

International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

Like last year, this year also the Department of Immunoregulation and Immunodiagnostics (IRID), Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI), Kolkata, in association with the Indian Immunology Society, celebrated the International Immunology Day (29th April, 2018) on 1st May, 2018, as the particular day was Sunday. Theme of the seminar was: "Recent trends in Immunology". This symposium gave us a unique opportunity to increase awareness among us about immunology and the importance of immunity in combating major diseases, improve research and save lives. Approximately 85 postgraduate and undergraduate university/college students from Asutosh College, Rammohan College, Serampore College, West Bengal State University and Barasat Government College as well as their faculties participated in this seminar. Moreover, former summer project students of this department, research scholars and faculties of the various department of CNCI participated in this seminar. Eminent immunologists from various institutes in Kolkata were invited to deliver lectures to encourage students to take up immunology as their field of specialization.

Dr. Utpala Chattopadhyay, Former Head IRID as well as Former Director, CNCI, Kolkata, was invited to be the Chief Guest of the occasion. Dr. Tapas Maji, Director CNCI, Dr. Chinmoy Panda, Officer-in-Charge (Research), CNCI, Dr. Rathindranath Baral, Head, IRID, CNCI graced the occasion. The symposium started around 11am with the welcome address delivered by Dr. Rathindranath Baral, Head, IRID, CNCI, followed by felicitation of the guests with a small pot of siblings and memento by various members of IRID. The guests were also requested to share a few words with the students. In this year an interesting competition among the students was arranged. A quick multiple choice question test based on the lectures was given to students to answer. At the end of all the lectures the students were allowed to submit the answer sheets in a drop box and attractive prize for the top three scorers was arranged. Our scientific session began after a small tea break.

Our first speaker, Dr. Partha Sarathi Dasgupta, Former Emeritus Scientist, CSIR, IRID and Former Head, Department of Signal Transduction and Biogenic Amines, CNCI, Kolkata, delivered a lecture entitled "Hypothalamus: An Immunological Switch for Adaptive Immunity". In his engrossing talk he told us in detail how changes in dopamine level during pathogenesis Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases modulates cancer progression. He also discussed on his pioneering work regarding the use of dopamine as an anti-angiogenic drug and its chemical application. He also described how various inflammatory players affect metabolism in cancer cells.

Our next speaker, Prof. Arindam Bhattacharyya, Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta, told us an interesting story entitled, "Cerebral malaria: Story of Inflammation". In the first half of his talk, he gave an overview about the history of development of vaccines and various aspects of immunology. In the second half of his talk he presented his present area of research, how inflammatory mediators and regulatory T cells play key roles in the patho-physiology of cerebral malaria.

Our next speaker, Dr. Anamika Bose, Scientist, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, CNCI, Kolkata, discussed how non-hematopoietic stromal cells play important roles in the cancer immune evasion process. In her talk, "Non-hematopoietic stromal cells: New players of Cancer Immune Evasion", she gave us an idea how non-hematopoietic stromal cells such as mesenchymal stem cells and pericytes modulate the tumor environment which in turn modulate the process of immune evasion during cancer progression. This talk was very beneficial for the students since she discussed about various experimental techniques widely used in present day immunology research.

Our next speaker was Dr. Kalyan Kusum Mukherjee, Head, Medical Oncology, CNCI and his topic of discussion was "Immunotherapy: Using body to fight cancer". With the help of data obtained from clinical samples, he very efficiently showed us how he has established the significant role of interferon 2b for the treatment of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.

Our last speaker was Prof. Samaresh Chowdhury, Former professor and head, Department of Medical Biotechnology and In-charge Stem Cell Research and Application Centre, School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata. In his talk, entitled, "Stem Cells, Immunity and The Therapeutic Concern", he told us how stem cells can be used as a therapeutic tool in treating various diseases. In his talk, he expressed his concern about the ethical issues and problems that a stem cell researcher faces while using stem cells in therapy.

These lectures were very helpful for the students and researchers as the speakers enlightened the audience about both history as well as recent trends in immunology. As a token of encouragement, all the participants of the seminar received participation certificate. Some refreshments for the participants were also arranged.

This scientific meeting was sponsored by CNCI, Kolkata, Immunology Society of India, Eppendorf, Genetix, Genex, Abhishek and Patel Chem-de-Drugs.

Organized by-
Dr. Rathindranath Baral, Head
Department of Immunoregulation and Immunodiagnostics
Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI), Kolkata

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On the occasion of World Immunology Day on April 29, a program aimed at inculcating interest in Immunology among students was conducted in Madurai in a public auditorium on 28th April, 2018. Totally 35 enthusiastic participants from various Institutes like P.U.M.S. Chittampatti (Madurai), Eden Science Club (Madurai), The Madura College (Madurai), UVS Electropathy Medical College and Palkalai Nagar Middle School participated in this event. The session was started with "Introduction to Immunology" by Dr. H. Shakila, Professor and Head, Department of Molecular Microbiology, School of Biotechnology, Madurai Kamaraj University. She emphasized the importance of the immune system and its functions in local language. Then the session was continued with the projection of animation slides depicting the basics of Immunology by audio/video session. Followed by this, Dr. P. Paul Kumaran, Scientist E, NIRT (National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai) Madurai branch at Government Hospital, Madurai, delivered a lecture on "Ways to improve our immune system". As a clinician, he expressed his views about improving our diet and lifestyles for strengthening our immune system.

Flex to commemorate the World Immunology Day celebration.

Dr. Paul Kumaran giving a lecture about the ways to improve our Immune system.

Quiz competitions were conducted for the participating school students by Mr. Vignesh, Research Scholar, School of Biotechnology, Madurai Kamaraj University. All the sessions were assisted by Mr. Pothiaraj, Mr. Kevin Kumar and Mr. Sasikumar who are the research scholars of School of Biotechnology, Madurai Kamaraj University.

The winners of the quiz competitions were as follows:

Sl. No.	Name	School/College	Prize
1.	Iniyan. P	Eden Science Club, Madurai	I
2.	Madhu Mitha. S	Eden Science Club, Madurai	I
3.	Aakasa Veni. R	P.U.M.S. Chittampatti, Madurai	II
4.	Sathiya Priya. S	P.U.M.S. Chittampatti, Madurai	II
5.	Harini. S	Eden Science Club, Madurai	III
6.	Muthins. P	Eden Science Club, Madurai	III

Prizes were distributed to the winners and certificates were given to all the participants.

Colourful charts were displayed in the hall highlighting the basic features of Immune systems and engrossing activities throughout the session showed the fervour of Immunology day celebrations on that day. Dr. P. Paul Kumaran, chief guest of the event, distributed the prizes and certificates to all the winners of quiz competitions. Dr. H. Shakila distributed participation certificates to all the participants.

Finally, the session was closed with healthy lunch and group photography.

Organized by-

Dr. H. Shakila
Associate Professor
Department of Molecular Microbiology
School of Biotechnology
Madurai Kamaraj University, Palkalai Nagar
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Like the previous year, the World Day of Immunology was also celebrated this year with much enthusiasm at the Department of Biotechnology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology on May 02, 2018. The program was conducted at the Biotechnology Auditorium of the School of Bioengineering and was attended by the Dean, Head of the Department, research and teaching faculties, PhD scholars as well as the graduate and postgraduate students of the department. In association with Indian Immunology Society, this year we have organized a “Workshop on Flowcytometry” to celebrate the World Day of Immunology. More than 100 participants were assembled for this workshop (please, see the attached list of participants). The event was started with the Dean of the School of Bioengineering, Dr. M. Vairamani, welcoming the workshop’s instructor, Dr. Amitav Mohanty. Mr. Kumar Mangalam, a student currently in his IIIrd year of B.Tech program, delivered the welcome address and greeted Dr. Mohanty on behalf of the department. Mr. Mangalam also went on to recount Dr. Mohanty’s resume and introduced him to the audience. Dr. Mohanty started his talk discussing the theoretical concepts and practical applications of flowcytometry in Immunology followed by hands on demonstration of a flowcytometer using the samples prepared by one of our Research Assistant Professors, Dr. Koustav Sarkar. At the penultimate portion of the workshop, Dr. Mohanty arranged a quiz on flowcytometry. Ms. Aaleya Sanyal Talapatra, a B.Tech student was awarded a special prize for scoring the highest mark in that quiz. The program was concluded with a vote of thanks by one of our Research Assistant Professors, Dr. Oindrilla Mukherjee, and presentation of a small memento of appreciation to Dr. Mohanty by one of our Research Associate Professors, Dr. K.M. Ramkumar.

Organized by-

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International Day of Immunology

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The world Immunology Day was celebrated at University College of Medical Sciences & GTB Hospital on 2nd May 2018 with a lot of enthusiasm. We had invited Dr. Urmi Bajpai, Associate Professor , Deputy Dean Research in University of Delhi to deliver a talk titled **“Phage therapy : immune modifying therapeutic option, a revolution in science”** .

As William H Mayo said “The glory of medicine is that it is constantly moving forward, that there is always more to learn. The ills of today do not cloud the horizon of tomorrow, but act as a spur to greater effort.”

World Immunology day was first launched in Europe in 2005 with a purpose to increase awareness around the world about immunology and the importance of immunity to fight major diseases, improve research and save lives.

The talk was to provide an alternate therapy if ever a post antibiotics era becomes inevitable, bacteriophage therapy or simply phage therapy holds promise as an alternative treatment option. Bacteriophages are viruses that infect and kill bacteria. The revitalization of phage therapy has received increased global attention since the appearance of multidrug-resistant bacteria. The most striking advantage of bacteriophage therapy is the ability to tailor treatment specifically to kill the pathogenic bacteria — provided the diagnostic procedures are highly accurate.

She also highlighted that the presence of bacteriophages in the micro biome and their potential role in maintaining normal immunity has gained increasing attention for maintaining immunological homeostasis. The talk ended with a vote of thanks to our Principal, Senior faculty members and students for attending this function.

Organized by-

Dr. Shukla Das
Professor

Department of Microbiology
UCMS & GTB Hospital, Dilshad Garden
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International Day of Immunology

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The world Day of Immunology (DOI) was celebrated on 30th April 2018, at the Department of Molecular Oncology, Cancer Institute (WIA) through a series of lectures under the theme “Life style management and the Immune system”, organized by Dr. Mayil Vahanan Bose and Dr. Priya. The first of the lectures was on “Understanding nutrition and immunity” delivered by Dr. Sabitha. Dr. Gopal gave the next lecture on “Lifestyle Management – Inflammation, Healing and cancer”. Dr. Samson delivered a lecture on “Influence of Early Life Nutrition on Epigenetic Regulatory Mechanisms of the Immune System”. A quiz competition on basic immunology was held by Dr. Balaji at the end and two winning teams of three participants each were chosen and prizes were awarded by Mr. Dhatchana Moorthy, Research Scientist from Orchid Pharma. Total of 32 participants from five different institutions attended the lecture series and benefited. This annual event is being conducted for the second consecutive year to prime the undergraduates, post graduates and research scholars from other institutes about the current research trends in Immunology. Refreshments were provided to the audience at the end of the day. Certificates were distributed to all the participants by the senior faculty of the department of Molecular Oncology.

Organized by-

Dr. Mayil Vahanan Bose
Department of Molecular Oncology,
Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai – 60036

International Day of Immunology

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We celebrated immunology day in Department of Microbiology, AIIH&PH, Kolkata on 1n May, Tuesday, 2018 by a small awareness cum educative program. Theme was on "Lifestyle management and the immune system". The audience was registered prior to entry into auditorium, and comprised mainly of doctors, students of various courses within the institute, technicians, attendants and also common people. some doctors and trainees from outside the institute also came to participate. About 113 people were registered for the program. Delegates were welcomed by floral bouquets. The program started with inauguration by our honourable Director Sir, Dr U.K. Chattopadhyay, at 10 am in the Auditorium. He lit the ceremonial lamp along with other faculty members of other departments which were also present. Along with that Saraswati Vandana was also played to invoke the blessings of the Goddess. Director gave a brief speech on the immune system of our body and the effect of lifestyle on the immune system. The Additional Director of our campus also gave a short talk and emphasized the impact of a healthy lifestyle on the immune system. This was followed by a brief talk by HOD , Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition, Dr. R.R. Pati, who spoke on the effect of nutrition on immunity and stressed upon the effects of a healthy diet and its various components on overall immunity. After that HOD Microbiology, Dr Atul Raj delivered a oral presentation on Environmental sensitization by microbes and the immune system, in which he spoke elaborately on the effects of environment, pets and habits like drinking deionised water on immune system development. The talks were interactive and the speakers answered questions posed by the audience. Following this there was a short tea break, after which the participants again assembled in the hall, there was a lecture session by Dr CS Raklikar, Associate Professor, Department of Health promotion and Health Education of the institute. He spoke on the psychological and social aspects of modern lifestyle, stress and their telling effects on immune system development. The audience responded with questions at the end. Subsequently there was a quiz round with 6 teams which were formed on the spot the

teams consisted of Doctors, students of M.Sc. nutrition and Diploma in Dietetics and Health Promotion and Health Education courses, The winners were awarded with small tokens of appreciation by Faculty and organisers. The program ended at 1 pm with vote of thanks from the H.O.D. Microbiology amidst applause from the audience.

Organized by-

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ICMR-National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH) and ICMR-NIV Enterovirus Research Centre (ERC), Mumbai, jointly celebrated the International Immunology Day on 4th May 2018. On this occasion a guest lecture on the theme of “Host-parasite interactions in malaria: Immunity and pathology” was arranged and Dr. Shobhona Sharma, Senior Professor (I) and Chairperson, Department of Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai was invited to deliver the lecture. The program was organised in the NIRRH Seminar Hall and was attended by eminent scientists from NIRRH, Dr. Smita Mahale, Director, ICMR-NIRRH, Dr. Savita Kulkarni, Scientist G, RMC, Tata Memorial Hospital, Dr. Madhu Mohanty, Scientist E, ICMR-NIV-ERC and Dr. Taruna Madan, Scientist E, Head, Department of Innate Immunity, ICMR-NIRRH. Several Ph.D. scholars and research staff of ICMR-NIRRH and ICMR-NIV-ERC also attended the program. Dr. Savita Kulkarni, Scientist G, RMC, Tata Memorial Hospital welcomed the guests and the attendees and felicitated Dr. Sharma with a memento. Dr. Madan highlighted the significance of Immunology day and how immunology is a key for robust reproductive health and host defense against malaria in pregnant women. She then introduced the speaker Dr. Sharma and apprised of her contributions in the field of host defense against malarial parasite for last 20 years. Dr. Sharma delivered a very informative lecture encompassing their salient research findings. She apprised that malarial parasite modulates the host immune system to its own advantage in many ways. It is well documented that immunity to malaria develops gradually, after several attacks and over many years. The successful passive transfer of malarial immunity through antibodies from malaria immune adults has shown that antibodies play an important role in immune protection. In TIFR, they used a differential immunoscreen to identify certain protective parasite antigens. Unlike typical strain-specific-polymorphic surface proteins of *Plasmodium falciparum*, these were proteins conserved within several species of *Plasmodium*. Epidemiological assessments of B and T cell responses to some of these antigens, such as P-riboproteins and enolase, established their protective nature in India as well as in Africa. B cell-mediated humoral responses are essential for controlling malarial infection. However, not much is known about B cell fate during *P. vivax* infection, which is dominant in India. She presented data regarding peripheral B cell profiles and antibody responses during acute *P. vivax* infection and upon recovery (30 days post treatment) in Mumbai, a low-transmission area in India. Dengue patients were included as febrile-condition controls. Serum antibody profiling showed a predominantly parasite-specific IgM response that persisted at recovery and after repeated infections. A persistent IgM autoantibody response was also observed in

malaria but not dengue patients. Their data suggested that in hypoendemic regions acute P. vivax infection skews peripheral B cell subsets and results in a prolonged parasite-specific autoreactive IgM response. She thanked Indian Immunology Society (IIS) for creating awareness regarding the role of immunology in host defense and supporting the celebrations all over the country. It was highly appreciated by the audience.

The lecture was followed by High Tea.

A quiz contest named “Immunoquest” was conducted by PhD scholars Ms Gargi Thakur, Ms Kavita Kale, Mr. Ram Subedi and Ms Aishwarya Rao under the guidance of Dr. Bhakti Pathak, Scientist E, ICMR-NIRRH wherein students/staff of NIRRH participated in four groups. The contest comprised of five rounds. First round was “Guess the term” (Entosis; Trophocytosis; Netosis and Necroptosis) and the team that guessed the correct term was named after that term. Second round was “Multiple choice”; third round was True/False followed by “Pictionary” (Guess the term by drawing) and “Immunoantyakshari”. The program was well organized and was enjoyed by all. Winners team “Trophocytosis” were given prizes and some audience were given consolation prizes.

Organized by-

Dr. Taruna Madan Gupta
ICMR-National Institute for Research
in Reproductive Health (NIRRH)
&
Dr. (Mrs) Madhu Chhanda Mohanty
ICMR-NIV Enterovirus Research
Centre (ERC), Mumbai

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World Immunology Day is celebrated on 29th April. The department celebrated it on the 27th April (a working day) by arranging a tea and talk session. The program was supported by Indian Immunology Society. The session highlighted the importance of immunology, to not only the students but also the staff and general public. An eminent senior scientist Dr. Rahul Pal from National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi delivered an interesting talk. He spoke about

“Disorders of Proliferation: Analysis of Novel Pathways and targets”.

The talk started with basics of immunology keeping in view the audience and highlighted the role of this science. Gradually he shifted to the consequences of autoreactive immune responses, the diverse auto-antibodies and their correlation with different organ manifestations in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Highlighting the role of apoptosis and the inefficient clearance of debris in the disease, he spoke about its association with disease pathology. Pregnancy complications during Lupus and its relation with Anti-phospholipid antibodies and Human chorionic gonadotropin were also discussed. He shared his research interests on Human chorionic gonadotropin and its association with autoimmune disorders, pregnancy and cancer progression. The secretion of Human chorionic gonadotropin by variety of cancer cells led his talk to a very interesting point. Hence, he eventually discussed his research on understanding the molecular targets of HCG and how they can be aimed for therapeutic purposes. He led us to think the potential that anti-HCG vaccination can hold.

His interactive style became popular with the audience, prompting them to ask questions. A meeting was arranged between the research scholars and Dr. Rahul Pal wherein he discussed various research interests and how should they implement them

Organized by-

**Prof. Archana Bhatnagar
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Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), NE Region, ICMR, Dibrugarh in association with the Indian Immunology Society (IIS) conducted 'International Day of Immunology' on the theme "Life style management and the immune system" on 1st May, 2018 at RMRC NE Region (ICMR), Dibrugarh with the aim of imparting awareness about the importance of immunology in our routine life to scientists, research scholars and technicians of the centre. The event began with inauguration by Dr. K. Narain, Director; Dr. P. Dutta, Scientist G and Dr. J. Mahanta, Distinguished Scientist Chair. A welcome address was given by Dr. D. Gogoi, INSPIRE Faculty followed by a brief introduction about the 'International Day of Immunology' by Dr. K. Narain, Director. This was followed by lectures by the speakers in the classroom. The first talk was presented by Dr. A.M. Khan on the topic, "Food and its relation to immune system", wherein the importance of proper diet that in maintaining a good immune system was elaborated and the talk ended with a brief note on benefits of fecal microbiota transplant. Next talk was given by Dr. K. Yadav on the topic "Vitamin D and its relation to the immune system". He emphasized the importance of vitamin D rich diet and the importance of sun to vitamin D synthesis in our body. The last talk was presented by Dr. D. Gogoi on the topic "How stress in routine life affects our immune system". He explained the impact of acute and chronic stress on our immune system and emphasis the importance of mild exercise and meditation as behavioral interventions to modulate stress and inflammation. The program was concluded in the evening with an intense discussion by the participants and speakers followed by a vote of thanks from Dr. K. Yadav.

Organized by-

Dr. Dimpu Gogoi
RMRC NE Region, Dibrugarh

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SYMPOSIUM ON WORLD IMMUNOLOGY DAY 2018

“Gazing in to the horizon of Immune System”

Chief Organiser: Prof. Alpana Sharma

April 29th is recognized as the World Immunology Day. The Immunology day celebration was organized at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi by the Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS and Indian Immunology Society on 1st May 2018. The theme of this event was “Gazing in to the horizon of Immune System”. The symposium started with inaugural session in which Chief guest was Prof. G. P. Talwar, Director Research at the Talwar Research Foundation. Other dignitaries in this symposium were Prof. Subrata Sinha, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS; Prof. Nibhriti Das, Secretary, IIS; Prof. Manoj Sharma, former Director, Professor of Dept. of Radiation Oncology, MAMC. Prof. L.M.Srivastava, Prof. Indira Nath and Prof. Sita Naik solicited the occasion. This year keeping the theme of awareness in mind, school children of std 9th to 12th were invited to attend the symposium and participate in various activities. Total of 70 students from five schools of Delhi and NCR attended the symposium. Around 250 delegates participated in this symposium which included faculty members, research scholars, postgraduate students of AIIMS and other Institutions and school children.

The programme was inaugurated with the welcome address delivered by Chief Organiser Prof. Alpana Sharma where she emphasized on the significance of the Immunology day and efforts of IIS to promote Immunology at various places in India. She has discussed about the crosstalk between immune system, lifestyle and health. This is followed by the address delivered by Prof. Subrata Sinha, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS who discussed the importance of immunology in every field of science and its advancement in past decades. Then, Prof. Nibhriti Das, Secretary, IIS shared her views about the efforts put forth by the society in helping the students for attending various conferences. She appreciated the efforts of organising the successful symposium.

Prof Manoj Sharma, then, addressed the gathering by focusing on importance of awareness of immunology in general public. The highlight of the symposium is to spread immunology awareness among school children. In this direction, Prof. Manoj Sharma and Prof. Alpana Sharma has written a book on immunology “Adbhudh Immune Pranali” which has mentioned about immunology in a simple way with cartoons and fascinating images. The chief guest Prof. G.P.Talwar launched this book along with other dignitaries. This educational book on immunology was freely distributed to all the school children. This effort was appreciated by the stalwarts in immunology present there and the participants attended the symposium. Lastly, the chief guest Prof G. P. Talwar delivered the inaugural notes by enlightening on how the foundation of Immunology was laid in our country. He described the burden of rising incidence of leprosy and how its impact made his team to work on developing an immunotherapeutic leprosy vaccine.

The inaugural notes by the guest of honour were followed by guest lecture session. The guest lecture session was presided by Prof S S Chauhan and Prof. Nibhriti Das. The guest lecture was delivered by Dr. Sita Naik (SGPGI, Lucknow). She delivered her talk on "Immunology demystified" in which she discussed about the relevance of immunology and vaccination in a simple and logistic way to aware school children. Her lecture was highly informative and appreciated by the audience. The second lecture was delivered by Prof. Sujay Khandpur (Dept. of Dermatology, AIIMS) on "Dermatological signs- A testimony to the role of Immunology in skin diseases". He showed the involvement of immune system in various dermatological skin disorders such as leprosy, alopecia areata, vitiligo, etc. The session chair for this lecture were Prof. Kalpana Luthra and Prof. Savita Yadav.

The last but successful session of the programme was Quiz-o-con: An Immunoinight in which participation was received from various postgraduate and PhD students. This session was judged by Prof. Kalpana Luthra and Prof. Kunzang Chosdol. The quiz was conducted by Quiz masters Dr. Karthikeyan P, Dr. Ashikh Seethy and Dr. Janvie, SR, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS. 7 teams of three students each participated in quiz in preliminary round and 4 teams were selected for consecutive rounds. Following session comprised of 4 rounds such as warm up round, image based round, challenging round and rapid fire round. Quiz-o-con was highly appreciated and enjoyed by all the faculty members and students. Winner and runner-up teams were awarded with cash prize.

Parallel to Quiz-o-con, poster making competition and essay competition were held in which 70 school children from 4 schools of Delhi and NCR participated. They have written significant and noteworthy messages on immunology which are beyond the imagination for the children of this age group. The first three best posters and essays were judged by Dr. Uma Kanga, Dept. of Transplantation Immunology, AIIMS and Dr. Archana Singh, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS. Winners and runner up children were awarded with certificate and gifts.

The programme started at 10 AM and ended at 1.30 PM. All the delegates were awarded their certificates at the end of the session. The programme was well appreciated by senior faculty members and was described as knowledgable and enjoyable by students.

The programme was concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Archana Singh, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS. She thanked all the dignitaries, school children, participants for various events. All the participants and attendees were provided the refreshment at the end of symposium. This symposium was a grand success this year.

Organized by-

**Prof. Alpana Sharma
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Event: World Immunology Day; Date: 30-04-2018; Duration: 2:30 PM-6:00 PM

Venue: Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology Center, The M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara

Chief Guest: Dr. Devesh Patel, Medical Officer of Health, Vadodara Municipal Cooperation, Vadodara

Participants: M.Sc. and Ph.D. students of Biological Sciences of the MSU, Vadodara.

Invited Speakers:

1- Dr. Naresh Kumar, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, The M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat

2- Dr. Vivek Tanavde, Associate Professor, Division of Biological Sciences, Ahmadabad University, Ahmadabad, Gujarat

Other Speaker:

3- Dr Ratika Srivastava, Assistant Prof –UGC, Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology Center, MSU

Programme Proceedings:

1- Introduction to Immunology and purpose to celebrate the world Immunology Day

2- Welcome address from Dr. G. Archana, HOD, Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology Center, MSU: She welcomed the chief guest, speakers, and participants and introduced the Chief Guest and speakers. She invited all on dice.

3- University song sung by all the attendees.

4- Bouquet and a token of appreciation handed over to chief guest and invited speaker by Masters Students.

4- Chief Guest, Dr Devesh Patel addressed the gathering. He encouraged the students to pursue immunology as research career option explaining the immense potential. He also extended his help to the faculties doing clinical research for patient sample access and appreciated organization and active participation of the students.

5- First Invited speaker: Dr Naresh Kumar delivered a talk on Immunomodulation by gut microbiota. He explained the various pro/anti-inflammatory modulations which can be achieved by microbiome. Additionally he also spread awareness about pro-biotics and pre-biotics conceptually. In second part of his talk he talked about the Bacterial ghost as an excellent, safe, stable delivery system of delivering antigen in to host for the purpose of vaccine development. Student were excited about this field and asked questions to understand the field in better way.

6- Second Speaker, Dr Vivek Tanavde change the flavor of the session by introducing flowcytometry based advanced for stem cell transplataion. He explained the audience about development of clinical test, importance of their reproducibility across different labs globally. His talk also shed light on MDSC (Myeloid derived suppressor cells) and CAR-T cell under section adoptive T cell based transfer therapy with advancements of flow-cytometry as sorting tool. At end of his talk audience asked interesting questions regarding the stem cell transplants and how much beneficial is cord blood stem cell storage is as offered by maternity clinics to save the new born.

7- Third Talk titled: "Immuno-oncology: Why it is so talked about" was delivered by Dr Ratika Srivastava (Organizer of the event, Assistant Prof -UGC, Department of Microbiology & Biotechnology Center). She introduced the gathering with current success in immune-oncology of anti-CTLA-4, PD-1/PD-1L blockade with recent FDA approvals. She explained the hurdles in treating cancer by host own immune response, introduced the concept of CART cells. She also shared the data of ongoing clinical trials happening globally, mentioning negligible participation from India. Potential of combination strategy to treat cancers was also discussed. In question answer session, it was discussed that why India is not actively participating in CART cell research. Dr Ratika and Dr Vivek Tanavde explained few related issues in this regard.

8- At end, Dr Ratik Srivastava delivered the vote of thanks.

9- National Anthem was sung.

10- Gathering was invited for high tea.

Organized by-

**Dr. Ratika Srivastava
Assistant Prof -UGC, Department of
Microbiology & Biotechnology Center
The M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara**

International Day of Immunology

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REPORT

World Immunology Day (International Day of Immunology) was celebrated at Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College (DRPGMC), Tanda, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh on 1st May, 2018. Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College is a tertiary care institute of the state. Facilities for diagnosis of Primary Immunodeficiency Disorders (PIDs) are in a state of infancy in the institute. However, awareness regarding PIDs along with available laboratory investigations have resulted in making a diagnosis of PIDs in few patients at DRPGMC. Some patients are getting regular treatment in form of replacement Intra-venous Immunoglobulins.

Faculty, residents from department of Pediatrics and Medicine and undergraduate students participated in the celebration of World Immunology Day/ International Day of Immunology. Patients who are being treated at DRPGMC also participated in the event. Dr Avinash Sharma, welcome the participants and introduced the program for the event. This was followed by presentations on approach to patients with Primary Immunodeficiency Disorders (PIDs), their diagnosis and management. Warning signs for identification of PIDs were discussed in detail. Case based discussions were also held. It was highlighted that it is not always difficult to diagnose these conditions and few clinical clues along with some simple and inexpensive laboratory investigations may help screen the patients for common PIDs which are being missed due to lack of awareness regarding these conditions.

This was followed by sharing of experiences by the families affected with PIDs. Finally, participants were thanked, gifts were distributed to children and refreshments were served.

Organized by-

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Department of Pediatrics
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International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

Celebrating World Immunology Day 2018 with Kendriya Vidyalaya Students

The program started at 9:30 A.M. with welcome Speech by Dr. Sushmita Jha on Immunology & Hygiene. It was followed by a short introduction session with PhD & M.Tech students where they talked about their journey to science. This interaction was aimed at encouraging students to choose a career in science. After this videos were shown on the Immune system; how it fights different microorganisms and the importance of daily hygiene for prevention of diseases. After a short snack break the program continued with activities from 10:30 to 11:30am.

1. **Activity 1:** Puzzle to identify names of cells and pathogens from the grids of alphabets with the help of hints. (10min)
2. **Activity 2:** Rapid fire round on questions from all three videos. (15min) 20 questions
3. **Activity 3:** viewing slides under the microscope: (30min)
 - a. Blood smears: Normal vs. Infected
 - b. Sections of the human brain

After activities were completed, Prof. Madhu Dikshit, Professor-in-charge, Dept. of Bioscience and Bioengineering (Former Director CDRI Lucknow), interacted with students and reiterated the importance of Health and Hygiene. A group of M.Tech students enacted a short skit based on hygiene and healthy habits. This skit gave the message of keeping our surroundings clean, taking medicines only after a doctor's recommendation to avoid antibiotic resistance, eating clean & healthy food and completing your work in time to avoid mental stress. Prof. Madhu Dikshit distributed prizes to the winners of the activities. Two prizes to teams winning in Rapid fire round and one prize to individual student winning the puzzle was distributed. The celebration ended with group photographs and feedback from students on what they have learned and liked about the event.

Organized by-

Dr. Sushmita Jha
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International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

Day of Immunology will be organized universally by various immunological societies, and in India, IIS, being a prestigious society, has taken the initiative since several years to organize such events as an awareness program all-over the country with the motive of developing and expanding the subject Immunology through training and research. The main objective behind is to use immunology to address the major health challenges in India.

To mark the International Day of Immunology - 2018, the Division of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, Department of Water and Health – Faculty of Life Sciences (D&W - FLS), JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER), Mysuru, in association with Indian Immunological Society (IIS), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, has organised a day program on the theme “Life Style Management and the Immune System” (Apr.30) at JSS Medical Institution campus, Mysuru from 10.30AM to 4.00PM.

The program began by invocation, welcoming the Guests by Dr. Latha, Assistant Prof., Division of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, D&W - FLS, JSS AHER, lighting the lamp, and felicitation to our invited guests, followed by the importance of International Day of Immunology - 2018 briefed by Dr. M N Kiran Kumar, Assistant Prof., Division of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, D&W - FLS, JSS AHER. Later, the opening remarks was from the chief guest, Prof. T Veerabasappa Gowda, Retd. Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Mysore, on the importance of immunology and how to inculcate modern day lifestyle to improve good health. Next, the special Invitee, Prof. H.S. Prakash, UGC-BSR Fellow, Dept. of Biotechnology, University of Mysore, spoke about modern technology, startup innovations, research facilities and funding opportunities from Govt. of India (GOI) by encouraging students to carryout high level innovative research on immunology, utilizing JSS medical college and Hospital for clinical samples, which he pointed out as an unique opportunity for researchers at JSS institutions. Then, the Registrar, Dr. B Manjunatha, JSS AHER, appreciated the efforts in initiating Day of immunology at JSS AHER and emphasized the students to adopt well-balanced lifestyle and to think about skill development, an GOI initiative Skill India program. Further, the Director (Academic), Dr. P A Kushalappa, JSS AHER, addressed the students by encouraging on modern dietary habits as a lifestyle management to keep good health. Next, a special lecture by Dr. Joseph Kingston, Scientist, Defence Food Research Laboratory, who conveyed the key message on how lifestyle management plays a major role on improving good immune system. He delivered a fantastic lecture and envisioned the students on vaccinology research. The Chairman, Prof. Chandrashekarappa, and the HoD, Dr. Dattatri K Nagesha, D&W – FLS,

graced the occasion. This was followed by vote of thanks by Dr. T S Gopenath, Associate Prof., D&W, JSS AHER.

The program would not have been successful without the student's participation, wherein undergraduate and postgraduate students of D&W – FLS, presented the posters on “impact of modern dietary lifestyle and environmental pollution on the immune system”. All the poster presenters were evaluated for the best poster and awarded the cash prize. All the efforts to organize the event was taken from Dr. M N Kiran Kumar, Dr. K C Latha, Dr S Chandan and Dr T S Gopenath, Division of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, Dept. of Water and Health – Faculty of Life Sciences, JSS AHER, Mysuru.

Organized by-

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Assistant Professor
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Faculty of Life Sciences
JSS Academy of Higher Education and
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International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

Under the aegis of Indian Immunology Society and ROTTO (Regional Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organisation), The Department of Immunopathology celebrated the World Immunology Day on 27th of April 2017 (official date being 29th April) by conducting an awareness program for school children in Bhargava Auditorium. The Program was inaugurated by Chief Guest Prof. Arvind Rajwanshi, Dean (Research) PGIMER & Acting Director and Guest of Honour Dr. Vipin Koushal, Nodal officer (ROTTTO). It was primarily aimed to introduce the concept of Immunology and its impact on health and disease to school children. Distinguished speakers took 6 lectures on Introduction to Immune System and association of Environment in Health and Disease. Role of immune system in HIV AIDS, Cancer, Allergic Disorders and Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases was also discussed along with flashing light on awareness about Organ Donation. 760 students from 9th to 12th standard attended the program and participated in immuno quiz and poster competition with theme "Take care of your body-it is the place where you live in". Prizes to winners were distributed from the financial support from ROTTO, PGIMER and Indian Immunology Society and Refreshments were provided to all the participants.

Highlights of the program

Prof A. Rajwanshi, Dean, PGIMER and Acting Director who was the honourable Chief Guest, said in his opening address that ,it was a very good idea to use WORLD IMMUNOLOGY DAY to educate children,about important concepts of immunology,vaccinations and organ donation.This would go a long way to inculcate healthy habits and prevent a number of lifestyle diseases in the community.

The Guest of Honour on the occasion **Dr Vipin Koushal, Nodal Officer, ROTTO** (Regional Organ And Tissue Transplantation Organisation) oriented the participants about the noble cause of organ donation using an audiovisual clip of super heroes facilitating Heart transplantation."Students being the change agents, engaging them is very important as they will not only ,have the right information themselves but will also be instrumental in dispelling myths and misconceptions in society".

Prof Ranjana W.Minz, Head of Immunopathology explained to the children that the Immune system of the body is like an organised army guarding every nook and corner of the body. It was imperative to maintain this army organised as tissues and lymphoid organs, and mobile and patrolling immune cells in a healthy state. Health of the whole body,including the immune system,required a balanced diet,exercise,absence of stress and clean environment.she said awareness from early youth could prevent so many communicable and non communicable diseases in our society.

Eminent speakers like **Professors Sunil Arora, Mani Luthra Gupta sharma, Biman Saikia, and Ritu Aggarwal** educated the children about HIV/AIDS ,Environmental pollutants ,Cancer, Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases while **Dr Yashwant Kumar** spoke on Allergies and **Dr Mahendra kumar** spoke on prevention of lifestyle diseases.

"TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY ,IT IS THE PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE IN" was the theme for a poster making competition among children. In addition an Immunology Quiz was also organised by **Dr. K. Priyanka and Ph.D. students** of the Department. The Awareness Programme concluded with an impressive prize distribution ceremony and felicitation of the dignitaries. Refreshments were served to all enthusiastic children and their committed teachers. The enthusiasm and energy radiated from the students was really quite refreshing.

Organized by-

**Prof. Ranjana W.Minz, Head
Department of Immunopathology
Post Graduate Institute of Medical
Education and Research
Chandigarh - 160012**

International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

This was for the first time that the international day of immunology was being celebrated in our institute. Ours is a central govt. institute, under the Ministry of labour. The focus of this year's celebration was to make undergraduate students aware of immunology and its scope in research as well as in patient care in terms of clinical medicine. The main vision of the event was to make connection between research and medicine using immunology as a bridge. In view of this a speaker was invited who is a doctor as well as an immunologist, all rolled in to one.

The programme started with the welcoming of the guest speaker, by Professor Soumya Chakroborty, Professor and head department of Anatomy and coordinator MEU, on behalf of MEU, ESIC Medical college.

The Guest speaker, Prof. **Mitali Chatterjee, is MBBS, MD (Pharmacology): University of Calcutta, Ph.D.: Jadavpur University.** Her research Interests being Immunopharmacology. Her PhD thesis was on Kala Azar. She is Member of various bodies like VALIDATE, a consortium funded by Medical Research Council, UK, SERB, Govt. of India Health Sciences Committee is Scientific Advisor: Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of West Bengal. She is recipient of various accolades and awards like HRD Fellowship, ICMR (DHR), Govt. of India, Kanishka oration award (2013) ICMR, Govt. of India, DN Prasad Memorial Oration Award (2007), ICMR, Govt. of India etc.

The speaker explained the whole phenomenon of immunology very lucidly using vitiligo as a prototype. She told it beautifully how she and her team were going in the unknown zone when seeing the correlation between ROS and vitiligo. This she told as if they were groping in the dark, and how we all researchers first go in an unknown zone and try to bring out known facts from it. Subsequently the session was open to discussion. In which many of the senior faculties raised their views on the presentation, which was ably answered by Prof. Chatterjee.

Following the deliberation by the speaker, there was poster presentation and display of models made by MBBS students of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th semester. These posters and models were made by them under the guidance of faculties from the department of Microbiology and Biochemistry. Students presented their poster and models in front of the speaker, on which she conducted short question answer session individually with them. This was followed by distribution of certificates to the students by her, in appreciation of their participation. The guest was all praise for the enthusiastic students, and their overzealous participation.

As a token of appreciation the head of the institute, Dean Prof. Joydeb Roychoudhury gave the speaker a certificate, and Professor Sonali Mukherjee, Professor and Head Department of Pharmacology gave a memento.

The session lasted for more than 2 hours, and was closed by vote of thanks, given by Professor Joya Ghosh, Professor Department of Biochemistry, member MEU. Vote of thanks was given to the Dean, Coordinator MEU, various other members of MEU, the clerical staff, helpers like electrician, conservancy staff etc

This was followed by working lunch for all the participating members.

The programme was immense success, being the first of its kind in our institute. I Professor Joya Ghosh on the behalf of ESIC medical college Joka, Kolkata would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Indian Immunology Society for their encouragement and required financial support.

Organized by-

**Prof. Joya Ghosh
Department of Biochemistry
ESIC Medical College Joka, Kolkata**

International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

To commemorate the World Immunology Day-29th April, Indian Immunology Society (IIS) and Department of Zoology, University of Delhi jointly organised one-day symposium. This symposium was held in Department of Zoology, University of Delhi on 2nd May, 2018. Many IIS Life-members, eminent scientists, Postdoctoral Scientists, and budding PhD researchers have participated in this lecture series. The symposium held a sequence of lectures by honourable Professors, and Scientists. This symposium was an exclusive opportunity to increase cognizance around the world about the immunology and the significance of our body immunity to combat with major diseases. This program has convalesced the research and thought-process quality and that would be benefited to mankind.

This World Immunology Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and total 70 people participated with their great zeal. Among total participants, 50 PhD students joined for this lecture-series, rest are postdoctoral fellows, and faculties.

The theme of the symposium was '**Nurturing Immunobiology....and Beyond**'. Prof. Yogendra Singh, J. C. Bose Fellow welcomed the audience with his inaugural speech. He spoke about the importance of immunology in infectious diseases. He mentioned about India's current situation, challenges and overview to control tuberculosis. He is very much enthusiastic with his current discoveries where he has found role of microbiome to combat tuberculosis. His speech was very motivating for budding students.

Dr. Anju Shrivastava, Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Delhi gave the key-note lecture in this symposium. She talked about how life-style diseases causes chronic inflammation which could lead to cancer. She is very-much excited with her recent discoveries where some purified plant compounds showed anti-cancer properties.

Followed by, 9 PhD students presented their work. Students were very delighted and excited as they could present their own work in front of their own colleagues. Among students, one student presented about bacterial innate and adaptive immunity which augmented the worth of symposium further.

The session was chaired by Prof. Shibnath Mazumder, Prof. Mallikarun Sakhrad, and Prof. Rajagopal Raman. Mentor Talk was given by Prof. Alok C Bharati who encouraged the students by his fascinating talk.

Outcome:

I, Dr. Tanmay Majumdar as an organizing secretary as well as all other participants found the celebration of the World Immunology Day as a great opportunity in creating awareness about the importance of immunobiology. The science which led up to develop this subject has created challenges to keep living organism healthy. This symposium also educates the

translational part of immunology which is the actual goal of IIS. The students are highly inspired and they are determined to promote immunology and as well as Indian Immunology Society in course of time. Almost all students have been agreed to be a member of this prestigious society. Certificate of appreciation was presented to all attendants.

Organized by-

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International Day of Immunology

April 29, 2018

REPORT

For the third successive year, World Immunology Day (WID) Celebrations were held at Department of Biochemistry, HNB Garhwal University on 1st May, 2018. The programme was successfully organised to create awareness about importance of immunology in the fight against infection, autoimmunity and cancer. This year, the theme for celebrations was “**Immunization**”. The event was organized by the Department of Biochemistry in collaboration with the Indian Immunology Society (IIS), New Delhi. The faculty members and students of School of Life Sciences actively participated in the event.

The whole celebration was organized under the following four sessions:

1. Lectures by experts followed by discussions.
2. Quiz session followed by refreshments.
3. Poster Competition based on Immunization.
4. Valedictory Function.

The event started with the welcome address of Dr. Nisha Singh, Assistant Professor & Convener, (WID), HNB Garhwal University. Dr. Nisha explained the need for celebrating such events and highlighted the need of Immunization. She delivered the keynote address on “Global Immunization: Advances and Challenges ahead”. She emphasized that immunization is not limited only to children; it’s for all including adults and old age people. Further, Dr. Saurabh Yadav, Biotechnology Deptt., addressed the gathering on “Intellectual Property Right: Vaccines”. A couple of short talks on “Immunization” was also delivered by the faculties of School of Life Sciences. Students actively participated in the Quiz and poster competition. In the valedictory function, Dr. Nisha congratulated all the winners of various competitions and distributed mementoes, prizes and certificates. The event information was covered by the university official twitter account (@HNBGU official twitter handle

@h_garhwal.https://twitter.com/h_garhwal/status/991916967865925632?s=08)

Organized by-
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