faculty members and staff who can take charge of the training programme and can also act as authority for compliance of training programme. The applicant hospital shall designate the following authorities from its staff for DNB programme:

• Head of the Institute (Administrative) as: Nodal Compliance officer for rules and regulations governing the programme as prescribed by NBE.

• Course Director/(DNB Coordinator): Designated Head of Concerned Department as the Academic Head of the Programme

• Assistant Programme Coordinator: As the resource person for DNB trainees either from the management or academic staff, to maintain establishment and related functions related to the DNB courses and trainees."

It is mandatory that the hospital concerned nominates the aforesaid three functionaries for the DNB programme and indicate the same prominently with contact telephone nos. and e-mail IDs at the Notice Board for DNB trainees, provide a copy to the DNB
candidates and submit the same by e-mail to NBE (accr@natboard.edu.in). Please do mention in the subject line List of Nodal Officers for Comprehensive Training Support.

b. **Opting the faculty for the purpose of guidance for Thesis (para 7.1.2)**

"At least one of the consultants in the department should have teaching experience of 5 years, as a post graduate teacher. For the purpose of teaching experience the services rendered as a PG teacher in a recognized university or NBE accredited hospital shall be acceptable, provided the consultant has acted as a guide / co-guide for a PG student or a PG student trained in the recognized department has qualified DNB /MD / MS qualifications."

Further kind attention is sought to para 7.1.8

"The hospital concerned shall be the principal place of practice of these consultants and the consultant shall have no other institutional attachments/affiliation with other hospitals. Part time and visiting consultant shall not be considered as a part of the faculty. They may provide additional support for the training."

As highlighted above and in compliance with the minimum requirements, department concerned shall have at least one Consultant who is a recognized PG teacher. This Consultant can be assigned the responsibilities of acting as guide and other Consultants in the department may be indicated as co-guides for the purpose of guidance of Thesis of the PG trainee. In case of more than one Consultant /faculty available, they can be considered as guide for thesis. Consultants /Faculty from other departments which have a direct role to play in undertaking the research work for thesis writing may also be indicated as co-guides for the thesis. It may kindly be ascertained that Consultants /faculty fulfilling the criteria as highlighted in 7.1.2 and 7.1.8 are inducted as guides for undertaking research work for thesis. It is mandatory to have the protocol for thesis cleared by the institutional Ethical Committee and a certificate to this effect is required to be furnished with the Thesis protocol. Kindly note that all the candidates who have joined the DNB Programme, pursuant to the counseling conducted in February /March /April 2012 are required to submit a protocol for their Thesis research work latest by 31st May 2012. All concerned may kindly note that NBE may take penal action against the defaulting candidates or accredited hospitals /institutions.
c. NBE has been conducting workshops in capacity building and sensitization of candidates towards thesis protocol writing and completing thesis research work. The details of workshop can be found on the NBE website www.natboard.edu.in

As you are aware that the National Board of Examinations has laid particular emphasis on research in DNB program and has mandated submission and acceptance of thesis by the DNB candidates as an essential prerequisite towards being eligible for DNB exit examinations; Further as part of the minimum criteria for accreditation, recently published publications of the faculty have been made mandatory.

Besides the foregoing, NBE also weighs the role of the medical institute for undertaking research projects, fellowship positions in research and contribution to research production as such.

NBE conducts workshops for benefit of DNB trainees, consultants and faculty of the accredited medical institutes aimed at capacity building for research initiatives; broadly these workshops are structured at three levels viz. (a) Research protocol writing (for entry level candidates), (b) Thesis writing/ research report writing (for mid level candidates and faculty) & (c) Medical Writing (Publishing research and/or clinical/ biomedical work, aimed at recent passed candidates and faculty).

NBE conducts these workshops on periodically on All India Basis in alliance with regional institutes and faculty drawn from prestigious institutes. Candidates and faculty have exhibited encouraging response for these workshops.

Kindly refer website of National Board of Examinations from time to time for registration in these workshops. These workshops will go a long way in improving the quality of research work and raising the institutional capacity of accredited hospital towards maintaining the research of high standards.

B.N. Khatri
Deputy Director