

An abstract geometric composition on a dark navy blue background. On the left, a vertical cream-colored bar is divided into three sections by two horizontal teal lines, each with a small teal dot at the intersection. To the right of this bar, a large teal shape is composed of a trapezoid at the bottom, a rectangle in the middle, and a trapezoid at the top. A thin white vertical line runs down the center of the bottom teal trapezoid, ending at a small teal circle. The word "India" is written in a white serif font, centered horizontally between the cream bar and the teal shape.

India

India

Understanding the applicable framework

The Department of Pharmaceuticals describes UCPMP 2024 as mandatory, with association ethics committees and Department appeals. Government confirms September 2025 amendments. Do not use the superseded 2015 framework (Department of Pharmaceuticals, n.d.; Press Information Bureau, 2026).

UCPMP is not a complete patient-organisation rulebook. Assess activity, recipient, source and additional commitments and distinguish law, government framework and company policy.

What companies need to understand

Establish entity, governing document, signatures and bank holder. A network name may differ from the organisation accepting responsibility.

Discuss consultation scope and language, state coverage and accessibility. Include coordination and analysis instead of assuming volunteers can absorb national work.

Foreign funding

FCRA registration and prior permission are distinct routes. Ministry guidance warns against receiving covered foreign contribution without the necessary authority (Indian Ministry of Home Affairs [MHA], n.d.).

Assess donor, recipient and substance before payment. Overseas, domestic and service payments are not automatically identical. A bank location or payment label does not settle classification.

What patient organisations need to understand

Explain reviews and coordinated documents before preparation. Where a participant is also a clinician, assess the actual role rather than expect the organisation to classify it unaided.

Agree information, advertising, safety and research arrangements before recruitment, using understandable language and appropriate formats.

Practical example and local checks

Before an overseas-funded multilingual assessment, confirm entity and foreign-contribution treatment, permissions and account arrangements. Agree coverage, methods and workload, then editorial control, payment and privacy. Check later authority submissions separately.