

**DR. NERGES MISTRY** DIRECTOR



Dr. Mistry is a Director and Trustee of The Foundation for Medical Research, Mumbai and The Foundation for Research in Community Health, Pune. A microbiologist and immunologist by training from the University of Mumbai and The University of Birmingham, U.K, Dr. Mistry's work encompasses infectious diseases with a recent focus on the molecular epidemiology of multidrug resistance tuberculosis and the mechanisms of acquisition of rapid drug resistance in tuberculosis and its public health implications. Her recent work in Mumbai based on her basic findings impinge on establishment of infection control measures and the examination of linkages between TB diabetes and air pollution in Mumbai's slums. Dr. Mistry is also currently engaged in a Gates

Foundation sponsored study on Pathways to Care of TB patients in Mumbai and Patna which will serve as a pointer for intervention approaches with private providers. She is a member of the Mumbai Alliance against tuberculosis and has participated in a number of advocacy measures in the recent past.

In the field of community medicine, Dr. Mistry has had experience in the development of a community based health care system and intervention research in the management of drinking water in rural communities. A recent undertaking is the correlation of water quality and climate change in rural communities from drought prone areas. She has had considerable experience in development and evaluation of community based health care systems in rural areas particularly in the field of diabetes and NCDs and is a strong votary for a career path for primary care workers and the induction of quality care in public health system in rural areas. The FRCH along with NICE International UK is currently examining guidelines for safe maternity management and perspectives of their use in 5 Indian states.

Dr. Mistry has over 81 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has been a principal investigator of over 28 major projects. Her recent projects reflect a combination of biosocial approach to problems. Dr. Mistry was awarded the Heiser Fellowship from the USA for her postdoctoral research work which she undertook at the University of Oslo in 1984-1986. Dr. Mistry has held advisory positions in the University of Mumbai and academic institutes in Mumbai like Cancer Research Institute (CRI) and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). She is a guide for post-graduate degrees in Applied Biology from the University of Mumbai and has guided 11 post-graduate and doctoral research students. She is also a member of the ASHA Mentoring Group of the National Rural Health Mission ever since its inception and has been on the Advisory Group for Community Processes and Traditional Medicine for the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, Govt. of India.