



# INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGISTS NEWSLETTER

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## Executive Council of IAMM

### President :

Dr. Tapan N Dhole, (SGPGI, Lucknow)

### Secretary :

Dr. B. L. Sherwal, (RGSSH, Delhi)

### Treasurer :

Dr. Bharati Malhotra, (SMS MC, Jaipur)

### Chief Editor :

Dr. V. Balaji, (CMC, Vellore)

### Joint Secretary :

Dr. Satish Patil, (KIMS Karad)

### Executive members :

Dr. Chand Wattal, (SGRH, New Delhi)  
 Dr. P.A. Joshi, (GMC, MIRAJ, Maharashtra)  
 Dr. N.P. Singh, (UCMS&GTB, New Delhi)  
 Dr. Pallab Ray, (PGIMER, Chandigarh)  
 Dr. R.B. Surpam, (GMC&H, Nagpur)  
 Dr. Rahul Narang, (MGIMS, Nagpur)  
 Dr. Sonal Saxena, (LHMC, New Delhi)

### Ex-Officio Member :

Dr. Shobha Broor, (SGT University, Gurugram)

## President's Message

### Greetings from President's Desk!

Dear Members and colleagues,

I wish all the members and their families a very happy and prosperous New Year, 2018. At the outset, I wish to express my sincere thanks & gratitude to all members of the Executive Council and General Body of IAMM for the confidence they imposed on me and electing me the president of the Association. I hope to carry on the glorious traditions of our association and strive hard to foster and maintain the high standards of professionalism in all the activities. The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Congress held at RANCHI, was indeed memorable and Prof. B.L. Sherwal, Organizing Chairman and Dr. Manoj Kumar, Organizing Secretary and his energetic team put up a great show, both academic and cultural, which needs to be appreciated and congratulated. Our Past President Dr Shobha Broor needs special thanks for conducting all the activities in a proper manner. I would sincerely appeal to all the Organising Secretaries of chapter conference of different states to provide their correct E-mail address to the Secretary and Editor of IAMM so that a good connectivity is maintained regarding academic activity in their region. All the selected papers in chapter conferences should be presented at the Annual Meeting for the final selection of best paper. The travel grant should be provided by state chapter conference to the presenter. The presenters can be Medical or Non Medical in the group of below 40 years.

Those who did not attend the Ranchi conference should be able to read all the prize winning papers which should be published in the electronic version in our Journal.

There are several other matters that require immediate attention of all IAMM members. I would like to place a couple of them before you for your consideration. First and foremost three member committee should visit each and every regional chapter meeting and give suggestion for improving teaching, academic atmosphere etc. They should meet and do some clinical grand round meeting in their cities on infectious disease cases. The feedback of the meeting should be given to the central body. At the same time they should also look for capable person for teaching and possessing golden hands to perform "Bench on" modern technology.

The second issue, the standard of teaching by faculty members at their departmental level should be upgraded. Proper moderation of topics and their selection should be circulated. Some of the good topics may be circulated at all India level so that uniformity in post graduates teaching. Periodical lectures can be fixed by National and international faculty at different institutes. The list of topics of the resource person should be circulated.

Third issue, centre of excellence should be identified in India where upcoming Microbiologist can be trained for the latest technology. We need to spend more time to train our manpower on Molecular techniques, tissue culture and tissue engineering, paper writing, project writing (Extramural and Intermural), clinical case discussion, ethics, biosafety and biosecurity, vaccineology and quality control.

Our next Annual conference "Microcon 2018" would be held at NIMHANS, Bangalore from 30<sup>th</sup> Nov to 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2018. The theme of the conference being "Breaking Barrier and Building Bridges".

Serving all of you as the President of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologist is truly my privilege. I would be very happy to receive any suggestions, views, and ideas which could be deliberated by the Association for furthering knowledge and improving services.

Best wishes,

**Prof. T.N. Dhole, M.D.**  
**President- IAMM**  
**SGPGIMS, Lucknow**



## Office of IAMM EQAS (Delhi)

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### Prof. (Dr.) B.L. Sherwal,

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## From the desk of Secretary.....

Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to send my greetings to you this new year. I am delighted to present to you the Newsletter of our distinguished association. It was only yesterday that we were all gathered in the "city of waterfalls" Ranchi for MICROCON 2017. I wish to put on record the excellent work done by the team at Ranchi and thank all the IAMM Office-bearers and Members for their continuous support.



My heartiest congratulations to our New President Dr Tapan N Dhole, SGPGI, Lucknow. I am certainly looking forward to working together with him for the betterment of the association.

The next IAMM Annual Conference MICROCON 2018 is going to be held at NIMHANS, Bengaluru from 28th November to 02nd December, 2018. I encourage everyone to participate in the conference as it is an excellent opportunity to connect with our professional peers. We are also expecting plenty of scientific presentations and a good deal of participation in the IAMM awards.

I am glad that our Association is growing and expanding with new members joining us each year and I request the senior members to encourage more young members to associate with us.

Please feel free to share this Newsletter with other members, friends and colleagues.

**With Seasons Greetings for a brighter future!**

**Dr. B.L. Sherwal**  
*Secretary, IAMM*

## Profile of Executive Council IAMM

### President : Dr. Tapan N. Dhole



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Designation: Professor & HOD of Microbiology  
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### Executive Member : Dr. Sonal Saxena



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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF IAMM AWARDS & PRIZES 2018 (Last date of receipt of all nominations July 31, 2018)

**1. Dr SC Agarwal Oration 2018:** This award is supported from the interest incurred from a fund donated by Dr SC Agarwal, to be given to a senior member of the association for his /her outstanding contribution to the field of Medical Microbiology. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with consent of the nominee along with the consent of the nominee along with six copies of his/her biodata should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2018. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee is to deliver an oration at the National IAMM Conference held in 2019. Nominations must come by post/courier as a hard copy along with a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM and Organising Secretary of Conference by the last date.

**2. Dr. H.I. Jhala Memorial award 2018:** This award is given to a senior member of the association above the age of 50 years, who has made significant contribution to the development of Medical microbiology in India. This award is supported from the interest from the fixed deposit donated by the organizers of the IAMM congress held at Sholapur in 1983. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with consent of the nominee along with six copies of his/her biodata should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2018. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The award will be conferred at the National IAMM Conference held in 2019. Nominations must come by post/courier as a hard copy along with a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM and Organising Secretary of Conference by the last date.

**3. IAMM Endowment lecture award 2018:** This award is supported by the annual interest obtained from the fixed deposit, donated by the organizers of the IAMM congress held at Hyderabad in 1985. This award is given to an eminent Medical Microbiologist, over the age of 50 years from India and abroad for their outstanding work in the field of Medical Microbiology, Bacteriology, Virology, Mycology, Parasitology/Immunology/Epidemiology and Microbiological techniques. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with consent of the nominee along with six copies of his/her biodata, including a write up on the contribution of the nominee to Medical Microbiology should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st July 2018. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee is to deliver an oration at the National IAMM Conference held in 2019. Nominations must come by post/courier as a hard copy along with a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM and Organising Secretary of Conference by the last date.

**4. Dr KB Sharma Memorial Junior Best paper award 2018:** Nominations are invited for the Best paper award competition to be held at National Conference of the IAMM at Bengaluru in Nov-Dec 2018. This award is supported by the annual interest obtained from the fixed deposit, donated by the Dr. Urmil Sharma W/o Dr. K.B. Sharma. The contestant should be a member of IAMM, less than 35 years of age as on Aug 31, 2018 (certificate showing the proof of age should be attached) and be the principle author of the paper. The same paper should not have received any other award or be published in any other award or be published in any journal and should be so certified, as a signed declaration by the contestant. The above mentioned declarations and six copies of the full paper complete with tables, figures, etc. (prepared according to the format of the IJMM) should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before July 31st, 2018. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The selected candidate will receive the citation and a gold medal at the valedictory function of the IAMM Conference Bengaluru in Nov-Dec 2018. Nominations must come by post/courier as a hard copy along with a soft copy to be sent to Secretary IAMM and Organising Secretary of Conference by the last date.

**5. Prof AN Chakrabarthy memorial Prize for the best published paper in Mycobacteriology 2018 :**

Any member, who has published a paper in the field of Mycobacteriology

during the preceding year i.e. 2017, in any National/ International journal will be eligible to submit paper for the award. The paper should not have received any other award and a declaration to that effect should be submitted while applying for the award. The above mentioned declarations and six copies of the full paper should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee will receive the award at the valedictory function of the IAMM Conference at Bengaluru in Nov-Dec 2018.

**6. Prizes for the best papers during the IAMM Conference 2018 (total six categories listed below):**

The following six prizes are given during the National Conference of the IAMM in Various categories:

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

Nominations are invited for the above said prizes. Any IAMM member is eligible to contest for these awards. Abstracts for the award papers from interested members must be submitted to the IAMM Secretary's office in hard copy and a soft copy also to the Organising Secretary. These will be subjected to peer review and only selected abstracts will be allowed to be presented as a paper at the respective oral/ poster sessions. The best paper amongst those will be adjudged the best paper by the panel of judges. The authors of an abstract must express their interest in a particular category while submitting the abstract. All the awards will be presented at the valedictory function of the IAMM Conference MICROCON 2018 to be held at Bengaluru in November-December, 2018.

The Top Ten papers received for MICROCON will also be included for the Awards in the above mentioned subjects.

**7. IAMM Mérieux Award 2018:**

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a major public health issue worldwide. In order to provide an incentive for promising young investigators working in the field of AMR, Institut Mérieux has decided to institute a special Mérieux Award in partnership with IAMM in announcing, selecting and giving the Award at IAMM annual conference. The value of the award is approximately Euro 10,000, paid in equivalent Indian Rupees.

Selection criteria for the Mérieux Award is: Investigators identified through IAMM and Serving in a hospital or in a relevant research institution on a full time basis as infectious diseases clinician, clinical or molecular microbiologist or epidemiologist, with less than 10 years of either clinical practice experience or < 10 year of working experience in microbiology after their M.D / Ph.D. and who are involved and have made significant contribution in AMR research and/or patient management with a national impact.

The applications received for the said award will be assessed by the jury and 2 or 3 suitable applications will be forwarded to the scientific board of the Institut Mérieux with their recommendations for the selection of the laureate. Institut Mérieux will notify the association the name of the laureate, then the association will organize an award ceremony during its annual congress. In order to receive the award money, the institution (university, hospital...) hosting the laureate should engage an agreement with Institut Mérieux. The award money will be transferred only to the hosting institution of the laureate, and the institution will hold responsibility for proper utilization of the fund for research by the laureate. All interested applications should reach the IAMM Secretary's Office in hard and soft copies both on or before 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018.

## IAMM AWARDEES 2017/2018

### Dr. UC Chaturvedi Lifetime Achievement Award

- Maj. Gen. V. C. Ohri

### Dr. H.I. Jhala Memorial award

- Dr. R. D. Kulkarni

### Dr KB Sharma Memorial Junior Best paper award

-Dr. Kundan Tandel, Army Hospital New Delhi

### Prof AN Chakrabarthi memorial Prize for the best published paper in Mycobacteriology

-Dr. Ritu Singhal

### Pankajalaxmi V Venugopal prize for best paper in Mycology

- Dr. T. S. Ananya

### Mumbai - Belgaum prize for best poster in Medical Mycobacteriology

-Dr. Nilma Hirani

### Dr. S.S. Kelkar Memorial Prize for best poster (Any subject in Medical Microbiology)

-Dr. Chandan Thakur

### Best Paper Published in IJMM Virology

-Dr. Sribal Salvarajan

### Best Paper Published in IJMM Bacteriology

-Dr. S. Garg

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS...

**1) Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologists will be conducting its first ever CME on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2018**, on "Bad Bugs in Hospitals: Containment, Newer Strategies and The Road Ahead" organized by Dr Sabah Javed, Organising Chairperson, Department of Microbiology, Ramkrishna Care Hospital, Raipur

The CME will stress upon the latest developments in detection and management of MDROs in the hospital, newer treatment modalities, antibiotic stewardship, infection control surveillance tools and other strategies to control the same. The CME shall have eminent guest speakers both from the field of Microbiology and Critical Care Medicine alike and will involve intensivists and clinicians from various specialties apart from medical microbiologists.

**2) The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of IAMM-Karnataka Chapter will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2018** at Ramaiah Medical College. The central theme for this is Gastro-intestinal infections. There will also be a session on Medico-legal issues faced by Microbiologists. Medical education technology to strengthen teaching in Microbiology will be featured in one session. The Pre-Conference CME on Molecular diagnostic methods will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018. We anticipate some good interactive sessions during these days.

### 5<sup>th</sup> FRCPath (Part- II) Exam Course

19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Department of Microbiology Global Hospital, Hyderabad

This course is intended for candidates who have passed the Part-I examination of the Royal College of Pathologists (UK) in Medical Microbiology, Virology and Infection prevention, preparatory to the Part-II examination.

The course will last 7 days with an orientation towards the theory examination papers on the first three days and practical examination covering a range of clinical cases, practical work including antibiotic therapy and infection prevention advice over the next three days. The last day will consist of a mock practical examination with clinical cases of OSPE stations. There will be a focus on modern aspects of practice of medical microbiology and intense preparation before coming for the course is advised.

Interested candidates may contact

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Consultant Clinical Microbiologist

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## Proceedings of 41<sup>st</sup> National Conference held at RIMS, Ranchi- MICROCON 2017



**Dr B L Sherwal**  
Organizing Chairman



**Dr Manoj Kumar**  
Organizing Secretary

*Dear Members,*

MICROCON 2017, the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists was very successfully hosted by the Department of Microbiology, Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Ranchi, Jharkhand under the Chairmanship of Dr B L Sherwal. The theme of the congress was "Bridging the gap: Broadening the horizon of Clinical Microbiology". It is a topic of fundamental concern to all the Microbiologists and Non- microbiologists alike. Today, laboratory science is progressing at a rapid pace and microbiology laboratory is having its own evolution going on. We need to broaden our scope and assess our role as clinical microbiologists. Our aim was to create platform for awareness and discussions on effective methodologies for bridging any existing gaps. It was appreciated and enjoyed by all the delegates and faculty who attended this five-day scientific fiesta.

Conducting a National Conference like this, particularly in this part of the country, was challenging owing to the limited faculty, minimal exposure and scanty resources. But, accepting these facts and focusing on our strengths, we went ahead with the preparations in full fervor and enthusiasm, to bring to all of us this mega event which will be forever cherished as a landmark achievement in the history of this region. It is remarkable to note here the immense support that we received from everyone- IAMM members, the faculty and speakers, national and international delegates, students, sponsors, conference managers and ever other individual instrumental in making it possible to conduct the Conference and participating in its proceedings.

More than 1000 delegates were registered for the conference. The Workshops and CMEs were rich with eminent faculty and speakers and were attended by around 250 participants. Eleven pre-conference workshops were conducted on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 2017 at RIMS, Medanta Hospital and Itki TB Sanatorium, Ranchi. Two CMEs were held on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2017 on "Antibiotics: from Lab to Prescriber" and "Changing face of zoonotic infections in India and emerging challenges of associated laboratory Biosafety & Biosecurity". On 24<sup>th</sup> Nov, Dr Shobha Broor delivered the Presidential Oration and Dr Chand Wattal delivered the IAMM Endowment Oration. The IAMM Symposium on "Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonotic diseases" was coordinated by Dr Rajendra Surpam and the topic for Student Symposium was "Biosafety and Biosecurity" which was coordinated by Dr Rahul Narang. Dr Vikas Manchanda conducted the IAMM Quiz.

We had paid utmost attention that the deliberations be conducted in a timely manner for the convenience of all the delegates. The keynote lecture on "Clinical Microbiology- the way forward: Breaking barriers, Building bridges" was delivered by Dr V Ravi. There were a number of plenary sessions, panel discussions and Clinical Grand round on various topics which attracted the delegates. The IAMM debate on "We do not have any problem in prescribing generic antimicrobials" moderated by Dr Rajesh Bhatia and Dr Chand Wattal earned huge appreciation. A total number of 411 abstracts were presented in oral and poster sessions distributed over the three days of the conference. The Organizing Committee awarded free registrations to five lucky early bird registered delegates and Rs.2000 to winners of the oral and posters. More than 150 faculty as experts, microbiologists and clinicians from India and abroad were a part of the conference.

It was our aim to provide personal touch to the event with not just a plethora of scientific activities, but also interesting cultural programmes, delicious food, transport facility and warm hospitality to everyone. It makes us glad that even today I am receiving congratulatory and appreciation messages from my colleagues, faculty and delegates from across the country, as the success of any event is determined by how well it is imbibed and benefitted by the attendees. I am sure that this event has functioned as an icebreaker and will act as a seeding for many such events in the future as well as best motivation for those Microbiologists who want to host Microcon in future with minimal exposure and scanty resources.

**Dr Manoj Kumar**  
Organizing Secretary, MICROCON 2017



**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD AT RIMS, RANCHI  
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR. SHOBHA BROOR at 12.00 noon on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2017**

The President, Dr Shobha Broor, called the meeting in order and chaired the meeting. The Secretary, Dr B.L. Sherwal conducted the meeting. The meeting was adjourned due to lack of quorum and started again after five minutes to discuss the following agenda which were circulated in Oct. Newsletter and has been already deliberated in the EC meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at Ranchi:

**AGENDA 1: Welcoming the new EC Members:**

The Secretary informed the house that Dr Sonal Saxena, Director-Professor, Deptt of Microbiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi has been elected as Executive member. On behalf of IAMM, Dr. Sherwal congratulated Dr Sonal Saxena for being elected as new EC member. Her term is up to the year 2020. The house welcomed her.

**AGENDA 2: Bid adieu to departing EC members:**

Dr Mahendra Vegad, Dr V Balaji and Dr Bharti Malhotra completed their term of three years as EC members. House thanked them for their contributions. However, Dr V Balaji will continue as the Chief Editor, IJMM and Dr Bharti Malhotra as Treasurer, IAMM.

**AGENDA 3: To confirm GB meeting minutes held at PGIMER Chandigarh:**

The minutes of GB meeting held at PGIMER Chandigarh on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2016 were circulated to members through January 2017 IAMM Newsletter. The minutes were passed by EC meeting held at Ranchi on 24<sup>th</sup> Nov., 2017. The General body also confirmed it. The motion of confirmation was proposed by Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti and was seconded by Dr V Ravi.

**AGENDA 4: Action taken on the minutes of the last GB meeting:**

The following agenda were addressed from the last GB meeting:

- Obtaining the Certified Copy of IAMM Constitution- The house was happy to hear that Dr C Wattal has procured the Certified copy of the IAMM Constitution from Registrar of Societies Office in Delhi.
- Initiation of IAMM Merieux Award- Dr Sherwal announced that, as discussed in the previous GB, advertisement for the IAMM Merieux Award was circulated through the January 2017 IAMM Newsletter but none of the applicant could be considered for the Biomerieux award this year.
- Platinum Membership of Biomerieux- The house discussed that instead of calling it membership it should be Platinum Sponsorship. As membership makes the rates fixed and would mean a one-time payment. It might include other benefits as well but when we give it Sponsorship for the journal or newsletter or website it will be better and also the rates can be revised time and again. The rates of printing and maintenance will increase over the time and hence there should be a scope to revise the sponsorship amounts. The sponsorship rates were finalised as follows:

IAMM Silver sponsorship per annum = Rs 1 lakh,  
IAMM Gold sponsorship per annum = Rs 2 lakh,  
IAMM Platinum sponsorship per annum = Rs 5 lakh

The motion was confirmed by Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti and seconded by Dr Abhay Chaudhary.

**AGENDA 5: Secretary's Annual report- Dr. B. L. Sherwal:**

The house ratified the annual Secretary report read out by Dr Sherwal at the Inauguration Function of the IAMM Conference (MICROCON 2017) on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov., 2017. The motion was confirmed by Dr. A. Nagendra and seconded by Dr. D. Raghunath.

**AGENDA 6: Editor's report and statement of accounts- Dr. V. Balaji:**

Dr V. Balaji read out the Editors report and also declared the best paper in Bacteriology and Virology in IJMM-2016. He announced that IJMM impact factor has increased to 1.34. He also added that the acceptance rate is 13% and Rejection rate is 87%. A total of 820 National and International articles were received and reviewed by 350 reviewers. He also added that printing the hard copies can be discontinued as many bundles are returned to the IJMM office since the addresses of the members are not updated. Dr Balaji also requested that the turn around time should be decreased for which support of faculty is required. If we keep the articles on the website for more number of days, then visibility increases and also the impact factor. The contract also has to be renewed with Medknow and also the e-version of the journal. The Editor's report was accepted by the house. It was proposed by Dr Renu Bharadwaj and seconded by Dr R D Kulkarni.

Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti opined that we should explore the possibility to change the publisher, the members agreed for the same.

**AGENDA 7: Presentation of annual statement of accounts by Treasurer - Dr. Bharti Malhotra:**

Dr Anju Kagal could not attend the conference due to personal reasons. Dr Bharti Malhotra, Treasurer presented the treasurer's report and statement of accounts. She mentioned that Dr Anju Kagal submitted the report to her as she was in office till 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017. This year 186 Life members, 18 Annual Members and 47 Student Members have joined the Association. She informed that till date there are 3051 life members, 9 annual and 53 student members. It was discussed that there has been some discrepancy in the accounts of National Body as others are also using the PAN of the main body. The moment large amount of money gets deposited in the Chapter A/c, the tax rate for the NB increases. The NB is not liable to pay extra taxes for the money received by the chapters. Hence, all others including the Delhi Chapter should stop using the NB PAN. Any money received by the Delhi Chapter for which the NB has paid taxes should be returned to the NB and 10% of that as liability. Dr Saxena added that to have a separate PAN, the Delhi Chapter and any other chapter will have to register as a

Continued...

separate body. It was decided by the house that all chapters have to register themselves, have their own PAN cards and none of the bodies will be given NB PAN. The Karnataka Chapter is already registered and they will be sharing their Constitution with other chapters so that they can frame their own constitutions as well. Report was accepted by GB. The motion was proposed by Dr Pallab Ray seconded by Dr Rajendra Surpam.

It was also discussed that we can have sponsorship for the IAMM Symposia. Secretary IAMM, Dr Sherwal informed that at present coordinator/speakers of symposia are being reimbursed rail fare by the conference organisers but these days everyone prefers to travel by air and conference organisers show their inability to bear the airfare. In that case the expenditure need to be borne by the IAMM. The house agreed with the idea of sponsoring the Symposium. Secretary IAMM /Symposium coordinator/conference organisers to explore the possibility of sponsoring the symposia.

**AGENDA 8: Report of IAMM EQAS programme by coordinators:**

Dr V. Balaji, Dr Rajesh Kannangai and Dr Chand Wattal presented the EQAS reports of south and north EQAS centres respectively. Delhi EQAS centre is also going to level II of EQAS from Jan, 2018 and the charges will be at par with CMC, Vellore EQAS centre i.e. Rs 5900 including 18% GST. Dr Wattal informed that SGRH gave for EQAS Rs.16,46,664 to make the centre functional in the year 2012-2013 on the premise that once the centre is in a position to return the seed money, the same will be returned. The Reports were accepted by the house. It was proposed by Dr Sonal Saxena and seconded by Dr Ravi Kumar.

**AGENDA 9: Selection of topics for IAMM symposia and Student Symposium for 42<sup>nd</sup> IAMM conference:**

GB discussed various topics for IAMM Symposium and Student Symposium and approved the following topics:  
For the IAMM Symposium, "Clinical Microbiology & Point of Care tests by 2020" to be moderated by Dr V Balaji.  
For Student Symposium "Antimicrobial Stewardship Program" to be moderated by Dr Pallab Ray.

**AGENDA 10: Announcement of venue for 42<sup>nd</sup> IAMM Conference:**

As per the request from NIMHANS, Bangalore and approval in EC, it has been declared that the 42<sup>nd</sup> IAMM conference will be held at NIMHANS Convention Centre, Bengaluru under the Chairmanship of Dr V Ravi from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2018. Dr Ravi Kumar will be Organizing Secretary for MICROCON 2018. The website was launched and the members were invited for the conference by Dr Ravi Kumar.

**AGENDA 11: Decision of various awards for 2017:**

The awards for the year 2017 were announced as per the recommendations received from the Award Committees for the various awards:

- Dr SC Agarwal Oration Award – Not awarded
- Dr H.I. Jhala Award– Dr R D Kulkarni
- IAMM Endowment Oration Award- Not awarded
- Dr UC Chaturvedi Lifetime Achievement Award- Maj Gen V C Ohri

**AGENDA 12: Election of Office Bearer- President IAMM for 2017:**

GB approved the election of new office bearer, President as recommended by Executive Committee: **President - Dr T N Dhole**, SGP GIMS, Lucknow (2017-18).

**AGENDA 13: Any other matter with permission of chair:**

**I. To increase the participation in IAMM Awards-**  
It was suggested by some members that Link can be shared on the MICROCON website and also Top Papers received for MICROCON can be considered for the awards. The house agreed with the proposal but stressed that the participants so selected need to be informed beforehand that their paper is being considered for the award category on the said date.

**II. Participation of IAMM in AMR Containment in India:** Dr Anuj Sharma, WHO representative has desired that IAMM should get involved and contribute in WHO Anti Microbial Resistance Containment program. The house agreed to support the WHO in AMR Containment in India, however the role of IAMM and modalities need to be discussed.

**III. Dr. K B Sharma IAMM Junior Best Paper Award:** Increase of age to 45 years: The GB has not approved the recommendation of EC to increase the age for participating in the award, some of the senior members stressed that the name of award itself says that it is junior best paper award.

**IV. PG Assembly:** Delhi Chapter has been doing the PG Assembly at local level. The same may be done at National level under the banner of IAMM. The house agreed.

**V. Judgement dated 15/9/2017 of Hon`ble Delhi High Court on signing of lab reports:** The Secretary, IAMM briefed the house about the said court case decision. Dr Sandhya Kabra stressed that IAMM need to intervene in the court case in Delhi High Court as being one of the stake holder, we were not given opportunity to put our point of view in the Hon`ble Delhi High Court neither IMA was heard. The house deliberated on the said court verdict and its long-lasting effects. To safe guard the right of medical microbiologist, unanimously it was decided that IAMM will fight against the Court verdict.

Dr Sonal Saxena told that we will be needing funds to file the case in the Court, Dr. Chand Wattal suggested that initial seed money be released by IAMM to file the case. Some of the members suggested that funds in future need to be generated through donations/contribution, members were requested to donate/contribute at least Rs. 5000/- each. The house agreed for the proposal and resolved as under:-

“Resolve that the consent of the General Body of IAMM be & is hereby accorded to authorize Secretary of Association Dr B L Sherwal, to do any act/s, deed/s, thing/s including signing any plaint, petitions, appeal, affidavit, reply and/or any other document/s and modification thereon as and when necessary and submit any document and/or appear before any court of competent jurisdiction to lead evidence in connection with and/or for any legal action or case against the association/ medical microbiologists for and on its behalf.”

The house further resolved that Dr. Chand Wattal & Dr. Sandhya Kabra to support the Secretary in the case.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**Dr B L Sherwal**  
**Secretary IAMM**



## NEWS FROM IAMM CHAPTERS

### IAMM Delhi Chapter

IAMM Delhi Chapter organized its 9th annual conference from 7th to 9th December 2017. The conference was preceded by satellite workshops were held on 7th December at IHBAS, UCMS, MAMC and RML Hospital. The themes covered were Healthcare associated infection, Antimicrobial stewardship, HIV diagnosis and CD4 testing.

The preconference CME entitled "Microscopy to Microarray: Reducing time to diagnosis" was held on 8th December, 2017. The CME was well attended and highly appreciated by delegates. The CME was followed by inauguration in the evening of 8<sup>th</sup> December. Dr BD Athani, Spl DG was the chief guest and Dr B L Sherwal, Secretary IAMM and Director RGSSH was the guest of honor. Lifetime achievement award was presented to Dr RA Bhujwala for her immense contribution in the field of clinical microbiology. The chapter felicitates senior microbiologists every year for their contribution to this field. This year Dr Pradeep Seth was felicitated in the inaugural function.

The main conference was held on 9<sup>th</sup> December with focus on recent advances in clinical microbiology. The conference deliberated on emerging fungal infections, advances in diagnosis of hepatitis and surveillance strategies in healthcare associated infections. Eminent speakers included Dr Jayanthi Savio from St John's Medical College, Bengaluru, Dr Ekta Gupta from ILBS and Dr Purva Mathur from AIIMS trauma Center.

Recently there has been a lot of debate on the order of Delhi High Court. The order that the technical reports can be signed by Non M.D. persons has generated a lot of controversies and discontentment amongst medical professionals who have been working really hard during their lifespan to achieve clinical position required to report findings. To address this issue a talk on "Ethical Diagnostic Practices in India" was delivered by Mr. Mahmood Pracha, Senior lawyer with Supreme Court. He apprised the house about legal implications related to this order. The agenda was taken up later in GBM and it was decided that IAMM Delhi Chapter will fully support the IAMM national body in this regard and a legal subcommittee was formed for this purpose. The GBM was followed by the Annual Quiz Grand Round. In the valedictory function awards were presented in various categories including free poster (MD and Non MD Category), Sanjay Sardana poster award for immunodiagnosics, Mr. Satish Chandra Talwar Memorial Award for Best Published Research Paper, Dr. Ashok Kumar Chakravarti Memorial Award, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital Young scientist award and MAMC Award for best oral presentation by a Postgraduate student. RA Bhujwala Award for outstanding scientific work in STIs/any aspect of diagnostic microbiology in infectious diseases was presented to Dr B L Sherwal. The conference ended with promise to enhance academic pursuits further in 2018.

**Dr. Sonal Saxena**  
Secretary, IAMM Delhi Chapter

### IAMM Chhattisgarh Chapter

The Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologists (CAMM) came into existence in 2016, under the aegis of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM).

CAMM conducted its first ever state conference - CGMICROCON - in September 2017, hosted by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, (AIIMS) Raipur.

The first day of the conference was marked by the inaugural function followed by scientific deliberations by eminent stalwarts like Dr R.D. Kulkarni, Dr Pratibha Narang, Dr Lalit Dar, Dr Arti Kapil and Dr Pallab Ray. The day concluded with oral presentations of various research works by the microbiologists of Chhattisgarh in two parallel sessions.

The second day of the conference commenced with a session on one of the most burning issues "Antimicrobial resistance" followed by a panel discussion on "Spectrum of infectious diseases in Chhattisgarh". There was an undergraduate quiz on medical microbiology in which six different teams representing various medical colleges of the state participated.

The two-day conference concluded with the valedictory function with valuable suggestions from the dignitaries followed by prize distribution ceremony to the winners in poster, oral presentation and undergraduate quiz. The total number of delegates registered for the conference was 178.

It was the first ever state conference conducted by CAMM after its inception with noteworthy contributions from its office bearers - President Dr Ramanesh Murthy, Secretary Dr Sanchita Nihal and meticulous organizational skills of team AIIMS under the able guidance of the Organizing Chairperson Dr Anudita Bhargava and Organizing Secretary Dr Padma Das. This conference gave a great impetus to the newly established CAMM to conduct more such academic activities in the days to come.

**Dr. Sanchita Nihal**  
Secretary IAMM Chhattisgarh Chapter

### IAMM Karnataka Chapter

Greetings from the office of IAMM-KC at Ramaiah Medical College, Bangalore. The chapter has been active having conducted 3 CMEs as part of its quarterly meets.

The first meet was conducted at Mysore Medical college & Research centre and organized by Dr Anuradha K and her faculty members. The theme of the CME was on "NEW HORIZONS IN MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY". The topics covered were as follows 'Technological advances in Diagnosis of Infectious diseases and laboratory consolidation' by Dr Shashidhar, Assoc. Prof., KMC Manipal. Dr Ajantha G.S, Prof., SDM College of Medical Sciences & Hospital, Dharwad gave an insight into the various disinfectants available and their utility in hospital infection control in his session titled 'Role of Disinfectants and sterilants in Hospital Infection control'. 'Recent advances in the diagnosis of fungal infections' was the topic covered extensively by Dr Jayanthi Savio, Assoc. Prof., Department of Microbiology, St John's Medical College, Bangalore. She shared her experiences about various tests and how they can be utilized in different situations. The integration of various projects of Central Government with the Microbiology departments of Government medical colleges was highlighted by Dr Shanthala G.B., Assoc. Prof., Dept of Microbiology, BMC & RI, Bangalore. Dr Sathyanarayan M.S. of BMC & RI, Bangalore discussed the various opportunities available for Microbiologists in his talk on Expanding Horizons: Career Avenues for Young Medical Microbiologists. There was a scientific oral and poster presentation and the oral paper session was judged by Dr Ambica and Dr Beena.

The second Quarterly meet was organized by the Department of Microbiology, Saphthagiri Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre Bangalore on 02-09-2017. The CME was organized by Dr Hemavathi, Prof. & HOD and her faculty members. The topic was 'Snippets on current viral infections'. The first Guest lecture was on Thrombocytopenia in Infectious Diseases by Dr Bindumathi, Prof. & HOD, Medicine Saphthagiri Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre Bangalore. This was followed by an Update on pathogenesis & Laboratory diagnosis of Dengue presented by Dr Sangeetha, Prof & HOD, Department of Microbiology, Raja Rajeshwari Medical college, Bangalore. Dr Ravindranath, Prof of Medicine, St Johns Medical college, Bangalore highlighted the recent updates in diagnosis and treatment of HIV according to NACO guidelines. The last guest lecture was delivered by Dr Uma Ramesh, Consultant Microbiologist, SRL labs on TORCH infections and the relevance of its diagnosis currently.

The third Quarterly meet of the chapter was held on 28<sup>th</sup> October at ESIC Medical college, Kalaburgi being organized by Dr Prashant Parandekar and his faculty. The concept for the CME was Emerging and RE-Emerging Infections. The ESKAPE bacteria were highlighted by Dr Darba SN Murty, Associate Professor, Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada. Dr RD Kulkarni Prof. and HOD, SDM Institute of Medical Sciences, Dharwad spoke on the Re-Emergence of Diphtheria. Dr P.R. Shahpur, Prof. & HOD, BLDEU's Shri BM Patil Medical College, Bijapur spoke about the Diagnostic challenges in Rickettsial infections. The final session was on Current concepts of HIV management conducted by Dr Murgesh Pastapur, Assoc. Prof. of Medicine, MRMC Kalaburgi.

All the CMEs were well attended and appreciated by all the participants. The IAMM-KC office would like to place on record their congratulations & appreciation to all the organizing faculty and the Institutions for a very fruitful academic year.

We wish everyone a very Happy and academically prosperous 2018.

**Dr. Shalini Naik**  
Secretary, IAMM Karnataka Chapter

EQAS 2017 NORTH & NORTH EAST CENTER - NEW DELHI  
(UNDER THE AUSPICES OF IAMM)  
Analysis of QC distribution 13, 14, 15 & 16 (For the year 2017)

PERFORMANCE OF LABORATORIES

QC NO.	DESCRIPTION	CONTENTS	LABORATORY (%) OF GIVING CORRECT RESULTS
	<b>Fixed Smears</b>		
13	Pleural fluid smear- Gram stain	Few pus cells, Many Gram positive diplococci seen, suggestive of <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> infection	78.85%
14	Sputum smear – ZN stain	Acid fast bacilli (AFB) 2+ seen	99.02%
15	Pus Smear- Gram stain	Many PMN and GNBS seen, suggestive of Gram Negative Infections	52%*
16	Isolated throat swab- Albert Stain	Green bacilli with metachromatic granules arranged in Chinese letter pattern, suggestive of <i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i> infection	93.86%

\* 48 % of the participants did not give the interpretation of smear.

QC NO.	DESCRIPTION	CONTENTS	LABORATORY (%) GIVING CORRECT RESULT
	<b>Culture</b>		
13	Bacterial culture & AST	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	62.10%*
14	Bacterial culture & AST	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	90.50%
15	Bacterial Culture & AST	<i>Salmonella enterica</i> serotype Typhi	31.29%**
16	Bacterial Culture & AST	<i>Escherichia coli</i> (ESBL Positive)	77.05%

\* 29.4 % of the participants did not perform MIC for vancomycin AST.

\*\* 68.71% of the participants did not perform agglutination test for confirmation of *S.Typhi*.

QC NO.	DESCRIPTION	CONTENTS	LABORATORY (%) GIVING CORRECT RESULT
	<b>Serology</b>		
13	Hepatitis B surface Antigen (HBsAg)	Positive	99.65%
14	CRP	Positive	98.88%
15	HCV	Negative	100%
16	HIV	Negative	100%

Prof. (Dr) Chand Wattal,  
Chairman, IAMM EQAS NEW DELHI

Dr. Jaswinder Oberoi & Dr. Neeraj Goel  
Co-ordinators IAMM EQAS NEW DELHI

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Members,

A very Happy New Year! and warm greetings from Jaipur Pink city the treasurer's desk. Thanks to support from you all we are growing each year. Welcome again to the new members, regards and thanks to all seniors and colleagues for all the support and guidance.

Our special thanks to many state chapters who insist students for IAMM membership for attending state conference, helping the IAMM grow stronger. In the last year (2016-2017) we had 101 new Life members (total LM till 2017 is 3064), 12 Annual Members and 69 Student members.

Its a sincere request to update your addresses complete with PIN. Dr Anju Kagal Ex Treasurer IAMM has prepared a directory, but to now publish it we wish to again request you to update your address. Moreover, journal will not reach you at right place, hence please be specific for corresponding address.

Please update addresses in the following format to a) Membership number b) Current name (surname first DO NOT mention designation here) c) Residential address (this address should be where you want your journal sent Please mention the PIN code or the journal will not be delivered). d) Your current designation detailed address of your office. e) Email address f) Mobile number. Those of you who are in touch with senior members please help us update their details, especially their email addresses. If any of our members are deceased please do inform this office. Please do encourage the freshly passed post graduate students to become life members.

Thanks a ton to all of you for your support. **Happy Sakranti /Poongal /Lohri to all !. May the Lohri fire keep you and your hearts warm forever.**

Dr Bharti Malhotra  
Treasurer IAMM



**BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017**  
These are not approved; the final accounts will be shared in the next issue of Newsletter

Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (Treasurer's Office)  
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2017

Expenditure	Year Ended 31.03.2017	Year Ended 31.03.2016	Income	Year Ended 31.03.2017	Year Ended 31.03.2016
<b>To Establishment Expenses</b>			<b>By Fees</b>		
Bank Charges	576	287	Student Membership Fees	11,750	16,000
Postage, Courier and Communication Charges	26,791	13,094	Annual Membership Fees	8,997	6,700
Printing & Stationery	47,274	38,349	<b>By Interest</b>		
Depreciation	23,882	28,097	On FDs account	7,64,704	7,04,212
Accounting Charges	4,500	5,175	On Savings account	48,098	45,719
Website Expenses	-	11,400	<b>By Dividend</b>		
Professional Fees	2,500	2,875	On SBI Mutual Fund	-	24,933
Salary	1,39,666	12,500	<b>Other Income</b>	24,112	
Loss on Sale of Investment	39,297	5,000	<b>By Contribution</b>		
			Microcon	7,00,000	
<b>To Audit Fees</b>					
for FY 2015-16		9,775			
for FY 2016-17	8,500				
<b>To Expenditure on Objects of the Society</b>					
Certification, Medals and Citation Expenses	22,050	25,925			
<b>To Income Tax for Earlier Years</b>	38,017	4,25,600			
<b>To Provision for Income Tax</b>	6,55,200				
<b>To Transfer to Funds</b>					
Being amount equal to Net Balance out of Conference Contribution transferred	7,00,000				
<b>To Surplus</b>	(1,50,591)	2,19,487			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,57,661</b>	<b>7,97,564</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,57,661</b>	<b>7,97,564</b>

Notes :

Accounts of the Association are maintained on accrual Basis.

The above Balance Sheet to the best of my/our belief contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Association

For Joshi & Kulkarni,  
Chartered Accountants,  
[F.R.N 115751-W]

(Anika A. Lele)  
Partner  
M. No. 108559  
Place : Pune  
Date :

*Anika A. Lele*  
Treasurer

Place : Pune  
Date : 21/6/17

Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (Treasurer's Office)  
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2017

Funds & Liabilities	As at 31.03.2017	As at 31.03.2016	Property & Assets	As at 31.03.2017	As at 31.03.2016
<b>Capital Fund</b>			<b>Fixed Asset</b>		
As per last Balance Sheet	25,81,922	25,81,922	Equipment	1,59,213	
<b>Other Earmarked Funds</b>			Less: Depreciation for the year	23,882	1,35,331
Life Membership Fees Fund			<b>Investments (At Cost)</b>		
As per last Balance Sheet	29,27,000	29,27,000	SBI Mutual Fund	-	3,00,000
Add: Received during the year	3,45,250		Fixed Deposits with- Bank of Baroda	90,00,000	80,00,000
Life Membership Certificate Fund			<b>Advances</b>		
As per last Balance Sheet	8,88,880	8,88,880	Income tax deducted at source		
Add: Received during the year	5,04,500		Balance of TDS upto AY 16-17	1,59,849	
Seminar and Conference Revolving Fund			Add: Deducted for AY 17-18	1,39,182	2,99,031
As per last Balance Sheet	15,53,640	15,53,640	Advance for Microcon		5,00,000
Add: Transferred from Income and Expenditure Account	7,00,000		<b>Income Outstanding</b>		
Endowment Fund for Prize Distribution			Interest Accrued but Not Due- Fixed Deposit	15,39,457	8,46,935
Dr. K. B. Sharma Memorial Award Fund	3,70,000	3,70,000	Other Receivables		150
Laboratory Mapping & Strengthening Project	23,05,168		<b>Cash and Bank Balances</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>			Cash in hand	2,000	
Other Payables	70,400	16,150	Bank account-		
Professional Fees Payable	15,074	16,066	With Syndicate Bank (savings) - Dharwad	3,66,770	1,00,869
Audit Fees Payable	18,275	19,508	With Allahabad Bank (savings) - Ranchi	23,64,635	
Provision for Income tax	9,61,490	4,34,600	With Bank of Baroda (savings) - Pune	15,00,113	7,57,027
Payable to Secretary	4,253	4,664			
Membership Fees Advance	14,500				
Payable to Treasurer (for Exp)	22,745	16,179			
<b>Income and Expenditure Account (Surplus)</b>					
As per last Balance Sheet	20,74,831	20,74,831			
Add: Net Surplus for the year as per Income and Expenditure Account	(1,50,591)				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,52,07,337</b>	<b>1,09,03,440</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,52,07,337</b>	<b>1,09,03,440</b>

Notes :

Accounts of the Association are maintained on accrual Basis.

The above Balance Sheet to the best of my/our belief contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Association

For Joshi & Kulkarni,  
Chartered Accountants,  
[F.R.N 115751-W]

(Anika A. Lele)  
Partner  
M. No. 108559  
Place : Pune  
Date :

*Anika A. Lele*  
Treasurer

*Secretary*

Place : Pune  
Date :

## Notification for Elections of Executive Council (EC) Members of the IAMM

The Executive Council of the IAMM has **Three** vacancies in the year 2018. As per the constitution of the IAMM, notice is hereby issued by the Secretary IAMM, inviting the nominations to these positions in EC of the IAMM. The following rules apply as per the Constitution of IAMM.

1. Members who have already served the Executive Council of the IAMM in the past are not eligible for re-election until after the lapse of two years.
2. Nominations for the memberships of Executive Council may be made by any two founder/Life members and shall be sent to Secretary's office. Such nominations must be accompanied by written undertaking from the nominee that he/she is willing to serve Executive Council. Candidates for the Executive Council membership must have been the **IAMM member for at least 5 years** continuously.
3. All nominees should send a written intimation, duly proposed and seconded by two founder/Life members as aforementioned along with a copy of their brief CV and a photograph (scanned on email as a copy. The same must be sent to as a hard copy to the Office of the Secretary. This must reach Secretary's office by March 31, 2018.
4. Nominations sent only by email or fax communication are not valid and will not be accepted.
5. Number of Vacancies to the Executive Council: 3 (Three)
6. Last date for submission of nominations: 31st March 2018.

**Prof. (Dr.) B.L. Sherwal**  
Secretary, IAMM &  
Director, Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital  
(RGSSH), Tahirpur,  
Delhi- 110093  
Mob. : 9868168400. Off.: 011-65252480, Email:  
secretary.iamm@gmail.com

**Here's wishing all the members a new year  
filled with happiness and prosperity,  
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018!**

Published by  
**Prof. (Dr.) B.L. Sherwal.**  
Secretary IAMM

BOOK-POST

To,

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

From,  
**Prof. (Dr.) B.L. Sherwal**  
Secretary, IAMM &  
Director, Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital (RGSSH),  
Tahirpur, Delhi- 110093  
Mob. : 9868168400. Off.: 011-65252480, Email: secretary.iamm@gmail.com