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NEWSLETTER

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Greetings from the president's desk



Dear Members,

Deepawali Greetings from J.N. Medical College KAHER Belgavi!

On behalf of IAMM, I welcome you all to 48th IAMM National congress in New Delhi. I am receiving every update about the preparations of this event at New Delhi and are in full swing. The organizing team led by Dr Sherwal, Dr Wattal and team has well planned and included Academic feast in the form of Workshops, CME,

Symposium, lectures, Debate, talks and Discussions. The theme of the conference is 'Clinical Microbiology - Changing Patient outcomes'. I am very sure that you are going to enjoy the company and will get the new ideas.

As an IAMM President, I have attended chapter meets as well as CMEs in this year and I am very happy that, the contents and quality of the discussions are of international level in these meetings. The relevant topics are of interest to the young as well as to the senior microbiologists. Some of the state chapters are planning to pull / attract the Undergraduates in CMEs/ quiz to venture in the near future. We also should plan to include time and topics to attract these Undergraduates in the future conferences, because they will be the future delegates and will be shouldering the responsibilities as IAMM members.

The Secretary's office at Delhi is too busy in conducting PG Assembly / teaching, IPC course, AMS course, Sepsis CME, GCLP workshops. I appreciate the efforts of the course coordinators and organizing team for putting the academic feast in time though out this year and stimulating the delegates to actively participate in it. As President IAMM, I congratulate the IJMM Editorial team for initiating special bulletin this year on "Present and Future prospects of Vaccines". Both EQAS centres of IAMM at Vellore and New Delhi are doing very well with participation of large number of Institutes and laboratories. The EQAS scope has included Bacterial culture, Virology, serology and Parasitology with different modalities. I congratulate both teams for their efforts. I put on record my sincere thanks to Secretary Dr Sonal Saxena, Jt Secretary Dr Sanjay Biswas, Treasurer Dr Sheela devi and EC members for whole hearted support during my tenure as President and I also thank all the past presidents for being with me all the time and guiding me. As this will be my last communication with you I would like to thank all of you for your support during the year. I would like to further put on record my appreciation for the support of the IAMM Secretary Dr Sonal Saxena, she had most of the hard work to do and this year and she is also the organizing chairperson of the annual congress so her work load has definitely increased.

I wish all the very best to MICROCON -2025 team. Wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous Diwali. Eagerly waiting to see you all at our capital 'New Delhi'.

Dr Mahantesh B Nagamoti.

President IAMM & Professor of Microbiology

J.N.Medical College KAHER Belgavi-590010 (Karnataka)

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From the secretary's desk



Season's greetings!

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

Henry Ford

IAMM continues its commitment to academic excellence and capacity building through diverse initiatives. This year, the PG Masterclass provided an enriching platform for postgraduate learning, while the Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Course equipped participants with critical skills for combating antimicrobial resistance. The Annual Congress Microcon aims to bring together microbiologists from across the world, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration. Our PG Assembly strengthened peer interaction and mentoring, and the Sequencing Hands-on Training offered participants valuable exposure to advanced molecular techniques. This year we take pride in introducing Technician training workshop initiated at AIIMS for first time in IAMM.

Together, these initiatives reflect IAMM's vision to nurture the next generation of microbiologists and enhance the standards of practice nationwide.

The annual event of IAMM "MICROCON 2025" is just round the corner amid all festivities. Large number of workshops and

CME are being organized. I request all the members to attend this annual event in large numbers.

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

As I complete three enriching years as Secretary IAMM, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our community and contribute to its growth. During this tenure, several new academic initiatives were launched to strengthen capacity building and skill development. The PG Masterclass, featuring renowned teachers, brought focused learning to postgraduates. The Infection Prevention and Control Course and the AMSP Course addressed critical areas of patient safety and antimicrobial resistance. Additionally, short courses and hands-on training programs were introduced to provide practical exposure to emerging techniques. These initiatives reflect IAMM's commitment to advancing knowledge, nurturing young microbiologists, and strengthening healthcare through education.

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

Best wishes !
Dr Sonal Saxena

IAMM AMS Course 2025

IAMM conducted the first Antimicrobial Stewardship (IAMM-AMS) program, from **August 4 to September 18, 2025** as a structured academic initiative aimed at strengthening knowledge and practices in the rational use of antimicrobials.

The program opened with an introduction to AMS by *Dr. Pallab Ray*, followed by sessions on antimicrobial agents by *Dr. Sonal Saxena*. *Dr. Renu Gupta* emphasized the role of diagnostic stewardship, while a series of laboratory-focused modules led by *Dr. Ray* and *Dr. Saxena* covered culture processing, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, quality control, and antibiogram development.

Clinical and therapeutic aspects were addressed through sessions on the principles of antimicrobial therapy, AMS interventions and monitoring, and the interface of infection prevention and control. Human factors were integrated through modules on behavioral, educational, and communication aspects of AMS, highlighting the role of teamwork and awareness in stewardship success.

Advanced sessions included implementation of AMS in hospitals (*Dr. Nandini Sethuraman*), AMS in tuberculosis (*Dr. Nilma Hirani*), and stewardship strategies in viral and fungal infections. The program concluded with an online exit exam on September 18, 2025, coordinated by *Dr. Sonal Saxena* and *Dr. Renu Gupta*.

In summary, the six-week program provided a comprehensive blend of theoretical knowledge, laboratory applications, clinical strategies, and behavioral insights, equipping participants with the skills to drive effective stewardship in healthcare settings. A total of 60 participants enrolled in the course and ____ completed it.



IAMM Activities

Technician Training workshop: Empowering Diagnostics in Medical microbiology September 11-13th, 2025

A 3-day hands-on technician training workshop was organized in the Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi, under the aegis of IAMM from 11-13th Sept, 2025 with the objective of strengthening the practical skills of laboratory technical staff and empowering diagnostics in Medical Microbiology. A total of 24 participants from various microbiology laboratories across the country attended the program. The training focused on core competencies essential for routine diagnostic and research work, including specimen handling, culture techniques, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, quality assessment of automated systems, and orientation to laboratory accreditation practices. Participants observed the workflow from specimen reception to AST, including demonstrations of MALDI-TOF and advanced AST methods. Hands-on sessions in Mycology, highlighted tissue processing and morphological identification of fungal pathogens. Participants were oriented to diagnostic techniques for intestinal parasites and malaria, with practical microscopy demonstrations. The participants visited the Mycobacteriology lab, to see the advanced molecular diagnostics for tuberculosis. The day concluded with an orientation to serological testing for infectious diseases. The final day focused on quality assurance in microbiological testing, internal/external quality control, documentation, equipment calibration, and proficiency testing. The workshop concluded with a visit to the Molecular Virology lab, where nucleic acid extraction, real-time PCR, and biosafety practices, emphasizing the critical role of molecular diagnostics in modern microbiology was demonstrated.

Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Workshop with Illumina September 2-4, 2025

IAMM organised a hands on workshop in collaboration with Illumina on next generation sequencing. New age innovations like Next Generation Sequencing have the potential to transform clinical microbiology diagnostics and infectious diseases management, making it more precise and personalized. With the emerging threat of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance, there is a pressing need to adopt NGS into routine clinical microbiology workflows. To accelerate this transformation, Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists conducted a workshop, 'Advancing Clinical Microbiology with Next Gen Sequencing' jointly with Illumina at Illumina Solutions Center in Bengaluru from 2-4 Sept. The workshop received an overwhelming response with over 30+ registrations and participation from selected group of 10 senior clinical microbiologists. The workshop agenda, which comprised of a mix of theoretical lectures and hands-on sessions was curated to provide practical know-how and

experience to the participants enabling them in the adoption and implementation of NGS in their respective institutions. The 3 days' workshop provided the participants with a deep dive into an end-to-end NGS workflow from Library Preparation to Sequencing Set up and Bioinformatics/Analytics with each day dedicated to one of the steps. The enthusiastic participation, strong engagement and positive feedback from the participants underscored the impact and success of the workshop.

The workshop was a vital step in equipping clinical microbiologists with NGS expertise and reflects IAMM commitment to advancing precision diagnostics and fostering innovation in infectious disease management. We are thankful to IAMM leadership and executive committee for their support and endorsement of this initiative. IAMM also appreciates Illumina's keen interest and support in organizing the workshop and look forward to this continuing collaboration.





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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 you tube channel has been created where the content is streamed live and recordings remain available to students. you-tube channel. The you tube channel can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/@iammpgmasterclass>. The channel is currently subscribed by 1660 subscribers and the videos have collectively generated more than 30,000 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. This year 16 classes were held focussing on recent advances in medical microbiology.

48th Annual Conference of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

'MICROCON 2025'

Hotel Ashok, New Delhi

Organized by

Sir Gangaram Hospital & Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi

Scientific Program



Preconference Workshops

1. How to publish in a Peer Reviewed Journal IJMM Editors at Sir Ganga Ham Hospital (SGRH)
2. Melioidosis: Hands-on workshop for phenotypic and genotypic identification of *B. pseudomallei*- VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital
3. AMR: diagnostics, monitoring, surveillance and external quality assurance in bacterial identification and AST- VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital
4. Diagnostic Mycology: Basics to Advanced Molecular approaches- VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital
5. Integrative stewardship in UTI work up- AIIMS, New Delhi
6. Therapeutic drug monitoring of antifungals- AIIMS, New Delhi
7. Antivirals and susceptibility testing methods- AIIMS, New Delhi



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Preconference Workshops

8. Anaerobic bacteriology- AIIMS, New Delhi
9. Surgical Site Infections- AIIMS, New Delhi
10. Healthcare associated infections- JPN Apex Trauma Center, AIIMS
11. Hands on workshop on Autoantibody Tests- Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC)
12. Clinical metagenomics – A Boon in Diagnostic Microbiology-Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket
13. Data Analytics for Antimicrobial Stewardship Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket
14. Quality Assurance in Clinical Microbiology- Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IBHAS)
15. Update on advanced TB Diagnostics: A capacity building workshop- National Institute of Tuberculosis & Respiratory Diseases (NITRD)
16. Viral Infections in Transplant Recipients- Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS)
17. Hands-on workshop on MALDI-TOF for Fungal identification - Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS)
18. Hands on workshop on Exploring cell culture & Embryonated Egg inoculation techniques in Microbiology- University College of Medical Sciences (UCMS)
19. POCT paradigm: Transforming Microbial Diagnosis- Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research
20. Decoding molecular diagnosis of Viral Hepatitis- Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC)
21. Rational antimicrobial use and Syndromic testing: Cost effective strategy in infectious etiologies- Base Hospital, Delhi Cantt
22. BioRisk Management: Managing Microbial Threats through Biosafety & Biosecurity- Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences & Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi
23. Culture to Cure: Fast-Tracking Antimicrobial Stewardship with MALDI TOF MS-Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalya (CNBC)

Pre-conference CME–30th October 2025

Convention Hall 1A, The Ashok Hotel, New Delhi

The Consultant in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases– Preparedness for the Role

Friendship Lounge, The Ashok Hotel, New Delhi

CLSI-IAMM bioMérieux Global Symposium

Convention Hall 1B, The Ashok Hotel, New Delhi

Non-Tuberculous Mycobacterial Infections: The Neglected Threat

Inauguration 30th October 2025, 6.30 PM

Chief Guest: Dr Yogesh Singh, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Delhi University

Presided by

Dr M B Nagamoti

Followed by Cultural Program and Dinner

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Scientific Program

Time	Convention Hall			
31 st October 2025				
8:00-8:45 AM	MEET THE EXPERTS (4 sessions): Convention Hall 1A: Microbiology as an Applied Science. Bench to Bedside Correlation in Medical / Surgical Emergencies-Dr. Sanjib Gogoi, Dr Monica Mahajan Convention Hall 1B: Treating biofilms & AMR -Dr. Anirban Chaudhari,Dr. Rajni Gaind Convention Hall 1C : Bone and joint Infections - Dr. Benu Dhawan, Dr. Prateek Gupta Hall 2: Gut Microbiota mind brain axis-Dr Neelam Taneja, Dr. Ujjala Ghoshal			
9.00-10.00 AM	Dr K B Sharma Memorial Junior Best Paper Award			
10.00-10.30 AM	IAMM Endowment Oration Award			
10.30-10.45	Tea			
10.45-12.00 PM	Plenary session: Clinical microbiology: changing patient outcomes Chairpersons: Dr N K Ganguly, Lt Gen Raghunath, Dr Subramanian Swaminathan Emerging antibiotic resistance to Gram Negatives: 2025!: Dr. Patrice Nordmann Susceptibility results versus clinical outcomes: Dr. David Livermore Do Clinical Infection services impact outcomes?: Dr. Dilip Nathwani			
12.00-12.30 PM	Keynote Address: What does an ideal diagnostic portfolio for serious fungal disease consist of? Dr. David Denning Chairperson: Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti			
12:30-1:00 PM	Keynote Address: Antimicrobial resistance detection to guide patient care: Dr Patricia Simner Chairpersons: Dr. Camilla Rodrigues, Brig. A. Nagendra			
1.00-2.00 PM	Lunch (Poster view, IAMM Quiz screening round)			
2.00-3.00 PM	Debate: Molecular diagnosis will replace conventional diagnosis of infectious diseases in future Moderator: Dr. Ravi For the motion Dr. Priya Abraham, Dr. Vinay Hallur Against the motion: Dr. Pallab Ray, Dr. Sumit Rai			
3.00-3.15 PM	Tea			
3:15-4:30 PM	Hall 1A	Hall 1B	Hall 1C	Hall 2,3,4



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3:15-4:30 PM	Hall 1A Year of infectious disease: Top 10 papers (how it can help Indian Microbiologists in their practice) Chairpersons: Dr Sangeeta Joshi, Dr. Varsha Gupta Bacteriology: Dr. Deepjyoti Kalita Mycology: Dr. Gagandeep Singh Virology: Dr. Debasis Biswas Parasitology: Dr. Suruchi Shukla	Hall 1B Fishing in the troubled waters: Controversies and challenges in antifungal therapy Chairpersons: Dr. Anupama Jyoti Kindo, Dr. Malini Capoor When to suspect fungal disease? – Dr. Rajeev Soman Diagnostic-driven strategy is better than empirical therapy: Dr Imaculata Xess Emergence of antifungal resistance in Indian scenario: Dr Shivaprakash M Rudramurthy	Hall 1C Clinical relevance of CLSI breakpoints in Therapeutic Management Chairperson: Dr. Debkishore Gupta Faculty: Amy J. Mathers Virginia Pierce Dr Sumit Rai	Hall 2,3,4 Oral paper presentation
4.30-5.45 PM	Hall 1A Sepsis unveiled: progress in understanding, diagnosis & treatment strategies Chairpersons: Dr Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Aroma Oberoi Understanding the pathophysiology of sepsis Dr. Subhash Todi Sepsis diagnosis: What's new? Dr. Purabi Barman Treatment Strategies: Innovations and Challenges: Dhruva Chaudhry	Hall 1B Transplant associated infections: From Pre to Post Transplant Chairpersons: Dr. Shobha Broor, Dr. Ravinder Kaur Pre-Transplantation Strategies for Infectious Disease Mitigation and Prevention: Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharya Transplant associated infections: Epidemiology in the Indian perspective: Dr. Subramanian Swaminathan Post-transplant monitoring for infections: Dr Priscilla Rupali	Hall 1C Recent infectious outbreaks: control and containment strategies Chairpersons: Dr. Usha Baveja, Dr Mala Chhabra Investigating an outbreak: Techniques and tools-Dr A S Valan (CDC) Epidemiology, vaccines and global trends of recent outbreaks: Dr. Pragya Yadav Key Strategies for control & containment: Dr. Rajesh Bhatia	Hall 2,3,4 Oral paper presentation)
6.00-7.00PM	Total Laboratory Automation (TLA) Systems: Challenges, Opportunities, and Cost-Benefits Analysis- Dr. Shalabh Malick The Benefits of Automation in Bacteriology- Mr. Giulio Montini	Corporate Session	Corporate session	
7:00 PM onwards	Networking dinner: Convention Hall			

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1 st November 2025				
Time	Session			
8:00-8:45 AM	MEET THE EXPERTS (4 sessions) Convention Hall 1A: Controversies in managing gram-negative infections/ Hetero-resistance – does it matter?-Dr. Patrice Nordmann, Dr. V. Balaji Convention Hall 1B: POCT in fungal diagnosis: Dr. Nidhi Singla, Dr. Rakesh Singh Convention Hall 1C: Optimal sample collection-The moot point- Dr. Shampa Anupurba, Dr. Rajni Sharma Hall 2: PK/PD issues in microbiology: Dr. Ashok Rattan, Dr. Sangeeta Sharma Hall 3: Be Her Guard- Strengthening Cervical Cancer Screening - Dr Showkat Hussain, Dr Malliga JS, Dr Neha Parakh			
9.00-10.00 AM	IAMM Quiz			
10.00-10.45 AM	Dr S R Sengupta IAMM Symposium Topic: Adult Vaccination Moderator: Dr. Arti Kapil, CO-Moderator: Dr Renu Gupta Dr Pawan Kumar, Dr Arvind Kumar, Dr Urvashi Singh			
10.45-11.15 AM	Key Note Address: Convergence of minds: What do the Clinicians expect from clinical Microbiologists. Dr. Rajeew Soman Chairperson: Dr. Sanjeev Singh, Dr. David Livermore			
11.15-12.30PM	Plenary Session: Transforming TB Diagnosis Chairpersons Dr. Deepthi Nair Prof MadhukarPai, McGill University, Canada (moderator) Critical transitions that can transform TB diagnosis: Prof Madhukar Pai Diagnostics innovations from India: Dr. Nivedita Gupta India's adoption and scale up of new diagnostics: Dr. Urvashi Singh			
12.30-1.30 PM	General Body Meeting			
1:30-2:00 PM	Legal issues in Medical Practice; "Current Perspective": Speaker from DMC			
2.00-2.30 PM	Lunch			
2:30-3:45 PM	Hall 1 A Tropical infections: Usual & Unusual Suspects Chairpersons: Dr. Abhay Chaudhary, Dr. Bharti Malhotra Resurgence of Enteric Fever: Epidemiology and Antimicrobial resistance- Dr Lona Dash Rickettsial diseases in India – Dr. Manisha Biswal Mycetoma: Dr Kavita Singh	Hall 1B Navigating the Nexus: Ecology, Evolution, and Public Health in Emerging Viral Infections Chairpersons: Dr. Rajesh Kannangai, Dr. Vimala Venkatesh Ecology & Zoonotic Viral Infection: Dr. Monil Singhai Evolutionary trends in viral drug resistance: Dr.Lalit Dar Public Health: Prevention and control of emerging viral infections: Dr. Baijayantimala Mishra	Hall 1C New strategies to treat infectious diseases Chairpersons: Dr. Raman Sardana, Dr Navin Dang The Evolving Landscape of Antimicrobial Agents: An Overview of Recently Approved Drugs: Dr. Balaji Phage therapy– Dr Gopalnath RNA-Based Therapeutics: Prof.Siddharth Jhunjhunwala	Hall 2,3,4 Oral Presentations
3.45-4.00PM	Tea			



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4.00-5:00 PM	Hall 1 A	Hall 1B	Hall 1C	Hall 2,3,4
	Trained Immunity: Can We Rewire the Immune System to Fight Infections? - Chairpersons: Dr. Shukla Das, Dr V. Ravi Dr. Vineeta BaL - Dr. Amit	Cutting-Edge Technology in the Diagnosis of Parasitic Infections Chairpersons: Dr. Bijay Rajan Mirdha Artificial Intelligence and Digital Microscopy in Parasite Identification: Dr Abhijit Chaudhury Point-of-Care and Wearable Biosensors for Real-Time Parasite Detection: Dr Sumeeta Khurana Molecular Diagnostics for Parasitic Infections in Endemic Settings - applications in Clinical Diagnosis and Surveillance- Dr. Sitara SR Ajampur, CMC, Vellore	Pulmonary infections: Are we lost in the maze of investigations: Chairpersons: Dr. Meena Mishra, Dr. Prakash Shastri, Dr Prasanta Raghav Mohapatra Culture Negative Pulmonary infections: Is there more than meets the eye?: Dr. Navin Kumar Pneumonias of uncommon etiology: Dr. Anil Kumar Management of Resistant Gram Negative Pulmonary infections: Dr. Khilnani	Oral Presentation
5:00-6:00 PM Corporate Sessions	Case Preparation- The Clinical Tribunal - Where every antimicrobial decision stand trial not the clinician, but the complexity. Moderator: Dr. Debkishore Gupta Panelists: Dr Aruna Poojary Dr Rajeev Soman Dr Yatin Mehta Dr Neeraj Tyagi Dr Mrinal Sirkar	Innovative Approaches to BSI Diagnosis- Leveraging Technology and Informatics Role of Blood Cultures to improve patient outcomes-beyond current usage to improve patient outcomes- Dr Anita Sharma Best Practice implementation for Blood culture collections- preanalytical variables, follow up Blood cultures, anaerobic cultures and its impact on patient management- Dr Ranganathan Iyer Advancements in BSI Diagnosis: Practices in Asian context and role of Informatics- Mr. Virendra Pathak	Advancements in Infection Control- Innovative Strategies for Sterilization and Disinfection: Fungal infection control in health care settings- Dr. Prashant Gupta Hydrogen Peroxide based Sterilization and Disinfection in OTs and ICUs- Dr. Vineeta Khare Reprocessing of endoscopes: Traditional vs newer solutions – Dr. Ayush Gupta High-Level Disinfection in Clinical Practice: Standards, Challenges, and Vapour-Based Innovations- Dr. Sheetal Verma	Oral Presentation

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Time	Convention Hall			
8:00-8:45 AM	MEET THE EXPERTS (4 sessions) Convention Hall 1A: Doing real world antimicrobial stewardship: Dr Dilip Nathwani, Dr. Anjali Shetty Convention Hall 1B: Surveillance in Hospital acquired infections: controversial issues: Dr. Namita Jaggi, Dr Suman singh Convention Hall 1C: In broad - spectrum antibiotic era: any need of anaerobic diagnosis: Dr. Archana Angrup, Dr. Veenu Gupta Hall 2: EQAS/IQAS/ILQC – what works when? Dr. Puneet Nigam, Dr. Rajendra Surpam			
9:00-9:45 AM	IAMM Student Symposium : Exploring New Options of Therapy in the Era of AMR Moderator: Dr Bansidhar Tarai Newer antimicrobials: Dr Dileep Narasimha Swamy Newer antimicrobials, smart probiotics, AI driven antimicrobial agents: Dr Vijay Moses C Newer options in upcoming 5 years: Dr Supriya Padhy			
9:45-10:15 AM	Keynote Address: What is going on here? The state of science, including how we look at an antibiogram: Dr. David Livermore Chairpersons: Dr. Pratibha Narang, Dr Geeta Mehta			
10.15-10.30	Tea			
10:30-11:15 AM	Case Presentation: Dr Atul Gogia & Dr Anivita Aggarwal Panelists: Dr Dilip Nathwani , Dr Vikas Deswal, Dr Sanghamitra Datta & Dr Ranjana Khuraijam			
11:15 AM-12:15 PM	Debate: Present MD Medical Microbiology Curriculum is in right direction: Moderator: Dr. B. L. Sherwal For: Dr. Poornima Barua & Dr. Poonam Loomba Against: Dr. Reba Kanugo & Dr. Jyoti Nagmoti			
	PARALLEL SYMPOSIA (3 on day 3)			
	Hall 1 A	Hall 1B	Hall 1C	Hall 2,3,4



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12:30-1:30 PM	Gen Z futuristic diagnostics in Infectious Diseases- Chairpersons: Dr. Rajiv Mohan Gupta, Dr. Manoj B Jais Aptameres: a new entrant in the diagnostic arena: Dr. RD Kulkarni Nanotechnology: Dr. Prashant Mishra Panel Discussion: Moderator: Dr. Rajiv Mohan Gupta Panelists Dr. RD Kulkarni Dr. Prashant Mishra Col (Dr) Mahesh Reddy, Dr. Gaurav Goel	What is new in viral Hepatitis: Looking at Viral Hepatitis inquisitive eyes Chairperson: Dr Sandhya Kabra, Dr Sandeep Dogra HDV infection in India: Is it time to plan a National Response: Dr. Ekta Gupta Hepatitis E: Old Foe with renewed vigour: Dr. R K Ratho Newer markers in HBV infections: Dr. Anil Arora	Gut Microbiome: Target for innovative strategies in diseases Chairpersons: Dr Beena Antony, Dr. Dalip Kakru Gut Microbiome: Target for innovative strategies in Neurodevelopment and Neurological disorder: Prof. Shefali Gulati Modulation of Gut Microbiome in GI disorders: Dr Rama Chaudhry Panel Discussion Moderator: Dr. Tanu Sagar Panelists Prof. Shefali Gulati Dr Rama Chaudhry Dr. Sabu Thomas	Oral Presentations
1:30 PM	Valedictory function			
1:45 PM	Lunch			

6.00-7.00PM	6.00-6.20PM: Hemogenomics 6.20-7.00PM Biomerieux Panel Discussion: Data driven approach – Moving from Lab to leadership Moderator: Dr Devjani De Panelists: Dr Shubranshu Mandal Dr Smita Sarma Dr Shaoli Basu Dr Namita Jaggi	CorporateSessions	CorporateSessions	
7:30 Onwards	BANQUET			



Nation wide activities of Microbiologists

Accolades

Dr. Savitri Sharma was recognized as a pillar of ocular infections and inflammation at the "World Summit on Ocular Infections and Inflammation held at Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, on 7th September, 2025. She delivered the "Dr. D. Balasubramanian Oration" at the 31st annual meeting of the "Indian Eye Research Group: India- ARVO-2025" held on 27th July 2025 at Sankar Nethralaya, Chennai. She also delivered "Dr. Bikram Das Oration" at the 16th annual conference of IAMM Odisha Chapter held at Cuttack, Odisha on 14th September 2025.

IAMM DELHI CHAPTER

The Second Chapter Meet 2025 of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists – Delhi Chapter (IAMM-DC) on the topic "Recent Advances in Viral Diagnostics: Challenges and Opportunities" was organized by the Department of Microbiology, Postgraduate Institute Child Health (PGICH), Noida on 30th August 2025 under the leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Sumi Nandwani, HOD microbiology. Dr Mala Chhabra (Consultant- Microbiology and Associate Dean - Research, ABVIMS and RML Hospital), New Delhi, presented a talk on 'The Changing Face of Viral Outbreaks: Lessons Learnt and Emerging Threats' in which emerging viral infections and outbreaks like Nipah virus, monkeypox, Covid-19 and Zika virus were highlighted. Dr Ekta Gupta (Professor and Head of Microbiology, ILBS) gave a talk on 'Evolving Diagnostics for Pediatric Viral Hepatitis Infections: What's New?' emphasising the special challenges of diagnosing viral hepatitis in children. In the panel discussion on the topic 'The Promises and Pitfalls of Molecular Viral Diagnostics: Just Because We Can, Should we?', the necessity and practicalities of viral diagnostic stewardship was examined by a panel of experts including Dr. B.L Sherwal (Director Professor of Microbiology, LHMC), Dr. Lalit Dar (Professor and Head of Microbiology, AIIMS Delhi), Dr. D.K. Singh (Dean and Professor and Head of Pediatrics, PGICH Noida) and Dr. Sumi Nandwani, moderated by Dr Ashok Rattan (Chairman of Zoonotic Diseases, CAHO). The 'Lady Hardinge-Microcon 2012-DC Quiz Award' competition for MD Microbiology students had enthusiastic participation from more than 50 MD students and a total of 29 posters were presented in 3 categories.

IAMM DC organized three training workshops for technical staff at various centers:

- (1) **Viral Hepatitis:** A one-day technician training program on "Viral Hepatitis" was conducted by Department of Clinical Virology, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences on 26.06.2025. This training program was intended to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Viral Hepatitis, with a focus on enhancing technical competencies, ensuring diagnostic accuracy, and strengthening overall laboratory capacity for effective disease management. A total of 36 technicians working in 18 different institutes/ hospitals (both government and private sectors) attended this training program. The training program began with a pre-training assessment,

followed by a series of informative sessions delivered by eminent faculty members. The sessions included a comprehensive overview of Viral Hepatitis, bio-safety and good clinical laboratory, a range of serological and molecular diagnostic techniques, whole genome sequencing and prevention and management of needle stick injuries.

- (2) **Molecular techniques for diagnosis of Infectious diseases:** The technician workshop was organized by Dept of Clinical Microbiology and Molecular diagnostics, BL Kapur Super Speciality Hospital-Max lab on 4th July 2025. The workshop dealt in length the practical aspects of molecular diagnostics techniques. It covered from an introduction to the theoretical aspects of PCR to the practical aspects of running a molecular test and its associated troubleshooting. An update of the Quality assurance and Quality Control in Molecular biology as per new NABL 112 was also included. Hands on training on Real time PCR, Multiplex PCR systems like CBNAAT, Biofire and Qiastat were conducted at length. Few practical cases were highlighted to demonstrate troubleshooting and process of undertaking a complete root cause analysis. Clinical aspects of the importance of molecular techniques for diagnosis were demonstrated. A Pre and Post training evaluation was done for all the participants. The Pre- test score was 40% and the post- Test score was 57%.
- (3) **Surveillance Cultures for Infection Control in Clinical Microbiology:** It was held in the auditorium at Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi on 30.07.2025. The workshop was attended by 11 candidates from various hospitals. The content of the workshop included trainings on microbiological aspects and techniques for surveillance sample testing required for infection prevention. Air culture monitoring, testing for drinking/ dental water, kitchen worker's health status including food testing during outbreaks, monitoring of housekeeping activities including ATP bioluminescence; Glow gels, In-use test for disinfectant monitoring, dialysis fluid and RO water testing, blood bank surveillance culture testing and monitoring and monitoring of sterilization processes were included components of the trainings. This was followed by a hand on workshop where the trainees were provided an opportunity to perform tests as multiple tube test for drinking water, dialysis fluid and RO water test, In-use test for disinfectant testing, ATP bioluminescence and glow gel use for housekeeping monitoring and use of spore incubator for biological indicator monitoring was demonstrated.



IAMM MAHARASHTRA CHAPTER

The XXIXth Maharashtra Chapter Conference of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM) – **MAHAMICROCON 2025** – was successfully organized from 22nd to 24th August 2025 at Nehru Centre, Mumbai, under the leadership of Dr. Sanjay Biswas as Organizing Secretary. The theme of the conference was "**Mastering Clinical Microbiology: From Fundamentals to Future Frontiers**", reflecting the pivotal role of microbiologists in managing infections in immunocompromised cancer patients.

The three-day academic event commenced with three pre-conference workshops held on 22nd August 2025. The conference witnessed the participation of over 300 delegates, including MD and PhD students, faculty members, clinicians, and infection control professionals from across Maharashtra and other parts of the country.

The academic sessions included five plenary sessions, two orations, and a panel discussion, covering a wide range of topics such as *Infections in Hematological Malignancies*, *Novel Diagnostics*, *Mycology*, *Tuberculosis*, *Microbiome*, and *Antimicrobial Stewardship*. Distinguished speakers from renowned institutions across Maharashtra & India shared their expertise, and the sessions were met with enthusiastic participation from delegates. The Round Table Discussion, titled "*Rewriting the Diagnostic Playbook in Infectious Diseases*", drew special attention for its lively exchange of ideas between microbiologists, clinicians, and researchers.

A total of 141 scientific papers were presented under the three categories – **Oral Papers, e Posters, and late Dr. P M Khare Award**. 15 awards were presented across various categories, recognizing outstanding contributions from young microbiologists. The Quiz Competition, held for individual participants, saw an engaging contest of knowledge and quick thinking, culminating in the felicitation of Gold, Silver, and Bronze medal winners.

Thus the conference provided an enriching platform for academic exchange, collaborative dialogue, and networking, reinforcing the Maharashtra Chapter's commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in the field of Medical Microbiology.

IAMM –Puducherry Chapter

1st National workshop on 'Intricacies of antimicrobial susceptibility testing of common and uncommon pathogens'.

The Department of Microbiology, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER), Puducherry, organized the "1st National Workshop on Intricacies of Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing for Common and Uncommon Pathogens" from 8th to 11th July 2025, under the auspices of the IAMM – Puducherry Chapter. This three-and-a-half-day workshop was designed for postgraduate residents in Microbiology from across India, with the objective of enhancing their understanding and practical skills in antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST).

The program offered a comprehensive overview of various AST methods, coupled with an in-depth review of the latest CLSI and EUCAST guidelines. Participants benefitted from demonstrations and hands-on sessions focused on advanced techniques for resistance detection, ensuring a blend of theory and practical exposure.

The theory sessions were delivered by expert faculty members, while senior residents facilitated the demonstrations, ensuring effective peer-to-peer learning. To encourage interactive learning, the workshop also featured a quiz competition and a case-based discussion on the management of multidrug-resistant infections. The quiz winners were awarded medals, and all participants received certificates of participation, marking the successful completion of the event.

IAMM-Odisha Chapter

2nd Mid Term Workshop conducted by Department of Microbiology, KIMS, Bhubaneswar.

The Department of Microbiology at KIMS, under the aegis of IAMM-Odisha Chapter, successfully concluded a two-day intensive workshop titled **Biostatistics & Data Management for Beginners** on July 25-26th, 2025 under the able leadership of Dr Dipti Patnaik (Prof and HOD), Dr Basanti Kumari Pathi and Dr Kumudini Panigrahi. The workshop brought together 30 motivated participants, including faculty and researchers from various biomedical disciplines from different medical colleges of Odisha. With the primary goal of fostering statistical literacy and practical research competence, the sessions offered a rich blend of theory, practice, and peer exchange. The team of resource persons was made up of a stellar array of well-renowned researchers. It was led by Dr Ashoka Mohapatra, Dr. Manoj Kumar Das, Dr Rajashree Panigrahi and Dr. Archisman Mohapatra, Executive Director, GRID Council. They emphasized the significance of data-driven decision making in biomedical research and the need for structured statistical education at the beginner level. Topics included hypothesis testing, selection of appropriate tests (t-test, chi-square, ANOVA, correlation, regression), concepts of p-values and significance, and the implications of Type I and Type II errors. Exercises and group discussions helped demystify statistical jargon and connected theory with application. The organizing committee looks forward to future iterations that address advanced topics and create a sustained platform for research excellence.





NEWSLETTER

3rd Mid Term Workshop conducted by Department of Microbiology, Ashwini Hospitals, Cuttack

The Department of Microbiology at Ashwini Hospitals, under the aegis of IAMM-Odisha Chapter, successfully concluded a one day infection prevention workshop titled Infection control Principles and Practice on August 24, 2025 under the able leadership of Dr Smrutilata Sahoo Consultant Microbiologist. This workshop was an amalgamation of Doctors of different speciality, nurses and infection preventionists. Total 66 participants had registered 4 CME credit points were awarded to the attendees. The resource persons were led by Dr Maya Gantayet, Neurologist who shared her experience in managing severe post-surgery infections, Dr. Suneeta Sahu, Microbiologist helped participants in group exercise for CAUTI and VAP, Dr Ketan Priyadarshi, Microbiologist helped in group exercise for CRBSI and SSI. Dr Sampat Dash was spot on with scientific evidence of Hand hygiene decreasing HCAI in resource limited settings. The Dialysis patients are vulnerable to HCAI and therefore Dr Alok Ku Mohapatra justified IPC to decrease the incidence of blood stream infections in patients getting dialysed. Dr Nipa Singh brought out the importance of BMW in IPC and Dr Somi Patro demonstrated the importance of safety syringe with a built in safety mechanism in the session of NSI. In the Panel discussion various practical topics were covered like Dr Sagar Roy emphasised the respiratory precautions in emergency while receiving and examining infectious patients, Dr B Kannakeya Reddy was very lucid in explaining the nightmares of implant infections in orthopaedic surgery. Post Covid, how the management of respiratory infections have changed were elucidated by Dr Satyaranjan Mohanty. Dr Smrutilata explained how rapid diagnosis helps in cohorting patients and also in implementing AMSP. The workshop ended with Quiz competition and valedictory function.

IAMM Rajasthan Chapter

The 4th Annual Conference of the IAMM Rajasthan Chapter – Rajmicrocon 2025 was successfully organized by the Department of Microbiology, SMS Medical College, Jaipur, on September 20–21, 2025, at the Holiday Inn, Jaipur City Centre. The event brought together over 300 delegates including microbiologists, clinicians, researchers, and students from across Rajasthan and beyond. The conference theme, “Recent Advances in Microbiology: Shaping the Future of Clinical Care,” set the tone for two days of intense academic exchange, hands-on learning, and vibrant cultural interactions. The event was meticulously planned and conducted under the leadership of Patron: Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Organising President: Dr. S.K. Singh, Organising Chairperson: Dr. Rajni Sharma, Organising Secretary: Dr. R.K. Mishra, Joint Organising Secretary: Dr. Parul Sinha, Treasurer: Dr. R.K. Karadiya, and Joint Treasurer, Dr. Sunita Agarwal.

A robust scientific program was designed, featuring keynote lectures, symposia, panel discussions, and paper/poster presentations. Eminent guest faculty including Dr. Pallab Ray, Dr. Priya Abraham, Dr. Sonal Saxena, Dr. Shripad, Dr. Shukla Das, Dr. Abhishek Mewara, Dr. Pragma Yadav,

Dr. ShivPrakash, Dr. Siddharth, Dr. Ravikant Porwal, Dr. Puneet Saxena, and Dr. Vibhor Tak graced the event and shared their expertise on cutting-edge topics. Their talks covered diverse and emerging areas such as XDR pathogens, tropical fevers, next-generation mycology, antifungal therapy, neurocysticercosis, microbiology in emergency settings, the gut microbiome, Pathogen X, BSL-3 and BSL-4 laboratory practices, artificial intelligence in microbiology, and sepsis management.

In addition to lectures, the conference hosted stimulating panel discussions on the CBME curriculum and the pertinent question, “Can a Microbiologist Drive Clinical Decision-Making?” Student-focused sessions brought further energy, with a debate on artificial intelligence in microbiology, a student symposium on next-generation sequencing, and an engaging quiz competition.

A major highlight of Rajmicrocon 2025 was the series of four pre-conference workshops designed to provide practical training. These included “A Comprehensive Workshop on Sepsis Diagnosis: From Blood Culture to Biofire,” “Metagenomics: Unlocking the Hidden World of Microbes by Next Generation Sequencing,” “M.D. Microbiology Practical Examination as per the New CBME Curriculum,” and “Basics of Antinuclear Antibodies and Autoimmune Diseases: Navigating the Future of Diagnostics.” These workshops were especially well-received by postgraduate students and young faculty members.

Among the special highlights, the Dr. H.N. Mangal Award for the best published paper was instituted and presented for the first time, marking a proud milestone in the chapter's history. The first-ever Newsletter of IAMM Rajasthan Chapter was launched during the event, symbolizing a new era of communication and knowledge sharing, alongside the release of a beautifully designed Souvenir capturing the spirit of the conference.





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NEWSLETTER

PG Assembly 2025

PG Assembly was organized at six centres this year and was attended by 87 students from across the country. The training focussed on newer technologies such as automated systems, MALDI-TOF, gene sequencing etc.

Zone	PG Assembly 2025 Institute	Date of execution	No of participants
West Zone	AFMC, Pune	31st July to 2nd August	21
Central Zone	AIIMS, Patna	11th to 13th August	22
South Zone	St. Johns Medical College, Bengaluru	12th to 14th August	20
North Zone	AIIMS, Rishikesh	21st to 23rd August	24

Upcoming Events

17th Annual Conference Of

Indian Association Of Medical Microbiology (Delhi Chapter)

Venue: Department of Microbiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi

Date: 11-13th December 2025

16th Annual Conference Of

Indian Association Of Medical Microbiology (Odisha Chapter)

Combating AEFI: Opt for the Right Path

Venue : Department of Microbiology , New Auditorium , SCB Medical
College & Hospital, Cuttack

Date : 13-14th September 2025

2nd Annual Conference of

IAMM-Bihar Chapter "BR-MICROCON 2025"

Venue: Narayan Medical College & Hospital, Jamuhar, Sasaram, Rohtas.

Date: 13-14th December 2025

NOTICE FOR GENERAL BODY MEETING

Venue: Pune Date: 1st November 2025 Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

Dear Members

Notice is hereby given for the 48th Annual General Body Meeting of the IAMM on 1st November 2025 at the venue of the MICROCON 2025 at New Delhi at 12:00 noon.



NEWSLETTER

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 47th IAMM conference at Pune in 2024.
3. Action taken on minutes of the GB Meeting.
4. Selection of topics for 49th IAMM Conference: a) IAMM Symposium and b) Student Symposium
5. Decision Regarding the venues for next IAMM Conference.
6. 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
7. Secretary's Annual Report- Dr Sonal Saxena
8. To confirm minutes of meeting of EC held online in June 2025
9. Editor's report and statement of IJMM accounts- Dr Chand Wattal
10. Presentation of Annual Statement of IAMM Accounts by Treasurer: Dr Sheela Devi
11. 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
12. Proposal/suggestions of training program, PG Assembly, IPC course, IAMM PG Masterclass
13. Election of Office Bearers IAMM 2025
14. Any other matter with permission from chair.

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

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To,
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