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NEWSLETTER

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Greetings from the president's desk



Greetings from the president's desk!

Happy Dussehra and Deepawali to all my dear Microbiologists! The festive times are here and soon we will all be meeting in Pune for the mega event. In recent time we have seen the comeback of Monkey Pox, Chikungunya, Crimean Congo fever, Avian Influenza and many more pathogens, with vengeance. They are constantly changing their characteristics, and we must be ready

and well geared up to beat them up timely to prevent their spread and eventual outbreaks and epidemics. Majority of our pathogens are zoonotic in nature and looking at the scenario our honorable Prime Minister ji has launched the One Health Mission and National joint outbreak response team has been made to deal with the outbreaks in a more comprehensive and inclusive manner where the team comprises of clinicians, microbiologists, public health experts, wildlife animal husbandry, veterinarian etc. The situation needs to be evaluated from all points of view. As a preparatory measure recently, we had a Vishnu Yuddh Abhaya which was a mock drill in the field mimicking real-life situation, local CMHO with team, the state rapid response and national NJORT teams coordinated the investigation and the response of all concerned was monitored by the State Chief secretary, DG ICMR and DGHS themselves. We need many more mock drills to be pandemic ready. Microbiologists must be flexible to play different roles both in lab dealing with vast array of tools like POCT to NGS and in the field too as part of the RRT.

IAMM has been conducting multiple training programs, hands on workshops, and the newly launched IPC certificate course have been a great success. Thanks to virtual platforms we have been having Executive council meetings too to help plan for the IAMM activities. Similarly, state chapters have been involved in various activities and particularly the PG students in the Quiz etc. National level meetings with IMA and other associations have been held to help plan how we can deal with the problem of AMR.

I want to congratulate and thank the Organizing Secretary MICROCON 2024 Dr Rajesh Karyakartey for planning a great scientific and gastronomic feast. Please do attend in big numbers. Its time to learn scientifically and interact socially too, just like meeting your family and friends at big fat Indian wedding!

All those who are not IAMM members, I urge them to become members soon.

Best wishes!

Bharti Malhotra
President IAMM

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From the secretary's desk



"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Henry Ford

Microbiologists are also striving ahead with great achievements. I feel a sense of fulfilment as all the IAMM workshops have been held with great success. The

Certificate course on Infection Prevention & Control has been a stupendous success. It was oversubscribed in just few hours and the registrations had to be closed. The online classes have been a total hit and everyone seems to be enjoying the course with great practical assignments and learnings. The participants were a mix of postgraduates, senior residents, faculty members and practitioners. Chapter meetings have attracted skilled speakers and good participation. Other activities such as PG assembly, PG masterclass are all going on with full enthusiasm and conviction.

Let's all move ahead in making this journey more pleasurable. The annual event of IAMM "MICROCON 2024" is just round the corner amid all festivities. Dr. Rajesh and his team in Pune are working diligently to make it an academic feast and a dynamic and stimulating conference. Large number of workshops and CME are being organized. I request all the members to attend this annual event in large numbers.

I welcome the new EC members and wish that they will work for the association with enthusiasm and passion.

I request junior faculty and residents to become members of IAMM. This will strengthen our association.

I seek blessings of almighty and all our senior faculty and past Presidents to continue the good work.

Best wishes !
Dr Sonal Saxena

IAMM -IPC Course 2024

IAMM launched the 1st ever Certificate Course on Infection Prevention and control under the leadership of Dr Bharti Malhotra, President IAMM and Dr Sonal Saxena, Secretary IAMM. A pool of facilitators were identified and multiple meetings were organized in online mode by Dr Sonal Saxena to develop curriculum, Training Modules, assignments and exercises. The course flyer was sent by mail and on various groups of microbiologists. It received an overwhelming response.

The course was oversubscribed within 4 hours and registrations had to be closed. The participants included 19 faculty/consultant microbiologists, 11 senior residents, 6 postgraduate students and 2 infection control nurses.

The course was launched on 1st August and will culminate on 29th October with assessment and contact session. Overall 24 online sessions worth 48 hours were taken. The contact session is being organized at Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi. The two days contact program would include table top exercise on outbreak management, WHONET for detection of healthcare associated infections, leadership in IPC, Roles and responsibilities of HICC amongst others.

IAMM Short Course 2024

IAMM organized seven short hands-on courses at various institutes/hospital across the country. IAMM provided the logistics while the courses were organized by esteemed faculty and IAMM members at their institutes. The workshops were very well received and praised by members and participants.

W01: Approach to Diagnosis of Parasitic Diseases

PGIMER, Chandigarh; 12-14 August 2024.

Course coordinator - Dr. Sumeeta Khurana, Professor & HOD, Division of Parasitology, PGIMER

A hands-on-Workshop was organised by Dr Sumeeta Khurana, Professor and Head, Dr Abhishek Mewara, Addl. Prof and Dr Priya Datta, assistant professor. This was attended by 29 participants from various parts of India. After registration and pre-test evaluation, the workshop was formally inaugurated by Prof. Nancy Malla, (Retd.), Former Head, Department of Medical Parasitology, PGIMER. Various lectures included "Approach to diagnosis of gastrointestinal parasitic infections" by Prof. Sumeeta Khurana, "Approach to diagnosis of haemoparasites" by Dr. Abhishek Mewara, "Use of NAAT for diagnosis of parasitic infections and diagnosis of

toxoplasmosis" by Dr. Priya Datta "Insects of medical importance" by Dr. Taruna Kaura. In addition, talks on Stool collection, processing and concentration techniques, Culture techniques for parasites, Quantification of Malarial parasites, serology for diagnosis of congenital toxoplasmosis and In-house serology for diagnosis of parasitic infections were taken. The practical demonstration included -Kato- Katz and Parasep faecal concentration techniques, Quantification of malarial parasites (WHO method), culture techniques (*Acanthamoeba* species, *T. vaginalis*, *Giardia*), *Strongyloides* larval culture by Harada Mori, Koga agar and Baermann techniques.

All participants were encouraged to perform all tests individually.

Microscopic demonstration included- Coccidian parasites- *Cryptosporidium*, *Cyclospora*, *Cystoisospora*, operculated eggs of *Fasciolopsis buski*, Eggs of Hookworms, *Ascaris lumbricoides*, *Trichuris trichiura*, larvae of *Strongyloides* species, tachyzoites of *Toxoplasma gondii*, Trichrome stain of *Entamoeba histolytica*, *Giardia* trophozoites & cysts. Rare parasites which were shown included -PAS stain-stained smear of *Capillaria hepatica* in liver, *Trichinella spiralis* in tissue, *Acanthamoeba* trophozoites and cysts in brain tissue etc. Various malaria parasites including *P. falciparum* & *P. vivax* (gametocytes, ring forms), *L. donovani* (amastigote and Promastigote forms) and microfilaria of *Wuchereria bancrofti* were demonstrated. All participants were given slides of malarial parasites individually to quantify the parasite load. The practical demonstration included microscopic demonstration of -Aedes, Culex, Anopheles mosquitoes,

Fleas, sandfly, tick, louse. Various adult worms of ascaris, tapeworm, *Fasciola hepatica*, hydatid cyst were also shown. A visit to molecular lab was also organised. The workshop ended with post-test evaluation which showed marked improvement in scores, valedictory function and certificate distribution.



W02: Hands-on Workshop on Molecular Diagnostics SMS Medical College, Jaipur; 19th-21st September 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Incharge Advance research Laboratory, SMS Medical College

A pre-test questionnaire was given to the participants on the 1st day of the workshop. Welcome address was taken by Nodal officer Dr Bharti Malhotra and acting HOD Dr. Aruna Vyas. Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Incharge Advance research Laboratory SMS Medical College introduced the participants about syndromic approach in molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases. 20 out of 25 participants attended the workshop. This was followed by Theory lectures from 10.30am to 4.00pm on various topics such as specimen collection, Donning and doffing, transport and spill management by Dr Nita Pal, Dr Anisha Chawla, Dr Simmi Bhat, disinfection and cleaning protocols by Dr Anisha Chawla, Aliquoting, lysis and RNA extraction and Biofire by Dr Sakshee Gupta, Master-mix preparation by Dr Madhavi Vyas, RT-PCR testing and interpretation of PCR results by Dr. Pratibha Sharma, CB-NAAT by Dr. Gaurav Sharma, and Line Probe assay by Dr. Varunika Vijayvargiya

On 2nd Day, participants were divided into four groups for hands on sessions. Groups were rotated after 40 minutes to cover all topics for all participants.

Group A: Demonstration & Hands - on workshop : Sample collection, packaging and transport: Dr Anisha Chawla, Dr Simmi Bhat

Group B: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop :Lysis and Extraction: Dr. Neha Bhumia

Group C: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop : Master mix preparation: Dr. Madhvi Vyas

Group D: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop : PCR and interpretation of results: Dr. Pratibha Sharma

This was followed by a lecture and quiz activity on Biomedical waste management by Dr. Surbhi Mittal

Two lectures were taken on setting up of PCR laboratory by Dr. Abhishek Sharma and on Equipment Maintenance by Dr. Mukesh Garg

Day 3 commenced with Hands on sessions for each group A, B, C and D. Groups were rotated after 40 minutes to cover all topics for all participants.

Group A: Demonstration & Hands - on workshop :POCT-

CBNAAT(GeneXpert):Dr Veena Sharma, Dr. Gaurav Sharma

Group B: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop : POCT-

TruNAAT: Dr. Anisha Chawla

Group C: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop : POCT-

Biofire: Dr. Sakshee Gupta

Group D: Demonstration & Hands -on workshop :Line Probe

Assay: Dr. Varunika Vijayvargiya

This was followed by a Troubleshooting and discussion by Dr. Bharti Malhotra and Dr. Nita Pal.

Average of pre-test of all participants was 09.73 and post-test

was 17.25 indicating a percentage improvement of 77.28% in

the post test performance of the participants.



W03: Antifungal Susceptibility Testing made easy – A Hands on Workshop SRMC & RI, SRIHER, Porur, Chennai; 22-24 September 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr Anupama Kindo, Professor, SRMC & RI, SRIHER

The antifungal susceptibility testing made easy “A 3 day workshop was conducted under the aegis of IAMM from the 22nd of September to 24th of September 2024. 15 participants registered for this workshop. After the inauguration of the workshop there were 4 talks on general introduction about AFST and need for AFST, Standard guidelines for yeasts and molds, Different methods of performing AFST and Media preparation.

After the lunch break, they were divided into 3 groups and each group had an expert who taught them hands on antifungal disc –diffusion technique and its interpretation. The second day again they had one lecture in the morning on AFST on yeasts followed by each group having hands on practical on calculation for drug dilution and Inoculum preparation. On the 3rd day briefing on AFST for moulds was done followed by AFST for *Aspergillus* and Dermatophytes ;inoculum preparation performing the test and interpretation of the results of the previously inoculated

plates. The valedictory function was held and certificates were given. A formal feedback form was collected for the three days. The feedback was excellent to very good. They benefitted a lot since individual attention and guidance was given throughout the process and they were able to get all their doubts clarified.



W04: Laboratory diagnosis of brucellosis including molecular diagnosis SDM College of Medical Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka; 26-28th September, 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr. Amith Joshi, SDM College of Medical Sciences

The Department of Microbiology, SDM College of Medical Sciences & Hospital, a constituent unit of SDM University, Dharwad, Karnataka, successfully organized a 3-day National Hands-on Workshop on Laboratory Diagnosis of Brucellosis from 26th to 28th September 2024. The workshop was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SDM University, Dr. Niranjana Kumar, in the presence of esteemed faculty, guest speakers, and delegates from various parts of the country. Dr. Ajantha GS, Organizing Chairman, explained the purpose of the workshop by highlighting the need for hands-on experience in accurate laboratory diagnosis of Brucellosis. Dr R. D. Kulkarni, shared his three decades of experience on Human Brucellosis. Meticulous care was taken about Biosafety in handling *Brucella* cultures and suspected samples. In addition to conventional techniques delegates were trained in molecular diagnosis by PCR. All the steps of gel based PCR were fully

hands on for each delegate by Dr. Jagadeesh Poyya, Faculty at SDM Research Institute of Biomedical Sciences,. Modified cold ZN staining, and the primer designing for *Brucella*, again fully hands on, were highly appreciated by the delegates. Two eminent workers in the field of Brucellosis, Dr. Shrikrishna Isloor, Laboratory Director of KVAFSU-CVA Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory and Dr. B. G. Mantoor delivered guest lectures during the workshop. Both the speakers provided excellent insights to the audience to understand the epidemiology and intricacies of laboratory diagnosis of Brucellosis.

The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive, with particular praise for the hands-on nature of the workshop. All the delegates were eager to go back and immediately start applying the protocols in their respective laboratories for diagnosis of brucellosis.



W05: Hands-on-Workshop on Automated bacterial culture, identification, antimicrobial susceptibility testing including molecular resistance markers

AIIMS, New Delhi; 8-10 October 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr Sarita Mohapatra, Addl Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS

The workshop had 19 participants. This hands-on workshop aimed to enhance practical skills and deepen knowledge in key areas of bacteriology, particularly in relation to antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The first day began with a pre-test to gauge participants' baseline knowledge, followed by an inaugural session. Participants engaged in hands-on exercises focusing on automated blood culture systems and direct gram staining techniques. The day also included a comprehensive overview of the VITEK system, covering quality control measures and report interpretation, followed by demonstrations and case discussions encouraging active participation and problem-solving. The day concluded with a lecture centered on the molecular detection of pathogens, enhancing participants' skills in advanced diagnostic techniques.

On the second day, the focus shifted to antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) in gram-negative bacilli, particularly concerning carbapenem and colistin resistance. Participants participated in practical sessions on colistin testing and synergy testing of Ceftriaxime-avibactam with aztreonam, allowing them to apply theoretical knowledge in a hands-on environment. Additionally, a session on quality control in bacteriology provided crucial insights into best practices. The day also included further hands-on exercises in molecular detection of AMR, consolidating participants' understanding of these critical methods.

The final day addressed therapeutic options for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE), with discussions emphasizing the importance of diagnostic stewardship. Participants engaged in case-based discussions that highlighted real-world applications of the techniques learned. Overall, the workshop successfully achieved its goal of equipping participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to address challenges in microbiology and antimicrobial resistance effectively.



W06: Techniques on diagnosis of Tuberculosis (CBNAAT, TruNAAT, LPA, IGRA/TST, Fluorescent microscopy and semiquantitative culture)

Dayanand Medical College & Hospital, Ludhiana; 8-9 July 2024

Course Coordinator: Dr Veenu Gupta, Professor & Head, DMC&H

Department of Microbiology, DMC&H, Ludhiana conducted a comprehensive hands-on workshop on diagnostic techniques for tuberculosis aimed at improving the skills of residents and faculty members from all over North India. The workshop covered a range of diagnostic methodologies for effective TB management, thus contributing to the ongoing efforts in combating tuberculosis globally. The workshop was attended by 17 delegates. The workshop was inaugurated by Sh. Bipin Gupta, Secretary DMC&H Managing Society, Sh. Mukesh Kumar, Treasurer, DMC&H Managing Society, Dr. G S Wander, Principal, Dr. Sandeep Kaushal, Dean Academics along with the DOTS core committee members.

The workshop featured a series of structured sessions that allowed participants to enhance their practical skills in diagnostic techniques such as smear microscopy (fluorescent and acid fast staining), nucleic acid amplification tests (CBNAAT, TruNAAT and LPA), culture (LJ & MGIT), IGRA/TST and MPT-64 Ag test under the guidance of the Microbiology faculty Dr. Veenu Gupta, Dr. Rama Gupta, Dr. Jyoti Chaudhary, Dr. Eshani Dewan, Dr. Menal Gupta and Dr. Manisha Aggarwal. Training manual containing details of all techniques covered in the workshop and certificate of participation were provided to all the participants. They were also assessed to gauge their understanding and proficiency in

TB diagnostics. In the pre-test, the average score was 50%, while in the post-test, participants scored an average score of 70%. The workshop was a resounding success and a common feedback received was that such workshops should be conducted more frequently to ensure continued education on the latest diagnostic advancements.



W07: Hands on workshop on Antimicrobial Stewardship: antibiogram preparation and interpretation

Rukmini Birla Hospital, Jaipur; 24th August 2024

Course coordinator - Dr. Yogesh Kumar Gupta, Lab head & senior consultant – Microbiology, Rukmani Birla Hospital, Jaipur

The Antimicrobial Stewardship Workshop at Rukmini Birla Hospital, Jaipur, held on 24th Aug 2024, was a significant success. The event, brought together healthcare professionals, microbiologists to discuss and promote effective antimicrobial stewardship practices. The workshop featured a series of informative sessions that covered various aspects of antimicrobial stewardship, including best practices, innovative strategies, and case studies. These sessions provided attendees with valuable insights into the importance of responsible antimicrobial use. The workshop saw the participation of forty attendees who actively engaged in discussions and interactive sessions. Their enthusiasm and commitment to combating

antimicrobial resistance were evident throughout the event.

Highlights of the workshop included sessions led by esteemed speakers in the field, who provided in-depth insights into the current challenges and future directions of antimicrobial stewardship.

The feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing their satisfaction with the content and organization of the workshop. The interactive sessions were especially well-received, fostering a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and problem-solving.





47th Annual Conference of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists 'MICROCON 2024'
BJMC Pune being organized at Hotel Tip Top International
Scientific Program

21st November 2024: Pre -Conference Workshops

Sr No	Workshop Title	Venue
1	Molecular Identification and Typing of Fungi	AFMC
2	Clinical and Diagnostic Mycology: From Conventional to Molecular Methods	Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College
3	Basic Workshop on Antimicrobial Stewardship	Jehangir Hospital
4	Audits in Infection Prevention and Control	PCMC Post Graduate Institute & YCMH
5	Point Prevalence Survey in Health Care Facilities: A Step Towards Antimicrobial Containment	Bharati Vidyapeeth
6	Preventing Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs) - Real World Problems and Realistic Solutions with Modern Technologies	Ruby Hall Clinic
7	Know Anaerobes Grow Anaerobes	Agharkar Research Institute
8	Molecular PoCT and Microarray: Transforming Future of Diagnostics	BJ G MC & Sassoon Hospital
9	Introduction to Targeted Next Generation Sequencing in MDR -TB Management using Oxford Nanopore Technology (AmPORE TB)	Hotel Tip Top International
10	Advancing Clinical Microbiology with Illumina's Next Generation Sequencing	
11	Laboratory Diagnosis of Autoimmune Diseases: Focus on Immunofluorescence	Sahyadri Speciality Labs.
12	Comprehensive Quality Assurance in Microbiology and Molecular Diagnostics	AG Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd.
13	Integrative Stewardship in UTI Work -up	BJ Government Medical College & Sassoon Hospital
14	Melioidosis: Hands -on Workshop for Appropriate and Safe Diagnosis in the Laboratory	Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College
15	Hands-on Workshop on Anaerobes	Symbiosis Medical College
16	Basics of Fungal Identification and Susceptibility Testing	Ruby Hall Clinic
17	Decoding Syndromic Infections - The Molecular Diagnostic Workshop	AFMC
18	Hands-on Workshop on MALDI -TOF	Deenath Mangeshkar Hospital & Research Center
19	Hands-on Workshop on Central Sterile and Supply Department (CSSD): Heart of a Hospital	Bharati Vidyapeeth
20	Advanced Workshop on Antimicrobial Stewardship	Jehangir Hospital



21st November 2024 Inaugural Function (7:00 PM-9:00 PM)
Cultural Night & Inaugural Dinner (9:00 PM onwards)

Day 1: 22nd November 2024

Venue	Timings	Session Details	Speaker (s)
	8:00-9:00 AM	Registration	
Willow	9:00-10:00 AM	Dr KB Sharma Memorial Junior Best Paper Presentation	Moderator: Dr Sonal Saxena, Secretary IAMM
	10:00-10:30 AM	The President's Oration	Dr Bharti Malhotra
	10:30-11:00 AM	Dr S.C. Agarwal Oration	Dr Chand Wattal
	11:00-11:30 AM	IAMM Endowment Oration	Dr Jayanthi Shastri
	11:30-12:00 PM	Tea/ Coffee Break	
	12:00-1:00 PM	The IAMM Student Symposium "Genomic Surveillance in Infectious Diseases"	Moderator: Dr Ekta Gupta Professor, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi
	1:00-2:00 PM	Lunch Break, Poster Walk and Stall Exhibition	
Willow	2:00-3:00 PM	Session 1A: Shaping the Future of Diagnostic Parasitology	
		Beyond the Lens: The Future of Malaria Diagnostics in Genomic Era	Dr Anup Anvikar
		Medical Parasitology in the Changing World - What Next.....	Dr Tribhuban Mohan Mohapatra
		An Update on Parasitic Vaccines	Dr Anuradha De
Maple 1-2	2:00-3:00 PM	Session 1B: Mystery of Sepsis: Identifying the current gaps & available solutions	
Tulip -3	2:00-3:00 PM	Broor-ID Aggarwal Prize for Best Paper in Virology Dr S. R. Sengupta Dr Saoji Prize for Best Paper in Immunology	
Gulmohar	3:00- 5:15PM	Session 1C: One Health: An Integrated Unifying Approach	
		Role of Genomic Surveillance in Novel Virus Discovery and Linkage with One Health	Dr Pragya Yadav.
		TBA	Dr Simmi Tiwari
		TBA	Dr Nivedita Gupta
		TBA	Dr Mala Chhabra



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Willow	3:00-5:15 PM	Session 1D: Exploring the World of Anaerobes	
		Anaerobic Infections: An Update	Dr Rama Chaudhry
		Clostridioides difficile: Global Epidemiology, Laboratory Diagnosis & Infection Prevention Control Aspects	Dr Aruna Poojary
		Bacteroides fragilis as a Significant Pathogen - Our Experience	Dr Supriya Gachinmath
		Recent Trends of Clindamycin Resistance among Clinically Significant Obligate Anaerobes	Dr Saswathi Nema
		Recent Trends of Clindamycin Resistance among Clinically Significant Obligate Anaerobes	Dr Saswathi Nema
		An Interesting Case Series of Fournier’s Gangrene caused by Hidden Anaerobic Pathogens from a tertiary care centre, New Delhi, India	Dr Bhawna Sharma
Maple 1+2	3:00-4:00 PM	Session 1E: Advancements to Transform the Field of Sterilization and Disinfection	
		Effective Hand Hygiene in Healthcare: How to Choose your Hand Rub	Dr Manodeep Sen
		Sterilization and Disinfection of Reusable Medical Devices	Dr Jyotsna Agarwal
		Role of Hydrogen Peroxide in OT Sterilization and ICU Disinfection	Dr Vineeta Khare
		Advances in Disinfection Strategies: Emerging Trends, Technologies and Challenges in Healthcare Settings	Dr Sheetal Verma
Tulip 2	2:00-5:15 PM	NAWOPIA Dr. Pankajlaxmi V Venugopalprize Best paper in Mycology IAMM Silver Jubilee Prize for the Best Paper in Parasitology	
Maple 3	2:00-5:15 PM	Belgaum-Mumbai Prize for Best paper in Bacteriology	
Tulip 1-3 Maple 1+2	2:00-5:15 PM	Free Oral Paper Presentation	
Tulip 1	4:30-6:30 PM	IAMM Executive Council Meeting	
Willow	5:15-6:30 PM	Free Poster Presentation	
Tulip 2,3 Gulmohar Maple 1+2, 3	5:15-6:30 PM	Free Oral Paper Presentation	
	Dinner (7:30 PM onwards)		



Venue	Day 2: 23 rd November 2024		
	Timings	Session Details	Speaker (s)
Willow Tulip 1-3 Gulmohar Maple 1, 2	7:15-8:15 AM	Free Oral/Poster Presentation	
Willow	8:15-9:45 AM	IAMM Quiz (Screening round: 8:15-8.30 AM)	Dr Sonal Saxena, Dr Sanjay Biswas & Dr Sarita Mohapatra
	9:45-10:00 AM	Tea/ Coffee Break	
Willow	10:00-12:00 PM	The IAMM Symposium "Artificial Intelligence in Microbiology"	Moderator: Dr V Balaji Professor, Department of Clinical Microbiology, CMC, Vellore
Willow	12:00-1:15 PM	The General Body Meeting of the IAMM	
	1:15-2:00 PM	Lunch Break, Poster Walk and Stall Exhibition	
Maple 1+2	2:00-3:00 PM	Session 2A: Unmasking the Human Papilloma Virus: Its Diagnosis and Prevention	
		HPV testing- innovating solution with extended genotyping and self sampling	TBC
		To be Finalized	TBC
		Cervavac: Changing the Global Landscape of HPV Prevention	Dr Pramod Pujari
Willow	2:00-3:30 PM	Session 2B: From Genome to Action: Integrating Genome Sequencing into Pandemic Response with Real-World Examples - A Panel Discussion	
		Planning and Implementation of Genomic Surveillance Programme For Pandemic Preparedness	Dr Vinod Scaria
		High-Throughput Technologies for Pandemic Preparedness- Experiences from COVID-19	Dr Shridhar Shivasubbu
		Proactive, Preventive and Partnership - Key for Effective Genomic Surveillance	Dr Rajesh Pandey



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Willow	04:15 PM - 04:30 PM	Session 2C: From Sewage to Strategy: The Role of Wastewater Surveillance in Pathogen and AMR Surveillance	
		Dr Rakesh Mishra Dr Mahesh Dharne Dr Farah Ishtiaq	
Gulmohar	3:00-4:00 PM	Session 2D: End TB: Yes! We Can.	
		New advancement in TB drug susceptibility testing	TBA
		New Horizon in Drug Resistance Tuberculosis Diagnostics	TBA
		Accelerating Tuberculosis Elimination by Advanced Therapeutics	Dr Vidya Mave
		Introduction to Targeted Next- Generation Sequencing in MDR-TB Management Using Oxford Nanopore Technology (AmPORE TB)	Dr Kristian Korns
Maple 1+2	3:00-4:00 PM	Session 2E: Harnessing Data Insights: The Synergy of BioFire Testing and FIREWORKS™	
Gulmohar	4:00-5:15 PM	Session 2F: Microbial Marvels: Transforming the Fungal Diagnostics	
		Threats Perceived to Candida auris in India	Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti
		Advances in the Diagnosis of Invasive Fungal Infections	Dr Shivaprakash Rudramurthy
		A complex Kidney Infection due to Aspergillus	Dr Rajeev Soman
		The Emerging Epidemiological Paradigm of Drug Resistant Dermatophytosis	Dr Shukla Das
Tulip 1-3, Maple 3	2:00 - 6:30 PM	Free Oral Paper Presentation	
Maple 1+2	4:00 - 6:30 PM	Free Oral Paper Presentation	
Willow Gulmohar	5:15 - 6:30 PM	Free Oral Paper/Poster Presentation	

Hotel Courtyard
by Marriot

7:30 PM onwards

BANQUET

	Day 3: 24th November 2024		
	Timings	Session Details	Speaker (s)
Willow	9:00-10:00 AM	Session 3A: Navigating Future: Tackling Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonotic Diseases	
		TBC	Dr Naveen Kumar
		TBC	Dr Varsha Potdar
		TBC	Dr Sindura Ganapathi
Gulmohar	9:00-10:00 AM	Session 3B: Futuristic solutions to current challenges in Microbial Identification & Antimicrobial Susceptibility testing	
Willow	10:00-11:00 AM	Session 3C: Transforming Future of Microbiology: Perspectives of Next-Gen	
		TBA	Dr Akshay Karyakarte
		TBA	Dr Rashmita Das
		TBA	Dr Madhuri Somani
Gulmohar	10:00-11:00 AM	Session 3B: Guardians of Antimicrobials	
		TBA	Dr Vikram Padbidri
		TBA	Dr Piyush Chaudhari
Willow	11:00 AM	Valedictory Function	
Willow	1:00 PM	Lunch	



IAMM PG Masterclass

IAMM has started a PG Masterclass once a month at 6 PM from January 2023. All the classes have been a tremendous success. To increase the accessibility of these classes, a YouTube channel has been created where the content is streamed live and recordings remain available to students on the YouTube channel. The YouTube channel can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/@iammpgmasterclass>. The channel is currently subscribed by 963 subscribers and the videos have collectively generated more than 3000 views. We request all to subscribe and encourage students to use these learning resources. Overall the lectures have been a huge success and have been attended by microbiologists across the country with great enthusiasm.

Date	Topic	Speaker
January	Acute Encephalitis Syndrome	Dr V Ravi
February	Non Culture based diagnosis of Fungal Infections	Dr Arunaloake Chakrabarti
March	Investigating a healthcare associated AMR outbreak	Dr A S Valan CDC
April	WHO approved Rapid Diagnostics Game Changer for NTEP	Dr Ritu Singhal NITRD
May	Understanding DST in M. tuberculosis Focus on molecular mechanisms	Dr Camilla Rodrigues
July	Strategies for Surveillance of HAI	Dr Poonam Loomba GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi
August	Transplant Associated Infections	Dr Ekta Gupta ILBS, New Delhi
September	Laboratory Diagnosis of HIV and strategies to enhance HIV case detection	Dr Rakesh Singh JIPMER, Puducherry
October	Evaluation of diagnostic assays	Dr Rohit Chawla MAMC
November	World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week	Dr Rajni Sharma Dr Sonal Saxena Dr Pallab Ray
	2024	
January	Quality Control in AST	Dr V Balaji CMC, Vellore
February	Zoonoses	Dr Mala Chhabra, ABVIMS & RML Hospital
March	Melioidosis	Dr Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay KMC, Manipal
April	Resistance in Gram positive cocci	Dr Sumit Rai AIIMS, Mangalgi
May	Free living Amoebae	Dr Sumeeta Khurana PGIMER, Chandigarh
June	Bacterial Virulence Mechanisms	Dr Reba Kanungo
July	Immunology of fungal infections	Dr Shukla Das UCMS, Delhi



Nation wide activities of Microbiologists

IAMM DELHI CHAPTER

A CME titled “Tuberculosis and NTM Diagnostics, Changing Landscape” was organized under aegis of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists, Delhi Chapter on 6th June 2024 by Department of Microbiology (National Reference Laboratory TB) at National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases. The CME was well attended by over 40 post graduate residents of clinical Microbiology from Delhi-NCR and Clinical Microbiologists from various private hospitals. The Focus of the CME was to understand present day clinical diagnostics of TB and NTM infections from relevance to patient management and patient centric approach. It was also aimed at sharing our knowledge and experience in implementation of laboratory component of National TB Elimination Program of India.

Second Chapter meet of IAMM Delhi Chapter was organized

by the Department of Microbiology at Maulana Azad Medical College, with Dr. Sonal Saxena as the organizing chairperson on 10th August 2024. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Atul Goel, Director General Health Services, and Dr. Suresh Kumar, Director, Lok Nayak Hospital. The event, centered on the theme “Quality Assurance in Clinical Microbiology and featured a keynote address by Dr. Bharti Malhotra, President IAMM followed by a lively panel discussion on the challenges of establishing quality systems and laboratory accreditation in microbiology.

Five workshops for microbiology technical staff were organized under IAMM DC by various institutes across Delhi NCR.

Topic	Organizer (s)	Date
ELISA and other contemporary techniques for Serological diagnosis of infectious diseases’	BLK MAX Super Speciality Hospital	31 st May
Bio-safety levels and Good Laboratory Practices	Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences	9 th July
Workshop on Chemiluminescence Immunoassay (CLIA)	ABVIMS & Dr RML Hospital	18 th August
Workshop on Fungal Diagnostics	AIIMS & ICMR-Advanced Mycology Diagnostic and Research Center	30 th August
Elevating Laboratory Quality: Implementing NABL Standards in Medical Laboratories	VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital	19 th September

IAMM ODISHA CHAPTER

The 15th annual conference of Indian association of medical microbiologists -Odisha chapter 2024 was successfully organised by Dr. Indrani Mohanty, HOD Microbiology, Pandit Raghunath Murmu Medical college, Baripada Odisha on 27-28th of September 2024. A Pre-Conference workshop was held on “Nuts and Bolts of Research” on 27th of September. A total of 40 participants were enrolled for the workshop. The workshop was followed by a preliminary quiz round for the post graduate students.

The inaugural ceremony was held on 27th September, in the presence of the esteemed Chief Guest, Dr Pallab Ray, Former Head, Microbiology, PGI Chandigarh; President IAMM, Dr Susanta Sahu; Secretary, Dr. Suneeta Sahu and Organising d by general body meeting.

Secretary Dr. Indrani Mohanty. A senior Microbiologist of the state Dr. Ashok Kumar Praharaj was felicitated in the occasion. The meritorious students with highest marks in microbiology in respective colleges across the state were felicitated. This was followed by mesmerising cultural programs including Chau, a regional dance of Mayurbhanj, and different acts by microbiology fraternity. Day 2 began with 30 poster presentation by post graduate students of various institutions. Prof.(Dr) Bikram Das Memorial Oration was delivered by Dr Pallab Ray. A symposium on “Evolving Landscape of diagnostics for STI” with

eminent speakers - Prof.(Dr) Satyadarshi Patnaik, past

President of IASTD; Prof(Dr) Bimoch Prajna Paty; Dr Saroj Dash and Dr Rani Sahu. The conference was attended by 160 delegates. This was followe

IAMM BIHAR CHAPTER

The Microcon conference, organized by NSMCH Bihta under the IAMM Bihar chapter on September 20-21, focused on the critical theme of hospital-acquired infections. Pre-conference workshops on diagnostic mycology in Bihta and extra-pulmonary tuberculosis at IGIMS Patna set the stage for insightful discussions. The event was graced by the Guest of Honour, Vice CM of Bihar, Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha, along with Chief Guests Shi M.M. Singh and Shi Krishna Murari Singh. Their presence underscored the significance of the conference. The experts shared invaluable insights on infection control, highlighting the relevance of addressing hospital-acquired infections in today’s healthcare landscape. Over 200 delegates from in and around Bihar and more than 75 post graduate students participated in the conference benefiting from the insights shared by leading experts in the field. The conference successfully fulfilled its vision of promoting knowledge exchange and enhancing practices in infection prevention and control, making it a significant event for healthcare professionals in the region.



IAMM NORTH WEST CHAPTER

The 13th conference of North West Chapter MICROCON 2024 was organized by the Department of Microbiology, IGMC, Shimla on 28-29th September 2024. It focused on “Infections in Immunocompromised-Threats, Accomplishments and Future Plans.” The workshop on “Diagnostic Medical Mycology” was conducted in collaboration with the ICMR-Advanced Mycology Diagnostic and Research Centre, Mycology Section, Dept. of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi. The final round of postgraduate Quiz was also held. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Additional Pr. PS-cum- Additional Secretary to hon'ble Chief Minister, H.P.-cum- Project Director, H.P, State AIDS Control Society, Shimla and by Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Director Medical Education & Research, Dr. Bhavna Rao, Dy. Director Lab. Services (IEC & Mainstreaming) NACO, Dr. Sonal Saxena, Secretary, IAMM and Dr. Veenu Gupta, President, North West Chapter, IAMM. The conference featured deliberations by eminent guest speakers who shared invaluable insights on tuberculosis, HIV, human gut microbiome, superbugs, fungal infections, automation and preparedness for pandemics. A panel discussion by esteemed faculty on “One Health Concept – National One Health Mission” opened new vistas of learning for all the delegates. Over 160 delegates attended the conference and more than 80 postgraduate students participated in the workshop and conference benefiting from the deliberations during the academic event. The workshop and conference significantly fulfilled the aim of promoting exchange of knowledge and enhancing practices in basic and advanced mycological techniques and infections in immunocompromised. The academic extravaganza added to the knowledge and skills of all attendees and empowered microbiologists with latest updates in the field of diagnostics fulfilling the aim of North West Chapter.

IAMM - PUDUCHERRY CHAPTER

The Department of Microbiology, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education; Research (JIPMER), Puducherry organized “Fourth Advanced National Workshop on Medical Mycology” from 2-4th May 2024, under the auspices of IAMM - Puducherry Chapter. The workshop covered diagnostic methods in medical mycology including molecular and automated diagnostic techniques. Dr. Reba Kanungo, delivered guest lecture on “Laboratory diagnosis of Fungal Infections”, and Dr. Radha S, delivered lecture on “Laboratory diagnosis of Mycetoma” and discussed Histopathology of Fungal Infections. Dr. Anitha G took a session on “Identification of Yeasts” and “MALDI-TOF MS” and Dr. Mahalakshmi K, delivered lecture on “Antifungal Susceptibility Testing”. Dr Rakesh Singh, HOD Microbiology JIPMER talked on Antifungal Stewardship, identification of mold, and serological and molecular diagnosis of fungal Infections. A mycology quiz was also organized. It was attended by 27 participants which includes Postgraduate students and faculty members from various Medical Colleges of India. It was accredited by the Tamilnadu Medical Council (TNMC) with six credit hours. eminent guest speakers who shared invaluable insights on tuberculosis, HIV, human gut microbiome, superbugs, fungal infections, automation and preparedness for pandemics. A panel discussion by esteemed faculty on “One Health Concept

– National One Health Mission” opened new vistas of learning for all the delegates. Over 160 delegates attended the conference and more than 80 postgraduate students participated in the workshop and conference benefiting from the deliberations during the academic event. The workshop and conference significantly fulfilled the aim of promoting exchange of knowledge and enhancing practices in basic and advanced mycological techniques and infections in immunocompromised. The academic extravaganza added to the knowledge and skills of all attendees and empowered microbiologists with latest updates in the field of diagnostics fulfilling the aim of North West Chapter.

IAMM GUJARAT CHAPTER

A full day hands on workshop on “Strengthening Implementation of CBME in medical colleges of Gujarat” amongst Challenges in Microbiology subject” was held on 19th July 2024 at Amruta Patel Institute of Public health at Bhaikaka University Gujarat. The workshop was organized under the banner of IAMM, Gujarat Chapter by Dr Suman Singh, Professor Microbiology and Head in the Department of Medical Education at Pramukhswami Medical College (PSMC) Karamsad. Faculty facilitators involved were Dr Suman Singh, Dr Rupal Patel, Dr Chirag Modi, and Dr Sanjay Mehta professor and head at Swaminarayan Medical College, Ahmadabad and Dr Urvesh Shah professor and head at GCS Medical College, Ahmedabad. The workshop was organized with the main objective of helping the microbiology faculty of medical colleges in Gujarat to come together and identify challenges and opportunities for implementation of CBME in our context along with changes required in organization & conduct of academic activity including assessment for better implementation of CBME in undergraduate teaching. The workshop was conducted in an interactive manner that included brainstorming, interaction through sharing of the existing practice for implementation at the institutions, problems being faced and changes required in the implementation plan to align it better. A total of 45 participants from 21 medical colleges of Gujarat were registered in the workshop. Faculty participants rated the workshop very high in terms of learning gains and requested for more frequent workshops to keep the momentum high.

IAMM UP-UK CHAPTER

The 19th annual conference of UP-UK chapter of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologist (UP-UK MICROCON 2024) was organized by the Sarojini Naidu Medical College at Agra, Uttar Pradesh. This scientific extravaganza was a two-day event. On day one six workshops were conducted followed by inaugural ceremony. On day two, a whole day conference was conducted. Various topics were covered in six workshops to include many expects of microbiology field comprising of antimicrobial susceptibility testing, anaerobic culture, WHONET, molecular aspects of virology, diagnostic mycology and diagnostic mycobacteriology. Around 160 candidates participated in the workshops and 03 credit hours were granted for each workshop by the UP Medical Council. Inaugural ceremony was graced by Dr. V .M Katoch (keynote speaker), Ex-Secretary DHR, Ex-DG ICMR, along with Dr. Bharti Malhotra (National IAMM President), Dr. Shampa

Anupurba (President UP-UK chapter of IAMM), Dr. Vineeta Mittal (Secretary, UP-UK chapter of IAMM), Dr. Prashant Gupta (Principal, SNMC), Dr. B.M. Agarwal.

The U. C. Chaturvedi oration was awarded to Dr. Ujjala Ghosal. Dr. B.M. Agarwal was felicitated for his lifetime contribution in the field of microbiology. A tribute was paid to revered teacher Dr T N Dhole. Around 440 delegates were registered for the conference. The theme of the conference was "Microbiology updates: Let's talk beyond the routine". The key highlight of the conference was the panel discussion on the topic-

"Exploring promising career paths for Microbiologist: unlocking diverse vocational avenues". As a part of community responsibility, a walkathon was organized on biomedical waste management, which was well taken by print, electronic and social media. Walkathon was attended by more than 150 experts and MBBS students. The GBM was successfully conducted by Dr. Vineeta Mittal, Secretary with good attendance.





Vidarbha Association of Medical Microbiologists (VAMM)

The new team of Vidarbha Association of Medical Microbiologists (VAMM) for the year 2024-2025 was installed on 7th July 2024. Dr. Swati Bhise, Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Government Medical College (IGGMC), Nagpur was elected as President and Dr. Vaishali Rahangdale Kolhe, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Government Medical College (GMC), Nagpur as secretary for the year 2024-2025.

24 which got a huge response with 145 participants.

After Installation ceremony, CME on "Recent advances on

Tuberculosis" was organised which was attended by more than 120 delegates. This was followed by many activities: A CME was organised on Antimicrobial stewardship" in association with CAHO and Department of Microbiology, IGGMC, Nagpur on 31st August 2024. This CME was attended by 266 participants from various parts of Maharashtra and adjoining states like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh & Karnataka. After this, a CME on Emerging and Re-emerging Infections was organised on 28th September 20

PG Assembly 2024

For the year 2024, IAMM, National body has chosen the following institutes to conduct the national PG assembly.

Zone	Venue	Course Director	Dates	Topic
West	Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital, Mumbai	Dr Sashikala Shivaprakash	29-31 August	Automation and Microbiology
South	Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Karnataka	Dr Vandana K E	9-11 September	Balancing automation and human skills in clinical microbiology
North	Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGI), Lucknow	Dr. Rungmei S K Marak	16-18 October	Embracing the future of Clinical Microbiology from Basics to Automation
Central	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal	Dr Navinchandra M Kaore	26-28 September	Next-gen Microbial Diagnostics: MALDI - TOF MS, Sequencing and Beyond
East*	Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI), Bengal	Dr. Subhranshu Mandal	12-14 September	Harnessing the Diagnostic Potential of Innovative Technologies: future of Clinical Microbiology

***East Zone PG Assembly had to be cancelled due to resident doctor agitation.**

Central Zone: The event began with a formal inauguration by Dr. (Prof) Ajai Singh, the Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS, Bhopal. Dr. Prabha Desikan, Director Professor, Department of Microbiology BMHRC and In-charge IRL for NTEP was also present to grace the occasion. A pre-test was also taken to assess the participants' baseline knowledge before starting the workshop, and the mean score was 8.67 out of 20. The session started with a briefing on automated identification and AST system (Vitek 2-compact) by Dr. Shashwati Nema, Additional Professor, Microbiology which was followed by an introduction to MALDI-ToF technology and current applications in clinical settings by Dr. Arati Bhadade, Assistant Professor and Dr. Anand Maurya, Associate Professor in Microbiology presented a comparative review of the 2 platforms viz. MALDI-ToF MS Prime & MALDI-ToF Bruker. Post Tea break, the demonstration of the procedure for using the Vitek 2 compact system and MALDI-ToF MS Prime & MALDI-ToF Bruker was done in three groups of 8 students each. For a paucity of time, the identification of molds and mycobacterial isolates was demonstrated through a video presentation. Post lunch, the

students were divided into groups of 8 and handed over a panel of bacterial and fungal isolates, which they processed separately on each of the three platforms. The results were discussed subsequently.

Day 2 started with a session on diagnostic stewardship and the use of direct antimicrobial susceptibility tests by Dr. Ayush Gupta, Associate Professor of Microbiology. Post-tea break, the demonstration and hands-on group activity on the performance of Rapid Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (RAST) were done; the results were discussed at the end of the day. The post-lunch session started with a briefing on the basics of therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM), followed by a Demonstration & Hands-on group activity on antifungal TDM of Voriconazole and Posaconazole by bioassay and its Interpretation by Dr. T. Karuna, Additional professor, Microbiology.

Day 3 began with a session on an overview of microbial sequencing with emphasis on Nanopore sequencing by Dr. Debasis Biswas, Professor and Head, Microbiology followed by a demonstration of nanopore sequencing, including target



amplification, QC, library preparation, loading of the flow cell, and data analysis. This was followed by a post-test evaluation with a mean score of 14.71 out of 20. A structured feedback form was also circulated amongst the participants, and inputs for further improvement were obtained. All the respondents gave a score of 4 and above on a scale of 5 for each of the parameters reviewed.

West Zone: The first day commenced with welcome Address by Dr. Nitin Chavan, the Head of Department of Laboratory Medicine, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital. A series of insightful presentations unfolded, beginning with a talk by Dr. Pravin Nair (Holy spirit Hospital, Mumbai) on Culturing in the Fast Lane: Automated System in Blood Culture. This was followed by Dr. Huda Ali Sayed from BioMérieux, who highlighted the Eminence of Automated ID with AST using VITEK 2. Dr. Shashikala Shivaprakash (HOD of Microbiology, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) shed light on how to Test Smarter Not Harder: The Art of Diagnostic Stewardship. Dr. Huda Ali Sayed explored the advancements in microbial identification with her session on Revolutionizing Microbial Identification with MALDI-TOF VITEK MS, and after a brief tea break followed a session on TB Tech Talk by Dr. Nilma Hirani (JJ Hospital, Mumbai) that discussed the latest in tuberculosis diagnosis.

The morning sessions concluded with a presentation by Dr. Dipti Dhanwate (Consultant, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) on Sepsis Signals: Decoding Biomarkers for Better Outcomes, rounding off the formal talks before lunch.

The afternoon focused on an interactive Hands-on Workshop, where participants rotated between stations for VITEK 2 ID/AST & BacT/ALERT, and VITEK MS & MGIT demonstrations conducted by the Microbiology Team, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital. This immersive experience y diagnostics and antimicrobial stewardship.

allowed participants to directly engage with automated systems and understand their real-time application in clinical microbiology.

Day 2 began with a lecture by Dr. Sweta Shah of Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital on the importance of Cracking the CLSI Code for Antibiotic Sensitivity, followed by a lecture from Dr. Aruna Poojary (Breach Candy hospital, Mumbai) emphasizing on transforming laboratory data into clinical practice with her talk on From MIC to PK-PD, providing practical insights into optimizing antibiotic use based on pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles.

Dr. Shamma Shetye (ACME Laboratory, Mumbai) shifted the day's focus towards molecular diagnostics, presenting on Spotting the Invaders: PCR Techniques in Microbial Detection, followed by a discussion by Dr. Pratiksha Chheda (Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) on Sequencing the Secrets of Microbes.

An Interesting ID Case Presentation by Dr. Vasant Nagvekar (Consultant, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) provided participants with the opportunity to explore complex diagnostic challenges, followed by a live Conventional & Real Time PCR and Sanger/Next Generation Sequencing Demonstration by the Molecular Biology Laboratory Team of Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital to round out the day.

The final day started with a talk by Dr. Neetu Biyani (Consultant, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) on Effective Approaches to Antimicrobial Stewardship in Health Care Settings, focusing on how clinical microbiologists can play a pivotal role in promoting judicious antibiotic use. Following this, participants attended practical demonstrations of closed molecular platforms, including BioFire and GeneXpert, facilitated by the molecular biology team from Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital. The event's hands-on sessions concluded with an interactive group learning session on VITEK 2 AMR Interpretation, guided by Dr. Preeti Pillai (Consultant, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital) and Dr. Shashikala Shivaprakash, allowing participants to engage in real-time discussions on interpreting antimicrobial resistance patterns. This was followed by a fun learning adventure on Infection Control Quest conducted by the Hospital Infection Control Team of Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital. The conference concluded with a Valedictory Ceremony, where key takeaways were shared, and feedback was gathered from participants. This event was a resounding success, providing attendees with both the theoretical knowledge and practical skills required to stay at the forefront of microbiology.

South Zone:

The program kicked off with participant registration, followed by an insightful introductory talk by Dr. Vandana K E (Professor and Head, Dept of Microbiology). Participants were divided into four

groups, each assigned a unique clinical case. The respective faculty mentors—Dr. Vandana K E, Dr.

Muralidhar Varma (Additional Professor, Infectious Diseases Dept), Dr. Nitin Gupta (Associate Professor, Infectious Diseases Dept), and Dr. Vishal Shanbhag (Assistant Professor, Critical Care Dept)—guided the teams through their cases, challenging them to work through from initial

presentation to treatment strategies over the following two and a half days.

Post-lunch, the academic focus resumed with an engaging lecture from Dr. Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay (Professor, Dept of Microbiology) on the practical aspects of clinical microbiology.

Day two participants had the opportunity to present their progress and outline their clinical approach.

Dr. Asha Kamath (Professor, Dept of Data Science) delivered a talk on the crucial role of statistics in selecting appropriate diagnostic tests. The evening concluded with a group activity and demonstration of IT solutions in clinical microbiology, supervised by Dr. Vandana K E.

The final day was centered around case presentations, where each group presented their findings and solutions, incorporating the knowledge gained over the previous two days.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IAMM 2024

No. of Vacancies to the Executive Council- TWO (02)

The following two members have been elected to the Executive Council of the IAMM. The IAMM fraternity welcomes them wholeheartedly.

Dr. Bansidhar Tarai,
LM-2587



Education: MD Microbiology PGIMER, Chandigarh

Experience: 16 years

Current Affiliation: Associate Director –Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics, and Infection Control with Co-chairman – Central Infection Control Committee, Max Healthcare

Publications: 42, Citations – 1250, Guest lectures: 50

Honors & Distinctions:

- Max healthcare “Real Hero” appreciation certificate for Covid Pandemic in 2021
- FICCI Excellence Awards 2020 for Covid 19 Testing
- Max healthcare Susruta Award 2018 towards academic & publications
- Certificate appreciation for project in reduction in HAI 2018
- 6th International Patient Safety Congress award on Patient Safety in 2016
- ABP news award on patient safety in 2016.
- Healing hands award 2015: towards clinical excellence in Max Healthcare
- Certificate of appreciation in recognition of outstanding contribution to the successful JCI accreditation of Max Super specialty hospital, Saket 2017
- Technical NABL Assessor from 2011 & Lead Assessor from 2017 in NABL-QCI Govt. of India, Assessor for NABH entry level, NABH-QCI Govt. of India from 2018.

Dr V S Randhawa
LM: 489/1993



Education: MBBS & MD Microbiology, MAMC, New Delhi,

Experience: 35 years

Current Affiliation: Director Professor, Department of Microbiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi

Honors & Distinctions:

- **Publications:** 42; citations:666; h-index:15 Author: 3 books, **Guest lectures:** 60
- Subject expert ICMR,UPSC,NBE, Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait and BPKHIS, Dharan
- PI (ICMR project) –Study of Genotypic diversity of S. Typhi by introduction of PFGE
- Member PG courses committee, Assessor of NMC
- Appraiser for NBE, Technical assessor with NABL & NAAC
- Rashtriya Gaurav award-2016
- WHO fellowship in Biotechnology (2002-3) & Outbreak investigation and epidemic preparedness (2011)
- IMSA fellowship - 2009
- Dr GB Malik prize in allergy and Immunology-2005
- Country focused HIV/AIDS plan at Osaka University-1998
- Gold medal for best thesis-Delhi University-1990



GENERAL BODY MEETING

Venue: Pune Date: 23rd November 2024 Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

Dear Members

Notice is hereby given for the 47th Annual General Body Meeting of the IAMM on 23rd November 2024 at the venue of the MICROCON 2024 at Pune at 12:00 noon.

Agenda

The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Welcoming of New EC Members / Bid Adieu of outgoing EC members.
2. To confirm the EC/GB Meeting minutes held at the 46th IAMM conference at Lucknow in 2023.
3. Action taken on minutes of the GB Meeting.
4. Secretary's Annual Report- Dr Sonal Saxena
6. Editor's report and statement of IJMM accounts- Dr Chand Wattal
7. Presentation of Annual Statement of IAMM Accounts by Treasurer- Dr Manoj Kumar & Dr Sheela Devi
8. Report of IAMM EQAS programme by the Co-ordinators:
 - a) South Centre (Vellore)- Dr V Balaji and Dr R Kannangai
 - b) North Centre (New Delhi)- Dr Chand Wattal
9. Selection of topics for 48th IAMM Conference:
 - a) IAMM Symposium and b) Student Symposium
10. Decision Regarding the venues for IAMM Conference.
11. Decision of various Awards:
 - a) Dr S C Agarwal Oration Award
 - b) Dr H I Jhala Award
 - c) IAMM Endowment Oration Award
 - d) Dr U C Chaturvedi Lifetime Achievement Award
12. Election of Office Bearers IAMM 2024
13. Proposal/suggestions of training program, PG Assembly, IPC course, IAMM PG Masterclass
14. To confirm minutes of Meeting of task force under Chair of president held at Jaipur in March 2024.
15. Any other matter with permission from chair.

All members are requested to make it convenient to attend the same.

Dr. Sonal Saxena
Secretary, IAMM

Published by
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Secretary IAMM

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BOOK-POST

To,
Dr. _____

