ISOT Clinical Transplant Immunology Fellowship

Call for applications | January to March 2027 batch

The Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT) invites applications for the Clinical Transplant Immunology Fellowship, a three-month hybrid training programme conducted at ISOT-accredited centres. The fellowship aims to develop a national cadre of clinicians with advanced expertise in immunological risk assessment, immune monitoring, rejection management and individualised immunosuppression, strengthening transplant outcomes and scientific leadership across India.

Training combines a shared online lecture series, mentored clinical learning at the allotted centre and a short in-person laboratory posting. The programme concludes with an exit examination at Midterm ISOT 2027, Delhi, leading to the ISOT Clinical Transplant Immunology Fellowship Accreditation Certificate.

1. Key dates

Milestone	Schedule
Applications open	5 November 2026
Applications close	30 November 2026
Selection and centre matching	1 to 15 December 2026
Joining confirmation and orientation	16 to 31 December 2026
Fellowship training	1 January to 31 March 2027
Exit examination	Midterm ISOT 2027, Delhi — date to be announced

The examination date, venue and detailed schedule will be communicated separately.

2. Eligibility

Applicants must hold a recognised medical degree with valid NMC registration and one of the following postgraduate qualifications:

- DM or DNB in Nephrology
- DM or DNB in Hepatology
- MCh or DNB in Urology

3. How to apply

Applications are invited for placement at existing ISOT-accredited centres. Applicants should submit their qualifications, NMC registration details and a summary of their professional background. The list of participating centres and the submission procedure will be circulated with the call for applications.

4. Selection and centre allocation

- The fellowship is single-centre based. Each accredited centre may take a maximum of two fellows per cycle.
- Selected fellows are matched to an accredited centre according to available capacity and the programme selection process.
- Each fellow coordinates mentoring and the laboratory posting directly with the allotted centre. Where the centre does not have in-house facilities, it may arrange the laboratory posting through its formal laboratory linkage or an external immunology rotation.
- The hybrid format is designed to allow practising transplant physicians to participate while ensuring essential in-person laboratory exposure. No monthly stipend is payable by the host centre. ISOT provides academic governance only, through the ISOT Clinical Transplant Immunology Fellowship Committee.

5. Programme structure

5.1 Shared online teaching

All fellows, across all participating centres, attend a common online lecture series delivered by faculty from the participating institutes. Teaching includes core lectures, immunology-focused journal clubs, case discussions and expert-led interpretation sessions. The teaching schedule will be circulated to all centres and fellows.

5.2 Mentored clinical learning

At the allotted centre, fellows gain supervised exposure to:

- Pre-transplant immunological risk assessment and desensitisation planning.
- Post-transplant immune monitoring and DSA surveillance.
- Rejection work-up, treatment planning and biopsy correlation.
- Multidisciplinary discussions integrating clinical findings, pathology and immunology.
- Individualised immunosuppression, therapeutic drug monitoring and relevant drug interactions.

5.3 Laboratory posting

Each fellow completes a one- to two-week in-person posting in a transplant immunology laboratory during the training period, on dates agreed with the allotted centre. The posting covers:

- HLA typing, matching and relevant immunogenetics.
- CDC and flow cytometry crossmatch: principles, workflow and interpretation.
- Solid-phase antibody testing, including Luminex and single-antigen bead assays.
- DSA interpretation and its correlation with immunological risk and post-transplant monitoring.
- Integration of laboratory findings with transplant pathology, rejection assessment and clinical decision-making.

Activities will reflect the facilities and supervised opportunities available at the host or formally linked laboratory. For each activity, the fellow records whether it was observed, discussed or performed under supervision.

6. Curriculum

Module	Content
Foundations	Basics of transplant immunology; the alloimmune response; mechanisms of tolerance.
Pre-transplant immunology	HLA matching; CDC and flow crossmatch; DSA interpretation; immunological risk stratification.
Desensitisation	ABO-incompatible transplantation; positive-crossmatch protocols; plasmapheresis, IVIG, rituximab and newer agents.
Post-transplant immunology	Immune monitoring strategies; protocol biopsies; DSA surveillance.
Rejection	Acute cellular rejection; antibody-mediated rejection; chronic active AMR; histopathology–immunology correlation.
Immunosuppression	Induction strategies; maintenance therapy; therapeutic drug monitoring; drug interactions; individualised immunosuppression.
Special situations	Re-transplantation; highly sensitised recipients; paediatric immunology; pregnancy and malignancy considerations.

Training resources: shared online lectures, case libraries, recommended textbooks and consensus guidelines, ISOT webinars and expert panels.

7. Logbook and academic requirements

7.1 ISOT Immunology E-Logbook

Fellows maintain the ISOT Immunology E-Logbook throughout the programme and submit the completed, attested logbook for assessment. The laboratory visit record must describe what the fellow actually completed during the posting. The logbook should document:

- Centre and laboratory name, dates of attendance and total duration.
- Supervising faculty and laboratory mentor.
- Tests, laboratory processes and interpretation sessions attended.
- Anonymised clinical cases, immunological decisions and pathology correlations discussed.
- Online lectures, journal clubs, case discussions and other academic participation.
- Learning points, with confirmation of completion by the laboratory supervisor and programme director.

7.2 Academic activities

- Participation in immunology-focused journal clubs and case-based multidisciplinary discussions.
- One immunology-based audit or research project.
- One conference presentation or manuscript submission (preferred).

7.3 Monitoring and feedback

The allotted centre conducts periodic performance reviews and provides feedback on academic participation, clinical learning, laboratory attendance and logbook progress.

8. Exit examination and certification

The exit examination is conducted in person at Midterm ISOT 2027, Delhi, and comprises three components. Detailed arrangements will be notified separately.

Component	Description
Theory	Multiple-choice questions based on the ISOT Immunology syllabus.
Clinical and viva	Case discussions and interpretation of DSA profiles, crossmatch results and immunosuppression plans.
Logbook	Review of the attested logbook, covering laboratory training and academic participation.

Examiners: ISOT members with at least five years of transplant experience and demonstrated expertise in transplant immunology.
Re-attempts: a maximum of three examination attempts is permitted.

8.1 Requirements for certification

To complete the programme and receive the ISOT Clinical Transplant Immunology Fellowship Accreditation Certificate, a fellow must:

1. Participate in the prescribed online teaching and academic activities.
2. Complete the one- to two-week in-person transplant immunology laboratory posting.
3. Submit the attested ISOT Immunology E-Logbook, including the record of the laboratory posting.
4. Appear for and pass the exit examination at Midterm ISOT 2027, Delhi.

9. Programme contacts

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