



NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977

INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGISTS

Celebrating 50 Years

Vol. No.44, Issue No.2

May, 2026

www.myiamm.net

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Dr. Sheela Devi,

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PIMS, Puducherry

Mobile: 9443252922

Email: treasureriammrms@gmail.com

Office of the Secretary:

Dr. Sanjay Biswas

Secretary, IAMM & Professor & Head, Dept of

Microbiology, 6th Floor, Annexe Building,

Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai

Mobile: 9820535693

Email: secretary.iamm@gmail.com

Office IAMM EQAS (Delhi)

Dr. Chand Wattal,

Chairman, Dept of Clinical Microbiology &

Immunology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital,

New Delhi-110060

Phone: 01142251153/8769

Email : iammeqas.dlh@sgrh.com

Website : www.iammeqasdelhi.com

Office IAMM EQAS (Vellore)

Dr. V Balaji,

Professor & Head, Dept of Microbiology,

CMC, Vellore-632004

E-mail: micro@cmcvellore.ac.in

Website: www.iammeqascmc.org

Dr. Rajesh Kannangai,

Professor & Head,

Department of Clinical Virology CMC, Vellore-632004

Email: virology@cmcvellore.ac.in

A Message from the President of IAMM



"We want the education by which character is formed and strength of mind is increased."

– Vivekananda

"True teachers foster independent thought, aiming to create free, creative individuals. Books are bridges between cultures and considered knowledge essential for a joyful life."

– Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

Dear Friends,

Greetings from IAMM! While we all are busy with our routine chores at our respective places the association is moving from one-mile stone to the other.

We all know that we are going through difficult geopolitical situations but besides that our specialty is being salami sliced since 2020 and the association is representing at each and every place wherever required. Dear colleagues and friends we need to be all together at this moment of existential crisis. I am sure we will survive at the end of the day.

However, the academic activity to name a few PG-assembly, Master classes, Technologists refresher courses, prestigious EQAS for the Country etc. are being conducted regularly which is a matter of great satisfaction!

It would not be out of place to mention that in the month of March, 21st & 22nd, Midcon was held at New Delhi Aerocity which was announced in the previous newsletter. The patrons and Hon. Past Presidents attended and a very meaningful meeting to discuss the way forward for our society and ICMM was deliberated upon. It was a pride moment, especially for me. I wish to thank all the stalwarts of our society and office bearers of ICMM, its V Chancellor Dr Balaji, Dean academic Dr Sonal Saxena, Dean Accreditation Dr Iyer & Dean, Evaluation, Dr Shivaprakash Rudramurthy for taking the trouble to travel all the way from the comforts of their home. The same concluded with completion of all its deliverables. To sum up the final outcome's as below:

1. Road map of involving the most active 7 Chapters of our association their chosen priority areas were discussed, association promised hand holding to them where ever required.
2. The FOUR IAMM Study Groups were created to formulate the society's recommended guidelines: a) Diagnosis and Treatment of Enteric Infections b) Appropriate specimen collection in Clinical Microbiology (resource constrained settings)

Published by Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists. Founded-1976, Registered under Societies registration Act XXI 1860. Reg. No. 9915 of 1978

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c) National Guidelines for diagnosis & treatment of NTM (recommended by the National NTM Working Group d) NGS in Clinical Microbiology

The above documents will be vetted by a committee framed by IAMM executive before release in any form.

Recently created Indian College of Medical Microbiology also kick started its new course at Midcon 2026 and is ready to award its Fellowships to founder members at the upcoming Microcon 2026 to be held at AIIMS, Nagpur.

Our IJMM has been efficiently taken over by Dr. Sangeeta Joshi as its new Editor-in-Chief from 1st Jan 2026 onwards. I urge all our members to generate their password for their profile on IAMM website. The new Website was launched at Midcon 2026, Dr Biswas will share the details

We are eagerly waiting to meet at Microcon 2026 being organised by a very enthusiastic member of our society Prof (Dr) Meena Mishra at AIIMS, Nagpur. She is leaving no stone unturned to make delegate enjoy the event at all levels especially a thought provoking scientific programme.

I proudly share again our bold vision statement for this year: IAMM will pioneer diagnostic stewardship nationwide, harnessing rapid turnaround times (TAT) in microbiology diagnostics to optimize antimicrobial use, curb resistance, and transform outcomes for patients battling infections.

Let us unite in our missions. I look forward to your ideas, partnerships, and unwavering commitment as we contribute for a healthier nation.

Jai Bharat.

Warm regards,

Chand Wattal
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital New Delhi

Message from Secretary, IAMM



"Excellence is a continuous process and not an accident."

– A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

Dear Esteemed Members,

It is with immense gratitude and humility that I address you as the Secretary of our prestigious association. I want to deeply thank the Executive Committee and all our members for placing their faith in my leadership for next three years.

Our vision for the year ahead is to make our association a vibrant central hub for professional development, continuous learning, and advanced research networking. In the coming months, we will be rolling out targeted academic programs, interactive workshops, and masterclasses specifically tailored for our early-career scientists and postgraduate students.

Microbiologists remain at the absolute forefront of combating global health threats. As we advance, we want to place special emphasis on integrating laboratory diagnostic data with clinical care, boosting active infection prevention and control, and strengthening our response to critical issues like

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

The preparations for the Microcon-2026 at Nagpur in November are in full swing, Prof. Dr. Meena Mishra along with her colleagues, intend to put up a dynamic and stimulating conference. I personally request all the members to attend this wonderful programme and to be part of its proceedings. My gentle reminder to all our members to put in nominations for this years' awards and also to the younger members to contest for the paper and poster prizes under various categories. Your active participation is our greatest asset.

We warmly invite our members, especially our young, tech-savvy microbiologists, to actively reach out with their innovative ideas, feedback, and suggestions to help us improve our digital presence and community impact.

Thank you for your dedication to the microbial sciences. Let us strive for excellence and innovation together.

Warm regards,

Dr. S. K. Biswas
Secretary, IAMM
TMH, Mumbai

In Memoriam



Dr Shrinivas was a Padma Shri Awardee who passed away on 13/06/2026 in Mumbai.

He initiated Hospital Infection Control, Novel Diagnostics in Tuberculosis, Pseudomonas typing centre to name a few. He also received the prestigious Life Time Achievement Award from AIIMS in 2025 .

A stalwart of Microbiology, who also was Past President and Treasurer of IAMM, left for heavenly abode.

He was one of the three architects to undertake the responsibility to put the foundation of IAMM.

May his Soul rest in peace.

IAMM Activities

MIDCON 2026: MIDCON 2026, the conference of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), was successfully organized by Dr Chand Wattal currently, President IAMM and Chancellor Indian College of Medical Microbiology (ICMM). The conference was held from 21st to 22nd March 2026 at Hotel Pride Plaza, Aerocity, New Delhi, bringing together eminent medical microbiologists, infectious disease specialists, clinicians, and academicians from across India.

The conference commenced on 21st March 2026 with the ICMM IPC Contact Session conducted under the guidance of Dr Sonal Saxena, Dean Academics ICMM. The inaugural ceremony began with a welcome address by Dr Chand Wattal, followed by the ceremonial lamp lighting and inspiring addresses by distinguished dignitaries including Dr V Balaji (Vice Chancellor ICMM), Dr Anju Kagal (President elect IAMM) & Dr Sanjay Biswas (Secretary IAMM) and other EC members followed by Vote of thanks by Organising Secretary MIDCON 2026, Dr. Jaswinder K Oberoi. The event also witnessed the launch of the new IAMM and ICMM website.

The ICMM Board Members meeting held during the conference included brainstorming sessions for expanding ICMM activities. The IAMM Core Group meeting including IAMM office bearers and former Presidents focused on current challenges in field of Clinical microbiology including academics, financial and legal issues.

Day 2 MIDCON 2026 had 2 parallel activities. The first session featured the Organising Secretary of MICROCON 2026, Dr

Meena Mishra, who shared valuable insights into the preparations for MICROCON 2026. This was followed by interactions with IAMM state chapter secretaries, where representatives from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, North West, Maharashtra, Bihar, Orissa, and Rajasthan chapters introduced their office bearers, detailed the activities of the previous year and discussed their vision for the 50th year of IAMM as well as goals for the next five years.

The second session featured expert study group discussions and deliberations for formulation of guidelines under the banner of IAMM. Important topics namely National Guidelines for diagnosis of NTM (recommended by the National NTM working group), Diagnosis & treatment of Enteric Infections, Indian Guidelines for Appropriate Specimen Collection in Clinical Microbiology (Resource-Constrained Settings), and NGS in Clinical Microbiology were deliberated upon and then later shared with delegates. The study group would then make final recommendations to IAMM by October 2026 for adopting this as the national guidelines in the respective fields.

A special highlight of the conference was the “President’s Vision” session delivered by Dr Chand Wattal on “Diagnostic Stewardship: Why shut down at 4 PM!”, which emphasized the importance of strengthening diagnostic services and ensuring continuous patient-centred care.

MIDCON 2026 concluded successfully with a valedictory function, leaving participants enriched with new knowledge, collaborative opportunities, and renewed enthusiasm toward advancing the field of medical microbiology in India.



Indian College of Medical Microbiology (ICMM)

Activities Report (January–May 2026)

The Indian College of Medical Microbiology (ICMM) continued its commitment to capacity building and professional development in medical microbiology through innovative educational initiatives during the first half of 2026.

ICMM Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Certificate Course – 2026 (Cohort 2026A)

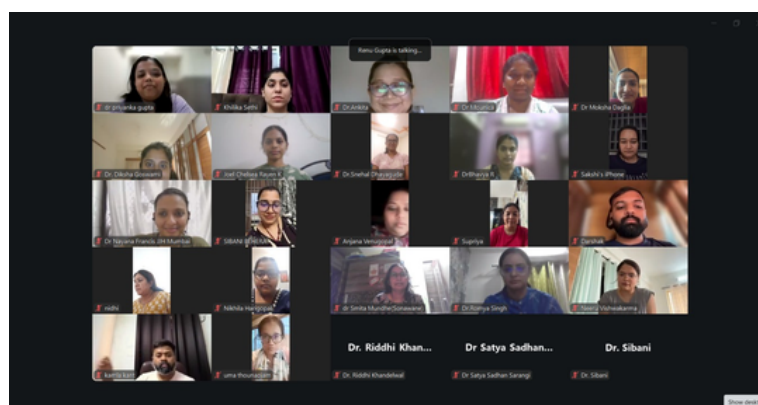
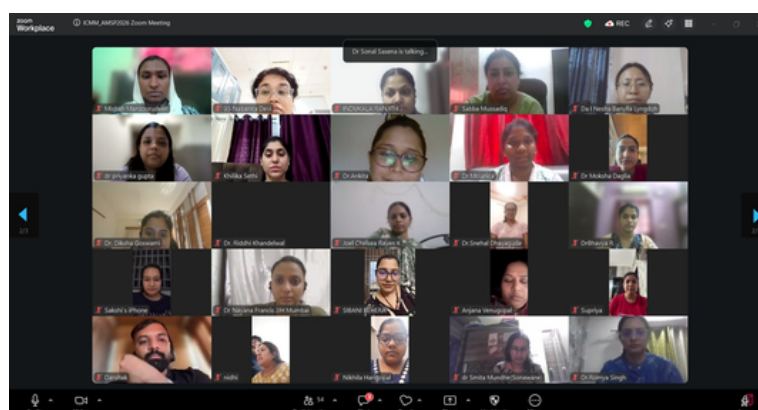
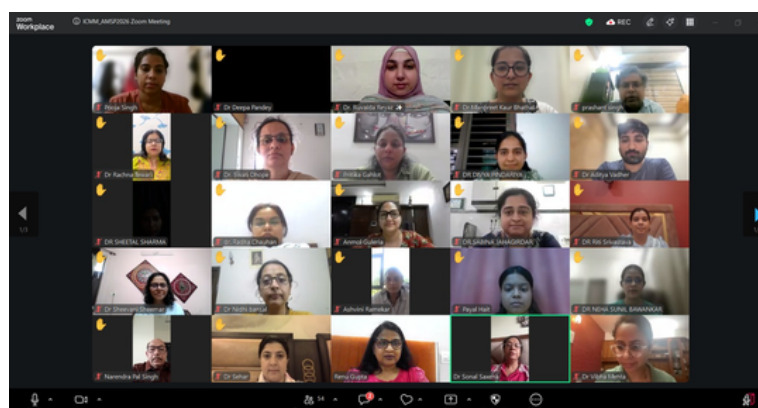
ICMM successfully conducted the third cohort of its Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Certificate Course from January to March 2026. The programme was designed to strengthen competencies in infection prevention practices, healthcare-associated infection surveillance, outbreak management, and quality improvement in healthcare settings. The course culminated in an intensive contact session held in March 2026, providing participants with opportunities for hands-on learning, expert interactions, and case-based discussions. A total of 27 participants successfully completed the course and were awarded certificates upon fulfilling the academic requirements.



ICMM Online Certificate Course on Antimicrobial Stewardship – 2026 (Cohort II)

Building upon the success of previous academic programmes, ICMM launched the second cohort of its 8-week fully online Certificate Course on Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) in April 2026. The course aims to equip healthcare professionals with evidence-based approaches to optimize antimicrobial use, combat antimicrobial resistance, and implement stewardship interventions across healthcare settings. The programme, running from April to June 2026, has generated an enthusiastic response from the microbiology and healthcare community, with 60 participants enrolled from diverse institutions across the country. The course is currently in progress and continues to provide interactive learning through expert lectures, case discussions, and practical stewardship strategies.

- Looking Ahead: Through these educational initiatives, ICMM continues to advance professional excellence, promote best practices in infection prevention and antimicrobial stewardship, and strengthen the nation's preparedness against emerging infectious disease threats. Additional academic programmes, workshops, and capacity-building activities are planned for the coming months as part of ICMM's ongoing mission to support excellence in medical microbiology. Very soon ICMM will start enrolment for second cohort of IPC course (2026B).



49th Annual National Congress of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

MICROBIAL THREATS: TRACE . TARGET . TREAT

Organized By All India Institute of Medical Sciences,
Nagpur



The Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), the apex professional body representing medical microbiologists across India, is all set to witness its prestigious **49th Annual Congress, MICROCON 2026, from 28th October to 1st November 2026** organised by the **All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Nagpur**. With the theme **“Microbial Threats: Trace – Target – Treat,”** the conference aims to bring together clinicians, medical microbiologists, infectious disease specialists, epidemiologists, public health experts, academicians, researchers, and postgraduate students from across the nation and abroad for one of the largest scientific congregations in the field of medical microbiology.

Over the years, MICROCON has evolved into a landmark academic platform for the exchange of scientific ideas, emerging diagnostic technologies, innovative research, and collaborative solutions in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology. As infectious diseases continue to challenge healthcare systems globally through antimicrobial resistance, zoonotic outbreaks, emerging viral pathogens, and healthcare-associated infections, the role of microbiologists has become increasingly crucial. MICROCON 2026 seeks to address these challenges through evidence-based discussions, translational research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and future-oriented scientific dialogue.

The upcoming MICROCON 2026 congress will feature a wide spectrum of scientific sessions including key note addresses by eminent International faculty, plenary lectures, symposia, panel discussions, workshops, continuing medical education (CME) sessions, oral and poster presentations, award paper competitions, and interactive academic forums. Key themes will include bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, molecular diagnostics, genomics, infection prevention and control, antimicrobial stewardship, healthcare-associated infections, artificial intelligence in microbiology, and public health microbiology.

The conference will host renowned national and international faculty

who will discuss recent advances in infectious diseases, emerging diagnostics, genomics, antimicrobial resistance, outbreak preparedness, infection prevention, and translational microbiology. Interactive discussions, practical learning opportunities, and interdisciplinary sessions will form the backbone of the scientific program.

One of the major attractions of the conference will be the **pre-conference workshops**, which are being designed to provide hands-on exposure and skill-based learning in advanced microbiological techniques. Topics are expected to include molecular diagnostics, genomic analysis, MALDI-TOF applications, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, quality assurance, molecular epidemiology, outbreak investigation, and advanced fungal and mycobacterial diagnostics. These workshops are expected to particularly benefit postgraduate students, laboratory scientists, young faculty, and practicing microbiologists.

In addition to workshops, MICROCON 2026 will host focused **Continuing Medical Education (CME)** sessions that aim to update delegates regarding recent advances in infectious diseases and diagnostic microbiology. The CME sessions will include expert discussions on antimicrobial stewardship, healthcare-associated infections, emerging pathogens, molecular diagnostics, clinical microbiology updates, and evidence-based infectious disease management.

The conference is also expected to provide immense **academic opportunities for postgraduate students and young microbiologists**. Delegates will have the opportunity to present their scientific work through oral and poster presentations across various categories including bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, molecular diagnostics, infection prevention and control, immunology, serology, and healthcare-associated infections.

Adding a unique and forward-looking dimension to the conference are **two newly introduced initiatives** under MICROCON 2026 – **“Trailblazers @ MICROCON 2026 – Youth Edition”** and **“Quiz the Bugs: Micromind Games @ MICROCON 2026.”** (For details, please log on to microcon2026.com)



NEWSLETTER

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MICROCON 2026 promises to be much more than a scientific conference. It is envisioned as a celebration of academic excellence, innovation, mentorship, collaboration, and scientific spirit.

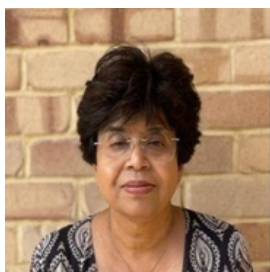
As the microbiology fraternity prepares to gather in the heart of India, the Organizing Committee warmly invites all microbiologists, clinicians, researchers, laboratory professionals, postgraduate students, and healthcare workers to actively participate in MICROCON 2026. Delegates are encouraged to register early, submit scientific abstracts, participate in workshops

and CME sessions, and become part of this historic academic event.

With its strong scientific foundation, innovative initiatives, exceptional leadership, and vibrant academic atmosphere, MICROCON 2026 is poised to become one of the most memorable and impactful conferences in the history of Indian medical microbiology.

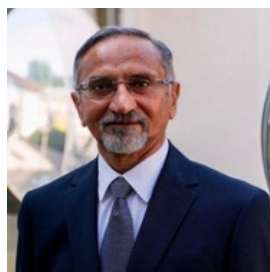
AIIMS Nagpur and the entire organizing team look forward to welcoming the microbiology fraternity to the Orange City from 28th October to 1st November 2026 for an extraordinary journey of medical microbiology, collaboration, learning, and inspiration.

International faculty @MICROCON 2026



Dr Shalini Perera

Clinical Microbiologist
Western Diagnostic
Pathology,
Australia



**Dr Nizamuddin
Damani**

Consultant Advisor
Public Health Agency
Northern Ireland, UK



**Dr Harshvardhan
Sheroy**

Consultant Medical
Microbiologist
St. Vincent's Hospital,
Melbourne & Royal
Melbourne Hospital,
Australia



Dr Shrikant Ambalkar

Consultant & Head of
Service,
Department of Clinical
Microbiology &
Infection, Sherwood
Forests Hospital,
NHS, UK

Key National faculty @MICROCON 2026



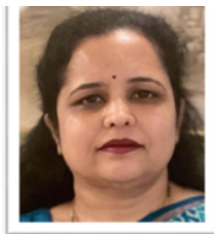
**Dr Balaji
Veeraraghavan**

Professor, Microbiology
Christian Medical
College, Vellore



Dr Camilla Rodrigues

Consultant
Microbiologist &
Chairman of the
Infection Control
Committee,
P.D. Hinduja Hospital &
Medical Research
Centre, Mumbai



Dr Nivedita Gupta

Scientist F, ICMR, New
Delhi



Dr Rama Choudhary

President, Anaerobic
Society, AIIMS, Delhi



**Dr Rungmei S K
Marak**

President UP-UK
IAMM,
Professor & Head
Department of Infectious
Diseases,
SGPGIMS, Lucknow

NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977



PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS: 28-10-2026 (Wednesday)

SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
1	Diagnostic Approaches in Clinical Parasitology: From Microscopy to Sequencing	Dr. Harshvardhan Sheorey, Consultant Medical Microbiologist St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne & Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia	1. Dr. Abhishek Mewara, Additional Professor, Department of Medical Parasitology, PGI, Chandigarh 2. Dr. Sitara Swarna Rao, Ajjampur, Professor, Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore 3. Dr. Rimjhim Kanojia, Assistant Professor in the Department of Microbiology, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh 4. Ms. Malathi Manuel, Senior Demonstrator, Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College, Vellore
2	Virus to Variants: Practical insights into NGS	Dr. Varsha Potdar, Scientist 'E' National Institute of Virology, Pune	1. Mrs. Veena Vipat, Sr Technical officer NIV, Pune 2. Mr. Santoshkumar Jadhav, Sr Technical Officer NIV, Pune
3	Evaluating Diagnostic Tests Performance: Concepts, Methods and Application	Dr. Pradeep Deshmukh, Professor & HOD, Department Community Medicine, AIIMS, Nagpur	To Be Announced
4	Hands-on Training in Integrated Mycopathology and Nanopore Sequencing	Dr. T Karuna, Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Bhopal	1. Dr. Rahul Garg, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, AIIMS Bibinagar 2. Dr. Gajendra Singh, Scientist, AIIMS Bhopal 3. Ms. Madhu Panthi, Laboratory Technician, AIIMS Bhopal



NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977

SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
5	One Health Approach to Viral Threats	Dr. Nivedita Gupta, Scientist F, ICMR, New Delhi	To Be Announced
6	Outbreak Investigation: A Microbiologist's Toolkit	Dr. Aruna Poojary, Lab. Director & IPC In-charge, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai	1. Dr. J. Jayalakshmi, Prof & HOD, Department of Microbiology Kovai Medical College, Coimbatore 2. Dr. Rajni Gaind, Consultant & Prof VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi 3. Dr. Sweta Shah, Lead Consultant Microbiology & Infection Control, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital and Research Institute, Mumbai 4. Dr. Ranganathan Iyer, Senior Consultant, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad 5. Dr. Ashwini Tayade, Consultant Infectious Diseases & Director Ishra Health-Infectious Diseases Clinic, Visiting Consultant Wockhardt Hospital & KIMS Hospital, Nagpur 6. Dr. Madhavi Deshmukh, Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Dhruv Diagnostics, Nagpur 7. Dr. Nitin Shinde Senior Consultant, Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine, KIMS Kingsway Hospital, Nagpur
7	Anaerobic: Beyond Oxygen Culturing the Invisible	Dr. Shashwati Nema, Additional Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Bhopal	1. Dr Beena Antony Professor, Department of Microbiology, Father Muller Medical College, Mangalore 2. Dr. Bhawana Sharma Professor, Department of Microbiology, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi 3. Dr. Tanu Sagar Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi

NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977



SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
8	Integrated Approach to UTI	Dr. Sarita Mohapatra, Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	1. Dr. Manish Soneja Professor, Department of Medicine, AIIMS, New Delhi 2. Dr. Meher Rizvi Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology Sultan Qaboos University Muscat, Oman 3. Dr. Shwetha J Venugopal Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Bengaluru Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru 4. Dr. Sneha K Chunchanur Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Bengaluru Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru 5. Dr. Arun Kumar Associate Professor, Department of Nephrology, AIIMS, New Delhi
9	Scientific Writing	Dr. Sangeeta Joshi Editor-in-Chief, IJMM, Consultant Microbiology, Infection control officer, Sahyadri Hospital, Pune	1. Dr. Ranganathan Iyer D Senior Consultant, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad 2. Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi Senior Consultant, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital New Delhi 3. Air Marshal (Dr) Shankar Subramanian Deputy Chief of Integrated Defense Staff (Medical)
10	Clinical Mycology Diagnostics from Basics, Biomarkers to Molecular Approaches	Dr. Malini R Capoor Professor, Department of Microbiology, VMMC& SJH, New Delhi	Dr. Deepak Thamke Professor, Department of Microbiology MGIMS, Sevagram
11	A Practical Approach to Viral Cell Culture Isolation Techniques	Dr. Ishani Bora Additional Professor, Virology, PGIMER, Chandigarh	Dr. Subhabrata Sarkar Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh
12	CSSD - Traceless Taskforce Targeting Microbial Threats	Dr. Soumyabrata Nag Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Nagpur Member Secretary, CSSD	1. Dr. Akshat Vij Consultant Microbiologist and Infection Control Officer Medicover Hospital



NEWSLETTER

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Since 1977

SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
			2. Dr. Safaa Muneer HOD, Clinical Microbiology and Hospital Infection Control, Renova Group of Hospitals & Tenet Diagnostics 3. Dr. Vijendra Kawle Consultant Microbiologist, Rainbow Children's Hospitals Hyderabad, Telangana Secretary, IAMM TAPC State Chapter 4. Ms. Neeta Ghughare CSSD Manager, Wockhardt Hospital Limited, Mumbai Central 5. Mr. Shailesh Mehta Director, Medovation Inc.
13	From protocol to practice: Case based discussions with Multidisciplinary team In neutropenic patients	Dr. Sonali Choudhary, Senior Consultant Clinical Microbiologist & Infection Control Officer, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur	1. Dr. Pradeep Mishra HOD, Internal Medicine and Critical Care, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur 2. Dr. Girish Deshpande Senior Physician, Internal Medicine and Critical Care 3. Dr. Ketan Modak Consultant Haematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Physician 4. Dr. Pankaj Dwivedi Head, Paediatric Oncology, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur 5. Dr. Jerestin Watchmaker Consultant Microbiologist, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur
14	Next Generation Sequencing for Hospital Waste water Surveillance: From Pandemic preparedness to AMR detection	Dr. Rajesh Karyakarte Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Government Medical College, Pune	To Be Announced

NEWSLETTER

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SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
15	Melioidosis Capacity Building Program	Dr. Bijayini Behra Professor, Department of Microbiology AIIMS, Bhubhaneshwar, In co-ordination with KMC MANIPAL	To Be Announced
16	Syndromic Testing (Biomeurix)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
17	Microbiology Automation & AMR/AMS (Biomeurix)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
18	Workshop on Antimicrobial Stewardship Practices [WASP] - A Sting Operation on AMR	Dr. Sumit Rai Professor & Head, Department of Clinical Microbiology, AIIMS, Mangalagiri	Dr. Debabrata Dash Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Microbiology, AIIMS, Mangalagiri
19	Water safe care	Dr. Nizam Damani Consultant & Advisor, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK	To Be Announced
20	Risk assessment Quality Management System	Dr. Rajendra Surpam Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, GMC Chandrapur	To Be Announced

PRECONFERENCE CME 1: 29.10.2026 (Thursday)

TOPIC: NEW AGE RAPID AST SOLUTIONS AND THEIR PIVOTAL ROLE IN TRANSFORMING DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP

CME CO-ORDINATORS: Dr. Debkishore Gupta, Director & Head, Medical Affairs, South Asia, Biomerieux

PRECONFERENCE CME 2: 29.10.2026 (Thursday) ICMM CME (9 AM to 3 PM)

TOPIC: LEARNING CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY BY CASES: PEARLS AND PITFALLS IN RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS

CME CO-ORDINATORS: Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer, Director Clinical Microbiology, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad

PRECONFERENCE CME 3: 29.10.2026 (Thursday)

TOPIC: FROM LAB VALIDATION TO FRONTLINE DISINFECTION

CME CO-ORDINATORS: Dr. Nizam Damani Consultant & Advisor, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK in Coordination with ZUVERLASSE

Activities of IAMM Chapters

IAMM CHATTISGARH

A Continuing Medical Education (CME) was organized by Apollo Hospitals Bilaspur, under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologists (Camm), on January 11, 2025. The theme of the CME was "Antimicrobial Stewardship - A call against Antibiotic Resistance".

The organizing secretary of the CME was Dr. Ekta Agarwal, Clinical Microbiologist at Apollo Hospitals, Bilaspur. Experts from various fields discussed the effective and prudent use of antibiotics, that included clinical Microbiologists, Clinical Pharmacologist, Pediatrician, Intensivist, Veterinary surgeon, Pharmacist and senior ICN.



One day CME on prevention of surgical site infection was organized at Ramkrishna Care Hospital- 'Beyond the Incision' under the aegis of Camm and in collaboration with 3M on 15th October 2025. Dr Sabah Javed was the organizing chairperson. Prof (Dr) Ujjwala Gaikwad, from AIIMS Raipur briefed about the SSI event epidemiology and surveillance protocol. Dr Sabah Javed spoke about the SSI Bundle, Dr. Manisa Sahu discussed surgical antibiotic

prophylaxis.

Surgeons Dr Ankur Singhal and Dr Siddharth Tamaskar shared their experience in management of surgery and surgical site infections. The scientific session was followed hands on workshop on SSI.

CME on **Antimicrobial resistance- A battle between bugs and drugs** was organized by Dept. of Microbiology, GMC, Mahasamudh (CG) on 25th Feb 2026. The organizing secretary of the CME was Dr Anil Kumar Singh. Faculty from various fields discussed about the antimicrobial resistance, factors affecting the AMR situation including AMR in tuberculosis, from data to decision making interpreting the antibiogram on bed side, and role of Microbiology lab in stewardship. Both microbiologists and clinicians put forth their point of views.

State level CME on **"Emerging Trends in Clinical Microbiology."** was organized under the aegis of Camm in liaison with Carcinoma Care Centre and ILS Hospital Raipur. Eminent speakers from across the country were a part of the CME. The various topics ranged from the newer diagnostics like Leveraging Syndromic Testing for Better Patient Care through Biofire, metagenomics and next gen sequencing for infectious diseases diagnosis, building.

State level Mycology workshop on **"Current trends and diagnostic challenges in Fungal Infections"** was organised at AIIMS Raipur, under the aegis of Camm and Indian Society of Medical Mycology. The workshop was intended to increase awareness of fungal infections and diagnostics. Participants included PG students, PhD scholars and Laboratory technicians of Microbiology. The event started with a formal brief inauguration in presence of Dean Academics, AIIMS Raipur. Dr Archana Keche and her team conducted a well organised workshop starting from sample collection methods for fungal culture, various culture methods and antifungal susceptibility, exposure to maldi-tof and microscopic observation of at-least 50 odd number of fungal isolates from their stock.

IAMM-DELHI

A CME on TB titled **"Accelerating TB Elimination: Integrating Clinical Acumen with Microbiological Precision"** was organised by the Department of Microbiology, Maulana Azad Medical College under the aegis of IAMM-DC on 18th March 2026. The scientific sessions focused on India's transition from tuberculosis control to elimination under the national program, emphasizing the need for transformation in both clinical and laboratory practices. A key highlight was the evolution of TB diagnostics—from conventional smear microscopy to advanced, multi-tiered systems including molecular tests (CBNAAT, TrueNAT), line probe assays, liquid culture drug susceptibility testing, and emerging technologies such as next-generation sequencing (NGS) and AI-assisted tools. Extra-pulmonary TB was discussed with emphasis on its diverse

presentations and diagnostic challenges, guided by national frameworks. Latent TB was simplified with practical guidance on screening and treatment strategies. Pediatric TB was highlighted as a major concern, noting India's significant global burden, diagnostic difficulties due to paucibacillary disease, and the promise of newer non-invasive diagnostic tools like stool-based molecular tests and portable platforms. Overall, the session successfully emphasized bridging the gap between laboratory diagnostics and clinical practice, reinforcing the goal of TB elimination.

The First Chapter Meet of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists Delhi Chapter (IAMM-DC) for the year 2026 was organised by the Department of Microbiology, Lady Hardinge

Medical College & Associated Hospitals on 18 April 2026 under the theme *“Infection Control 2026: Fortress of Protocols – Breaking Myths, Mastering Care.”* This was the first time the chapter meet was a full day affair (instead of half day) with a workshop being organised in the forenoon session. Inclusion of a dedicated workshop within a chapter meet represented a notable milestone, as such workshops had traditionally been conducted only during annual conferences.

The meeting witnessed enthusiastic participation from microbiologists, clinicians, infection control professionals, researchers, and postgraduate students from institutions across Delhi NCR, serving as an important academic platform for discussions on infection prevention and control (IPC), healthcare-associated infection (HAI) surveillance, antimicrobial stewardship, and evidence-based hospital practices.

A major highlight of the meeting was the preconference workshop on *“Surveillance of HAIs: A Case-Based Approach”*, attended by 30 participants from various healthcare organizations. The workshop provided practical exposure to HAI surveillance methodologies and infection control practices through interactive case-based discussions. The scientific proceedings featured a keynote lecture on *“A Decade-Long Journey of HAI Surveillance and IPC in India”*, highlighting the evolution of infection control programs and future challenges in combating healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance. A highly engaging panel discussion on *“Myths vs. Evidence: Infection Control in High-Risk Hospital Areas”* generated impactful multidisciplinary discussions on evidence-based infection control practices.

The chapter meet also included poster presentations, quiz competitions, and scientific award sessions that encouraged active participation from residents and young microbiologists.

IAMM NORTH WEST CHAPTER

The North West Chapter of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists successfully organized MICROCON-2026 on 11th and 12th April 2026 at Maharaja Agrasen Medical College Agroha under the inspiring theme *“One Health Approach – Connecting Animals, Humans and Environment.”* The conference was hosted by the Department of Microbiology, MAMC–Agroha, Hisar, under the able leadership of **Organizing Chairperson Dr. Bharti Arora** and **Organizing Secretary Dr. Harender Simar**.

The conference brought together experts, academicians, clinicians, researchers, and students from across the country to deliberate on the growing importance of the One Health concept in addressing zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and environmental health challenges. The scientific deliberations highlighted the urgent need for interdisciplinary collaboration among medical professionals, veterinarians, environmental scientists, and policymakers to build resilient healthcare systems for the future.

A highly informative Pre-Conference Workshop was conducted on 11th April 2026 in collaboration with ICAR National Research Centre on Equines and Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. The workshop focused on *“Diagnosis of Zoonotic*

*The Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL), Department of Microbiology, ABVIMS & Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi, successfully conducted a workshop for laboratory technicians on “Biosafety & Biosecurity - Bio-Risk Management” under IAMM Delhi Chapter on 6th May 2026. The workshop aimed to strengthen participants’ understanding of biosafety principles, biosecurity, and biorisk management in healthcare including laboratory and public-health settings. Sessions covered **biorisk assessment, biosafety principles & GMLP, laboratory containment levels, emergency response, and safe handling, transport, and storage of infectious materials.***



The Department of Clinical Virology, ILBS, organized a one-day Technician Workshop on *“Automation in Clinical Virology”* on 12th May 2026 under the aegis of IAMM-DC. The workshop aimed to enhance the knowledge and technical skills of laboratory technicians in the field of automation, focusing on improving diagnostic efficiency, accuracy, and quality assurance in virology laboratories.

Diseases (Brucellosis and Rabies) and Virus Cell Culture Techniques.” Participants received hands-on exposure to sample processing, pathogen identification, viral culture techniques, and clinical correlation related to zoonotic diseases.

The Department of Microbiology, associated with NW chapter IAMM, celebrated the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week (18th to 24th Nov-2025) with a series of engaging academic and awareness-oriented activities. As part of the week-long observance, the department organized an essay competition and a quiz competition for postgraduate students, encouraging them to explore key themes related to AMR, rational antimicrobial use, and emerging global challenges. For undergraduate students, a poster competition was held to inspire creativity and enhance awareness about AMR through visual.

Under the umbrella of the IAMM North-West Chapter, World Malaria Day was observed with great enthusiasm and academic spirit on 25th April 2026 at Government Medical College Patiala. The celebration focused on raising awareness about malaria prevention, timely diagnosis, effective treatment strategies, and the global commitment towards malaria elimination. Aligned with the

international theme, “Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can, Now We Must,” the event emphasized collective responsibility, innovation in disease control, and strengthened public health efforts to combat malaria. The program witnessed active participation from faculty members, postgraduate students, and

healthcare professionals, fostering meaningful discussions on current challenges and future directions in malaria control and infectious disease management.

The IAMM North-West Chapter enthusiastically observed World Hand Hygiene Awareness Day on 5th April 2026, reinforcing the importance of hand hygiene in infection prevention and patient safety. The awareness initiative highlighted the critical role of proper hand hygiene practices in reducing healthcare-associated infections and promoting safer healthcare environments. Faculty members, students, and healthcare professionals actively participated in educational activities, awareness campaigns, and interactive sessions aimed at strengthening infection control measures.

Under the aegis of the IAMM North-West Chapter, HIV Vaccine Awareness Day was observed on 18th May 2026 at Government Medical College Patiala through an engaging Postgraduate Quiz Competition. The event aimed to enhance awareness and scientific understanding regarding HIV vaccine research, prevention strategies, and recent advances in HIV management. Postgraduate students enthusiastically participated, making the session both informative and academically enriching.



IAMM-TAMILNADU

The Department of Microbiology and the Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC) of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Madurai has successfully conducted ‘MBBS Students of AIIMS Madurai -outreach program’ on 19.11.2025 to commemorate ‘World Antimicrobial resistance awareness week (WAAW)-2025’.

A notesheet proposal for this program was submitted and approval was obtained from Prof. (Dr.) M Hanumantha Rao, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Madurai. To interact with school adolescent age group, who are the target audience of this outreach activity, second-year MBBS students of AIIMS Madurai were chosen as part of this outreach activities as such activities were included in their curriculum. The objective of this initiative was to promote public awareness on Antibiotic Stewardship among school students.

The Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Madurai, has successfully conducted Continuing Medical education (CME) and Panel discussion on

20.11.2025 to commemorate ‘World Antimicrobial resistance awareness week (WAAW)-2025’. A notesheet proposal for this program was submitted and approval was obtained from Prof. (Dr.) M. Hanumantha Rao, Executive Director, AIIMS Madurai. This program was conducted under the aegis of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists- Tamilnadu chapter (IAMM-TN chapter).

An online intercollegiate national level infectious diseases quiz was conducted on 27th & 28th January 2026 By Quiz club, PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu In association with Academy of Clinical Microbiologists (ACM) and Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists - Tamil Nadu chapter (IAMM-TN). The Quiz Master for the Contagion 2026 was Dr. R. Someshwaran, MD, Professor, Department of Microbiology, PSGIMSR. Ms. Lakshmi, Final MBBS student (Quiz club) organized the quiz programme. A total of 88 teams from reputed medical colleges in India were part of Preliminary round and 6 teams were selected for Final Quiz. Top 3 teams (Winners) were awarded Cash prize and certificates worth Rs. 5000/-, Rs. 3000/- & Rs. 2000/-.



IAMM UP-UK

The highlight of the academic year was UP-UK MICROCON 2026, organized at SGPGIMS, Lucknow on 6th and 7th February 2026 under the chairpersonship of Prof. Rungmei S. K. Marak. The conference theme, “Advances in Clinical Microbiology: Shaping Patient Care,” reflected the evolving role of microbiology in modern healthcare. The conference witnessed participation from more than 410 delegates, including faculty members, postgraduate students, and research scholars, with over 200 scientific abstracts submitted for presentation. Prof. U. C. Chaturvedi Oration Award 2026 was conferred upon Prof. Vimala Venkatesh for her outstanding contributions to Medical Microbiology.



Eight pre-conference workshops were organized across SGPGIMS, Dr. RMLIMS, and KGMU covering fungal diagnostics, tuberculosis diagnostics, bacteriology, virology, automation in serology, parasitology, infection control practices, and innovative teaching methodologies. Major awards in paper category included the Prof. P.C. Sen Best Junior Scientist Award awarded to Dr. Dharamveer Singh of SGPGIMS, Lucknow, and the Prof. Archana Ayyagari Best Junior Scientist Award in AMR awarded to Dr. Anu Aravindh of Dr. RMLIMS, Lucknow.



A symposium titled “Know the Antibiotics” was organized on 24 November 2025 at Sarojini Naidu Medical College, Agra, by the Departments of Microbiology and Pharmacology during World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2025. Conducted under the theme “Act Now, Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future,” the program focused on rational antibiotic use, antimicrobial resistance, and stewardship practices.

A CME-cum-workshop titled “MALDI: A Luxury or A Necessity” was organized on 29 November 2025 at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Cancer Centre, Varanasi, under the aegis of the UP-UK IAMM Chapter.

The Department of Microbiology, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh actively contributed to the academic activities of the year through several educational and outreach initiatives focused on antimicrobial resistance, infection prevention, mentorship, and public health awareness. Important activities included “Mentorship for Mutual Growth: Empowering both Mentors & Mentees” organized on 15 May 2025 and a CME-cum-workshop on “HPV and STI: Prevent Early, Detect Early & Treat Early” conducted on 4–5 November 2025. During World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2025, multiple awareness activities, quizzes, panel discussions, and educational sessions were conducted.



A CME on “Transplant Associated Infections – A Microbiological Perspective” was organized at the Postgraduate Institute of Child Health, Noida on 12 March 2026 under the aegis of the UP-UK IAMM Chapter. More than 200 delegates participated in the program, which featured eminent experts including Prof. Ashok Rattan, Prof. Chand Wattal, and Prof. Ragini Tilak.

A conference on antimicrobial stewardship was organized at NIIMS, Greater Noida on 13 April 2026 with the theme “Stewardship Strategies: Precision Guided Antimicrobial Use in ICU, Emergency and Paediatric Care”. The conference focused on precision diagnostics, PK/PD principles of antibiotics, stewardship practices in pediatric and ICU settings, and ethical aspects of antimicrobial use. A pledge was taken by all the dignitaries and participants for adopting AMSP in their work place. This pledge was written by Prof NP Singh and Prof Vikas Manchanda.



NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977

CALL FOR NOMINATION OF IAMM AWARDS & PRIZES 2026

Last Date of receipt of all nominations is 31st July 2026

1. Dr S C Agarwal Oration 2027: This award is supported from the interest incurred from a fund donated by Dr SC Agarwal. It is to be given to a senior member of the association above 50 years for his /her outstanding contribution to the field of Medical Microbiology. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with consent of the nominee along as a soft copy of his/her biodata should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2026. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee is to deliver an oration at the National IAMM Congress to be held in 2027. Nominations must come as a soft/hard copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM by the last date.

2. Dr H I Jhala Memorial Award 2027: This award is given to a senior member of the association above the age of 50 years, who has made significant contribution to the development of Medical Microbiology in India. This award is supported from the interest from the fixed deposit donated by the organizers of the IAMM Congress held at Solapur in 1983. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with consent of the nominee as a soft copy of his/her biodata should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2026. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The award will be conferred at the National IAMM Congress to be held in 2027. Nominations must come as a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM by the last date.

3. IAMM Endowment Lecture Award 2027: This award is supported by the annual interest obtained from the fixed deposit, donated by the organizers of the IAMM Congress held at Hyderabad in 1985. This award is given to an eminent Medical Microbiologist, over the age of 50 years from India and abroad for their outstanding work in the field of Medical Microbiology, Bacteriology, Virology, Mycology, Parasitology/Immunology/Epidemiology and Microbiological techniques. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with consent of the nominee as a soft copy of his/her biodata, including a write up on the contribution of the nominee to Medical Microbiology should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2026. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee is to deliver an oration at the National IAMM Congress to be held in 2027. Nominations must come as a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM by the last date.

4. Dr K B Sharma Memorial Junior Best Paper Award 2026: Nominations are invited for the Best Paper Award competition to be held at National Congress of the IAMM at Nagpur in 2026. This award is supported by the annual interest obtained from the fixed deposit, donated by the Dr. Urmila Sharma W/o Dr. K.B. Sharma. The contestant should be a member of IAMM, less than 35 years of age as on Aug 31, 2026 (certificate showing the proof of age should be attached) and be the principle author of the paper. The same paper should not have received any other award or be published in any journal and should be so certified, as a signed declaration by the contestant. The above mentioned declarations as

a soft copy of the full paper complete with tables, figures, etc. (prepared according to the format of the IJMM) should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2026. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The selected candidate will receive the citation and a gold medal at the valedictory function of the IAMM Congress in November 2026. Nominations must come as a soft/hard copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM by the last date.

5. Prof AN Chakrabarthi Memorial Prize for the best published paper in Mycobacteriology 2026: Any member, who has published a paper in the field of Mycobacteriology during the preceding year i.e. 2025, in any National/ International journal will be eligible to submit paper for the award. The paper should not have received any other award and a declaration to that effect should be submitted while applying for the award. The above mentioned declarations and soft copies of the full paper should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2026. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee will receive the award at the valedictory function of the IAMM Congress in November 2026.

6. Prizes for the best papers during the IAMM Congress 2026 (total seven categories listed below):
The following seven prizes are given during the National Congress of the IAMM in various categories:

1. NAWOPIA Dr. Pankajlaxmi V Venugopal Prize for the Best paper in Mycology.
2. Dr. SR Sengupta- Dr. AM Saoji Memorial Prize for the Best paper in Immunology.
3. Dr. SS Kelkar Memorial prize for the best poster (any subject in Medical Microbiology).
4. IAMM Silver Jubilee Prize for Best Paper in Parasitology.
5. Mumbai-Belgaum Prize for the best poster in Medical Mycobacteriology.
6. Belgaum-Mumbai Prize for the best paper in Bacteriology
7. I. D. Aggarwal-Broor Prize for the Best paper in Virology

Nominations are invited for the above said prizes. Any IAMM member is eligible to contest for these awards. Abstracts for the award papers from interested members must be submitted along with membership number to the IAMM Secretary's office in a soft copy and also to the Organising Secretary. These will be subjected to peer review and only selected abstracts will be allowed to be presented as a paper at the respective oral/ poster sessions. The best paper amongst those will be adjudged the best paper by the panel of judges. The authors of an abstract must express their interest in a particular category while submitting the abstract.

All the awards will be presented at the valedictory function of the IAMM Congress MICROCON 2026 to be held at Nagpur in October-November 2026.

The Top Ten papers received for MICROCON 2026 will also be included for the Awards in the above mentioned subjects if the number of direct entries are less.

Please note that to be eligible for any award, IAMM membership is compulsory.

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IAMM 2026 No. of Vacancies to the Executive Council - Seven (07)

Details of Candidates for Election to IAMM Executive Council is placed below. Please note that canvassing of any kind will initiate disqualification of candidature.

Dr. Anand Bhimaray Janagond
LM - 2107



Education: MD Microbiology at Stanley Medical College, Chennai

Experience: 15 years

Current Affiliation: Professor of Microbiology, S. Nijalingappa Medical College, Navanagar, Bagalkote, Karnataka

Publications: 37, 3 books; **Guest lectures:** 07

Honors & Distinctions:

- Editor-in-Chief of Indian Journal of Microbiology Research, a Scopus-indexed Journal.
- Editorial Board Member and Reviewer for peer reviewed journals.
- Member Secretary, Institutional Ethics Committee, SNMC, Bagalkote.
- Guided 3 MBBS students under ICMR Short Terms Studentship program.
- Guided one MBBS student under RGUHS Student Research Program.
- **Co-authored the Microbiology Practical Record book and Logbook for MBBS** students as per the revised CBME Curriculum. They were the first books of that type to help in implementing the CBME curriculum in India. It was shared free of cost through IAMM (IAMM Website and Whatsapp groups) for the benefit of all. The books were widely accepted and adopted by numerous medical colleges.

Dr. Anju Mahor
LM - 2984



Education: MD (Microbiology), Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC), New Delhi

Experience: 09 years

Current Affiliation: Assistant Professor, MGM Medical College, Indore, MP

Publications: 16; **Posters:** 03

Honors & Distinctions:

- Best Postgraduate Award at LHMC, New Delhi (2015).
- Best Young Scientist Award in national workshop on platelet activity at AIIMS, New Delhi (2018).
- Young Dynamic Award on World Cancer Day awareness at AIIMS, New Delhi (2017).
- 3rd Prize in western dance at Pulse 2007, AIIMS, New Delhi.

Dr. Anudita Bhargava
LM - 1338



Education: MD Microbiology, King George's Medical College, Lucknow

Experience: 26 years

Current Affiliation: Professor & HOD at AIIMS Raipur

Publications: 77; **Book:** 1 Chapter

Honors & Distinctions:

- Worked as Nodal person for expansion and establishment of RT-PCR labs for testing of SARS-CoV-2, across the states of CG and Jharkhand.
- Organized a National CME on 'The Menace of Emerging & Re-emerging Microbes: An Overview' on 15.2.2014 at AIIMS, Raipur, CG as Organizing Chairperson.
- Organized the first annual conference of Chhattisgarh chapter of IAMM (CAMM-Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiology) held on 16th & 17th September, 2017 at AIIMS, Raipur, CG as Organizing Chairperson.

	- Organized a Workshop-cum-CME on Laboratory diagnosis of Fungal Infections, in Jan-Feb 2025, at Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Raipur, as Organizing Chairperson. - Organized IAMM PG Assembly, under the aegis of IAMM, in September 2022, as the course coordinator.
Dr. D. Jeyakumari LM - 1443 	Education: MD Microbiology Experience: 26 years Current Affiliation: Professor & HOD Microbiology, JIPMER, Karaikal Publications: 55 (45 International & 5 National Journals) Honors & Distinctions: - Organized multiple Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs and conferences. Presented papers at various national conferences and delivered lectures in CMEs. - Guide for student research projects and intramural projects at the institute. - Served as an external expert for Ph.D. candidates across universities in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. - Held the position of Treasurer, Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), Puducherry Chapter (2009–2013); currently serving as Executive Member (from 2024 onwards). - Reviewer for several national and international peer-reviewed journals. - Acted as External Examiner for UG and PG examinations at various universities.
Dr. Jayesh Dale LM - 2641 	Education: MD Microbiology from Pune University Experience: 23 years Current Affiliation: Associate Director NACO GFATM Lab Project at SHARE Hyderabad Publications: 7; Author and/or Reviewer for National and International Guidelines: 13 Honors & Distinctions: Working as Senior Project Manager since 2015 till Sept 2020 and as Team Leader (Pan India) in SHARE India from Oct 2020 till July 2022 - Laboratory Coordinator (Overall), IBBA Project, (BMGF Grant-FHI-360) ICMR-NARI, Pune. - Working as Team Lead of AIC intervention grant at Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND), New Delhi since July 2022. - Team Lead -Project LAQSH Plus- Laboratory Strengthening, SHARE India. - Team Lead - Laboratory Strengthening, PCI India.
Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi LM - 1541 	Education: MD Microbiology, Govt Medical College, Amritsar Experience: 26 years Current Affiliation: Vice Chairperson & Senior Consultant, Institute of Clinical Microbiology & Immunology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi Publications: 53; Book Chapter: 6; Guest Lectures: 33 Honors & Distinctions: - Awarded IAMM Delhi Chapter RA Bhujwala Award for Outstanding work in diagnostic microbiology in 2021. - Recognized as DNB teacher since 2004. - Teaching co-ordinator for DNB programme Microbiology at SGRH (2008-2022) - Guide for DNB Thesis. - Co-investigator Implementation of AMSP in Various tertiary care hospitals across India. - Co-investigator Initiating Antimicrobial stewardship activities in hospitals in India Phase I & Phase II.

NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915

Since 1977



Dr. Meena Rajiv Mishra
LM - 802



Education: MD Microbiology

Experience: 29 years

Current Affiliation: Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur

Publications: 47; **Guest Lectures:** 126

Honors & Distinctions:

- Received Best VRDL Medical College Level Award presented by Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon. Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India 20–21 November 2025 at National VRDL Conclave, New Delhi as PI-VRDL for past 6 years.
- Received Dr. Pushpa Manohar Jagtap VAMM Oration Award for dedicated efforts and passion to persistently contribute towards the field of Medical Microbiology in Vidarbha region, and for compassionate service to social cause on 25th February 2023.
- Received Best Teacher award at Government Medical College and Hospital, Nagpur in 2016 and 2018.
- Best Poster Award at NIMACON-2005 on Case Report: Detection of *A. Lumbricoides*, *S.stercoralis*, *Cryptosporidium* & *Microsporidium* in a stool sample of an AIDS patient.
- Won the “RAVI Puraskar” for the Outstanding Trainer of Jaycees in 2006.
- Quiz Master for undergraduate and postgraduate Microbiology Quiz in MAHAMICROCON 2019, Chhattisgarh.
- Organized State conference 2018, VAMMCON – 2022, VAMMCON 2024.

Dr. Manoj Kumar
LM - 2407



Education: MD Microbiology

Experience: 25 years

Current Affiliation: HOD & Dean Examination, Dept. of Microbiology, RIMS, Ranchi

Publications: 57 (National - 16, International - 40, State - 1); **Book Chapter:** 1

Honors & Distinctions:

- Organizing Secretary of IAMM at National Conference MICROCON 2017 at RIMS, RANCHI.
- Investigating & Confirm the 1st outbreak of ANTHRAX in Jharkhand.
- Delivered a presentation in INDIA-BANGLADESH COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP Organised by CDC Atlanta USA on Anthrax.

Dr. Nishat Hussain Ahmad
LM - 2572



Education: MD Microbiology, GMC and Sir JJ Group of Hospitals, University of MUMBAI

Experience: 17 years

Current Affiliation: Professor of Microbiology & Officer In-Charge, Ocular Microbiology, Dr R.P Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi

Publications: 67; **H-Index:** 22; **Citations:** 1060

Honors & Distinctions:

- Gold Medal for Securing highest marks with Distinction in M.D Exam Of Microbiology.
- Member of Research Project Advisory Committee, HIMSR.
- Received VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital Young Scientist Award in Annual Conference of IAMM, Delhi.
- Invited as faculty in “IAMM Symposium” on “Vaccines” in National Conference Indian Association of Medical Microbiology 2015.
- Awarded third prize in poster presentation titled- ‘Establishment of Multiplex PCR for Detection of Herpes Simplex Viruses Type-1 and Type-2, Cytomegalovirus, Varicella-Zoster Virus and Adenovirus in Ocular Viral Infections’ in National Conference of the Clinical Infectious Diseases Society (CIDSCON) 2018.

	- Received the award of 'Outstanding Clinician in Microbiology and Infectious Diseases' by the Venus International Foundation in the Venus International Healthcare Awards 2020. - Won first prize in the e-poster titled 'Rhodotorula species- an emerging pathogen in Ocular Infections' in MYCOCON 2021 conference of the Fungal Infections Study Forum (FISF). - Conducted interview for selection of suitable candidates for the post of Senior Residents (Microbiology) in AIIMS, Vijayapur, Jammu-India.
Dr. Pratibha R. Kale LM - 2704 	Education: MD Microbiology (2012), Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Experience: 14 years Current Affiliation: Additional Professor, Clinical Microbiology, Associate Dean, Cultural and Social, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi Publications: 43; Projects as Investigator: 04 Honors & Distinctions: - YECMM Best Abstract Award 2023. - Appreciation Certificate for Contribution in fight against COVID-19. - VMMC Sadarjung Young Scientist Award, IAMM-DC in 2019. - Academic Bronze Medal, PGIMER, Chandigarh in 2014. - IAMM Silver Jubilee Best Paper in Parasitology, MICROCON in 2015. - Dr Bederkar Award for Physiology, Certificate of Honour Physiology, Maharashtra University of Health Sciences in 2002. - Best Paper Award in TB, IAMM, DC in 2017. - Best Paper Award in Peds-Sepsis in 2018. - NAWOPIA Dr Pankajalakshmi V Venugopal prize for Best Paper in Mycology, MICROCON in 2014.
Dr. Rajendra Surpam LM - 1331 	Education: MD Microbiology, Nagpur University Experience: 24 years Current Affiliation: Professor & Head, Government Medical College, Chandrapur Publications: 30 Honors & Distinctions: - Vice Dean (PG), KMSK Government Medical College & Hospital, Chandrapur, Maharashtra. - Dr V L Jahagirdar Young Achiever's Award 2022. - Heroes Against Covid-19 Award 2020 by Indian Medical Association, Chandrapur. - Maharashtra State Government Award Certificate for Covid 19 work-2021. - Best Worker in Covid-19 Award at Govt. Medical College, Chandrapur 2022. - Ideal Medical Professor Maharashtra State Award-2022 by AISF, Aurangabad. - Honorary Doctorate Award Magic Book of Record-2023, New Delhi. - Indian Health Professional Award-2023, Pune. - Rashtriya Pratishtha Puraskar-2023, New Delhi. - Dr Bharat Bhushan Award 2023, Bhopal, MP. - Life time Achievement Award 2024 in Diagnostic Microbiology by Voice of Healthcare. - Dr Pratibha Narang VAMM Professional Award 2025.

Dr. Rungmei S.K. Marak
LM - 1207



Education: MD Microbiology, JIPMER Puducherry

Experience: 22 years

Current Affiliation: Professor & HOD, Department of Microbiology & Department of Infectious Disease, SGPGIMS Lucknow

Publications: 59

Honors & Distinctions:

- Dr. P C Sen Gold Medal and certificate for Best Oral paper award for Young Scientist, UPUK Chapter IAMM, MICROCON 2026, Lucknow.
- Best Parasitology Poster Award, Tropacon 2024, JIPMER, Puducherry.
- Prof. Archana Ayyagari Gold Medal and certificate for Best Oral Paper award on Antimicrobial Resistance, UP-UK Chapter IAMM, MICROCON 2023 AMU, Aligarh.
- 1st prize Best Poster Award on paper on Antimicrobial Resistance, UP-UK Chapter IAMM, MICROCON 2023 AMU, Aligarh.
- Best Mycology oral presentation, UP UK Chapter IAMM, 10th February, MICROCON 2023 AMU, Aligarh.
- Best Mycology poster award, to 10th November 2022, International e Conference CHET MICROCON 2022.
- 1st Prize Best Oral scientific paper on Infection Control, XVII National Conference of Hospital Infections Society of India, 29th to 31st July 2021, HISICON, AMU, Aligarh.
- Prof. Archana Ayyagari Gold medal and certificate for Best Oral Paper on Antimicrobial Resistance, UP Chapter IAMM, MICROCON 2015.
- Best Scientific research paper, King's Institute of Preventive Medicine, Centenary Year Celebrations, Chennai, 1999.
- Best Mycology poster award, UP MICROCON 2011.

Dr. Shripad Taklikar
LM - 1576



Education: MD Microbiology, Mumbai University

Experience: 20 years

Current Affiliation: Professor, LTMMC & GH Since 2020, Academic Committee Member, LTMMC & GH

Publications: 32 in National and International Peer Reviewed Journals

Honors & Distinctions:

- C K Deshpande Gold Medal for M.D Microbiology of Mumbai University year 2004-2005.
- Infection Control training at Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA, USA in Collaboration with Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC, Atlanta) 2013.
- International Course in Bioethics: 3T- IBHSc (Integrated Bioethics for Health Sciences) by UNESCO chair in Bioethics Haifa & Association of Indian Health Science Universities (AIHSU) (UNESCO & MUHS) 2017.

Dr. Sneha K. Chunchanur
LM - 1828



Education: MD Microbiology

Current Affiliation: Asst. Professor (Time bound Associate Professor) Department of Microbiology, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru

Publications: 39; **Citations:** 382

Honors & Distinctions:

- 1st Rank in University in MD, Microbiology.
- Teacher's day Award by Indian Medical Association, Bangalore 2024.
- Guest Speaker at state/ national CME/ workshops/ conferences.
- Certified NABH assessor and Internal Auditor for NABL.

	• Publications in national, international journals, text books & Reviewer for national/ international journals. • Public awareness write ups on AMR/ infectious diseases in news papers, weekly magazines (Deccan Herald, Yojana, etc). • Best Paper Prize (Oral) at Indian Association of Medical Microbiologist – Karnataka Chapter -2003, 2019 & 2020. • Teacher's Day Award by Indian Medical Association, Bangalore 2024.
Dr. Sankar Sengupta LM - 2055 	Education: MD Microbiology, Mumbai Experience: 17 years Current Affiliation: Prof. & HOD at Dept. of Laboratory Medicine & Medical Superintendent, CNCI (Regional Cancer Centre), Govt. of India Publications: 08; Book Contributions: 06 Honors & Distinctions: • NABL Lead Assessor. • NABH Principal Assessor. • DNB Principal Teacher in Microbiology (Formerly). • Formerly Professor (Microbiology), Institute Of Child Health, Kolkata. • Ex Member Secretary, B.M.Birla HRC Ethics Committee. • Member, CNCI Ethics Committee. • Ex Basic Scientist, ICH Ethics Committee. • Chairman, Ethics Committee — B.P.Poddar Hospital & Research Centre, Kolkata.
Dr. Vimla Venkatesh LM - 864 	Education: MD Microbiology, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune Experience: 26 years Current Affiliation: Professor and Head. Department of Microbiology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh Publications: 105; Citations: 1762 Honors & Distinctions: • Prof. U.C Chaturvedi Oration Award 2026 by UP-UK State Chapter of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists, SGPGIMS Lucknow. • Excellence in Academic Leadership Award 2025 on the occasion of the 39th Foundation day celebration by the Vice Chancellor, KGMU, Lucknow. • Best Lab award , ICTC lab in recognition of excellence in Biomedical Waste Management on 26th January 2025 by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, KGMU, Lucknow. • Head, Department of Microbiology, King George's Medical University. • Vice Dean. Academics, King George's Medical University. • Faculty In-Charge, Centre for Advance Research (CFAR), King George's Medical University Convener, NMC, Nodal Centre, Department of Medical Education, King George's Medical University. • Nodal officer for ICTC/SRL/Viral Load laboratory for HIV and In-Charge Bacteriology laboratory. • Expert Consultant, UPSACS (Lab Services division). • Quality Manager in Department NABL accreditation Co- edited and co-authored a book on Practical Microbiology.

NEWSLETTER

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IAMM Executive Council Elections 2026 BALLOT PAPER

Last date of receipt of all votes is July 15, 2026

1. Only Founder/ Life/ Annual Members are eligible to vote.
2. Please indicate "✓" mark within the box against the name of a maximum of seven candidates only. The vote will be considered invalid if more than seven (7) names are marked on the ballot paper.
3. The vote will be considered invalid if Membership No., Name, signature and "✓" is not placed at the appropriate space provided.
4. Kindly direct your envelopes marked as "Ballot Paper IAMM 2026" to the Secretary IAMM at the following address:

Dr. Sanjay Biswas, Secretary, IAMM &
Professor & Head, Dept. of Microbiology,
6th Floor, Annexe Building,
Tata Memorial Hospital,
Dr E Borges Road, Parel,
Mumbai-400012

5. The last date of receipt of ballot papers is July 15, 2026.
6. Faxed copies or those sent by E-mail as attachments **will not be accepted.**
7. The Ballot paper must be sent individually, more than one Ballot paper in a single envelope will render votes invalid.
8. Please note that canvassing of any kind by will initiate disqualification of candidature.

The names of the Candidates are as follows:

S. No.	Name of the Candidate	Mark [✓] any Seven
1	Dr. Anand Bhimaray Janagond	☐
2	Dr. Anju Mahor	☐
3	Dr. Anudita Bhargava	☐
4	Dr. Jeyakumari D	☐
5	Dr. Jayesh Dale	☐
6	Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi	☐
7	Dr. Meena Rajiv Mishra	☐
8	Dr. Manoj Kumar	☐
9	Dr. Nishat Hussain Ahmed	☐



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S. No.	Name of the Candidate	Mark [✓] any Seven
10	Dr. Pratibha R Kale	☐
11	Dr. Rajendra Surpam	☐
12	Dr. Rungmei SK Marak	☐
13	Dr. Shripad Taklikar	☐
14	Dr. Sneha K Chunchanur	☐
15	Dr. Sankar Sengupta	☐
16	Dr. Vimla Venkatesh	☐

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Published By:
Dr Sanjay Biswas
Secretary, IAMM

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To,
Dr. _____

From
Dr. Sanjay Biswas
Secretary, IAMM &
Professor & Head, Dept of Microbiology,
6th Floor, Annexe Building,
Tata Memorial Hospital, Parel,
Mumbai-400012