# NEWSLETTER

Regn No. : 9915 Since 1977

# INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGISTS

Celebrating 50 Years

Vol. No.44, Issue No.3 October, 2026 www.myiamm.in


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## A Message from the President of IAMM



Dear IAMM Members and Colleagues,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the 49th Annual National Congress of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists —MICROCON 2026, being hosted by AIIMS, Nagpur, from 28 October to 1 November 2026. The conference will focus on the timely theme, “Microbial Threats: Trace. Target. Treat.”

This annual gathering is an important opportunity for medical microbiologists, clinicians, researchers, laboratory professionals, teachers, and students to come together, exchange knowledge, and deliberate on the evolving challenges posed by infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, emerging pathogens, and advances in diagnostic microbiology.

This year’s conference will be particularly historic for our profession. For the first time, the founder members of the Indian College of Medical Microbiologists will be formally conferred their recognition at the inaugural convocation on 29 October 2026. This landmark occasion represents an important milestone in the growth and institutional development of medical microbiology in India.

I am deeply honoured to deliver the President’s Oration during the inaugural function. I consider this privilege not merely a personal responsibility, but also an opportunity to reflect upon the remarkable journey of our discipline, acknowledge the contributions of our seniors and pioneers, and discuss our collective responsibilities towards the future of medical microbiology.

As we face increasingly complex microbial threats, our profession must remain committed to scientific excellence, diagnostic accuracy, antimicrobial stewardship, infection prevention, innovation, and patient-centred healthcare. At the same time, we must continue to nurture young medical microbiologists and provide them with opportunities for meaningful research, education, leadership, and professional growth.


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I extend my sincere appreciation to the leadership and organizing team of AIIMS Nagpur for their dedication and efforts in bringing this important scientific meeting to fruition. I also acknowledge the continued support and cooperation of the IAMM Executive Council and all our members.

I warmly invite every member of IAMM to participate enthusiastically in MICROCON 2026 and to make this historic meeting a memorable celebration of our shared commitment to medical microbiology.

With best wishes,

**Chand Wattal**
**Sir Ganga Ram Hospital**
**New Delhi**

## Message from Secretary, IAMM



Dear Members,

It is with immense gratitude and humility that I address you as the Secretary of our prestigious association. I want to deeply thank the Executive Committee and all our members for placing your faith in me.

Our association remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing clinical microbiology, fostering research, and improving patient outcomes. The dedication of our members, coupled with the relentless hard work of the organizing committee, continues to elevate our field to greater heights.

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

I cordially invite and warmly welcome participants from all corners to be a part of proceedings of the congress in the orange city of Nagpur. As we are aware this years congress is being hosted by AIIMS, Nagpur under the Chairmanship of Dr Meena Mishra. Get registered in huge numbers and benefit the most from this mega educational event.

My best wishes to the organizers and I am certain it is going to be a forum for active discussions and learning that would encourage us to take a step forward to bring about a change in the field. I am pleased to extend an invitation for your kind presence at the Annual General Body Meeting to be held during the congress. The notice and agenda convening this meeting is included in the last page of this newsletter.

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

Kindly circulate this IAMM Newsletter among other members.

Best wishes,

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

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# Indian College of Medical Microbiology
*(Under the aegis of IAMM)*

## IAMM PG Masterclass

Six Masterclasses in online mode were organized on important topics such as Microscopy, culture media, biochemicals, sterilization. In the wake of Ebola outbreak an extensive session was organized on Viral Hemorrhagic fevers. Speakers included clinicians, microbiologist and public health experts from NCDC and ICMR.

The Indian College of Medical Microbiology (ICMM), under the aegis of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), successfully conducted two cohorts of course on Infection Prevention & Control and one cohort of ICMM-AMS-2026.

## Certificate Course in Infection Prevention & Control (IPC)-2026

The first cohort was conducted from 5 January to 21 March 2026, with 27 participants successfully completing the programme and receiving certificates. The encouraging response to the inaugural cohort demonstrated the growing demand for structured training in infection prevention and control among healthcare professionals. The course faculty included Dr Purva Mathur, Dr A S Valan, Dr Manisha Biswal, Dr Sarita Mohapatra, Dr Sheela Devi, Dr Sonal Saxena, Dr Sanjib Gogoi, and Dr Renu Gupta.

Building on this success and popular demand , ICMM launched the second cohort of the IPC course, scheduled from 3rd August to 23rd October 2026. The online course ended with a contact session of two days with holistic assessment. The programme received an overwhelming response, with registrations exceeding the available capacity, necessitating closure of registrations. A total of 42 participants registered for the second cohort, reflecting the increasing interest in strengthening IPC knowledge and practices.

The course provides participants with structured learning in infection prevention and control principles and practices, aimed at strengthening their ability to apply evidence-based IPC measures in healthcare settings. The programme is designed to promote a culture of patient safety, reduce healthcare-associated infections, and strengthen the capacity of healthcare professionals to implement effective IPC practices.

ICMM congratulates the participants of the first cohort and welcomes the 42 participants of the second cohort. The enthusiastic response to the programme reinforces ICMM's commitment to building capacity and advancing infection prevention and control practices across healthcare settings.

## Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship (ICMM-AMS)-2026

The 2nd Online Training Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship – "ICMM-AMS-2026" was conducted from 9 April to 4 June 2026. The course received an overwhelming response from healthcare professionals and learners, with registrations exceeding the planned capacity. The course was initially announced with 30 seats, but owing to the exceptionally high demand, registrations had to be closed. A total of 51 participants successfully completed the course and were awarded certificates.

Conducted entirely online through **Zoom**, with sessions held twice weekly, the programme provided participants with a structured and practical understanding of antimicrobial stewardship and its role in addressing the growing challenge of antimicrobial resistance.

The course covered key areas including **antimicrobial resistance and its consequences, principles of antimicrobial stewardship, interpretation of microbiological and diagnostic data for antimicrobial decision-making, development and implementation of stewardship interventions, multidisciplinary collaboration, and evaluation of stewardship programmes.**

**Ongoing:**
**4th cohort (2026 B) of IAMM IPC course**
**Coming up**
**6 week Certificate course on Quality Assurance in Microbiology from 16th November 2026 to 31st December 2026**

The programme brought together faculty comprising **Dr Pallab Ray, Dr Sonal Saxena, Dr Nandini Sethuraman, Dr Renu Gupta and Dr Ekta Gupta**, with support from the ICMM leadership team.

Participants were required to meet defined academic criteria, including a **minimum 80% attendance, completion of assignments, and a minimum passing score of 50% in the assessment**, ensuring meaningful engagement and successful attainment of the course objectives.

The successful completion of **ICMM-AMSP-2026**, together with the unprecedented demand for the programme, reflects the growing interest and need for structured training in antimicrobial stewardship. The participation of professionals from diverse healthcare backgrounds also reinforces the importance of **a multidisciplinary approach to promoting responsible antimicrobial use and combating antimicrobial resistance.**

**ICMM congratulates all 51 certified participants and the course faculty for making ICMM-AMSP-2026 a resounding success.**

**Coming up: 6 week Certificate course on Quality Assurance in Microbiology from 16th November 2026 to 31st December 2026**

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# 49th Annual National Congress of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

## MICROBIAL THREATS: TRACE . TARGET . TREAT

**Organized By All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur**

Microcon
28th October - 1st November 2026, Nagpur

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

### PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS (28th October 2026)

1. Diagnostic Approaches in Clinical Parasitology: From Microscopy to Sequencing
2. Transforming Clinical Microbiology with Next-Generation Sequencing
3. Evaluating Diagnostic Tests Performance: Concepts, Methods and Application
4. Integrated Myco-pathology and Nanopore Sequencing
5. One Health Approach to Viral Threats
6. Outbreak Investigation: A Microbiologist's Toolkit
7. Hands-On Workshop on Anaerobic Culture Technique & Identification 'Beyond Oxygen: Culturing the Invisible'
8. Integrated Approach to UTI
9. From Research to Publication Mastering Scientific Writing
10. Mycology Workshop: Clinical Mycology: Diagnostics from Basics, Biomarkers to Molecular Approaches
11. A Practical Approach to Viral Cell Culture Isolation Techniques
12. CSSD- Traceless Taskforce Targeting Microbial Threats
13. From Protocol to Practice: Case Based Discussions with Multidisciplinary Team in Neutropenic Patients
14. Next Generation Sequencing for Hospital Wastewater Surveillance: From Pandemic Preparedness to AMR Detection
15. The Right Test. The Right Time. The Right Therapy- Harnessing Syndromic Diagnostics for Rational Antimicrobial Use
16. Microbiology Automation & AMR/AMS
17. Smart – AMS: Stewardship Through Microbiology, AST, Rapid Diagnostics and Targeted Therapy
18. Tiny Lives, Timely Care: Infection Prevention in the NICU
19. Healthcare-Associated Infection Surveillance

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# PRE-CONFERENCE CME (29th October 2026)

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|---|---|
| **CME I** | Venue: Hotel Le Meridien Nagpur<br>The Gold Standard Circuit: From Lab Validation to Frontline Disinfection<br>**Coordinator:** Dr. Purva Mathur |
| **CME II** | Venue: Exam Hall 1, Auditorium Building, AIIMS Nagpur<br>New Age Rapid AST Solutions and their Pivotal Role in Transforming<br>Diagnostic Stewardship<br>**Coordinator:** Dr. Debkishore Gupta |
| **ICMM CME** | Venue: Exam Hall 2, Auditorium Building, AIIMS Nagpur<br>Approach to Management of Respiratory Infections and Blood Stream<br>Infections- Learning by Clinical Cases<br>**Coordinator:** Dr. Ranganathan Iyer |

| Time | Convention Hall |
|---|---|
| 04:00 -5:00 PM | **Indian College of Medical Microbiology (ICMM) Convocation** |
| 5:45 PM onwards | **Conference Inauguration Ceremony, Presided by: -** Prof. (Dr.) Chand Wattal |

# CONFERENCE (30th October 2026)

| TIME | MEET THE EXPERT |
|---|---|
| 8:00 – 8:45 AM | **Venue:** Hall 5 (Nursing Demo Room 1, Ground Floor, Paramedical Building)<br>**Hidden World of Transplant Infections**<br>1. Invasive Infections, Including Bloodstream Infections in the Liver Transplant Recipients- Dr. Ranganathan Iyer<br>2. The Deteriorating Kidney Transplant Recipient: Recurrent Infection, Cytopenias and a Diagnostic Dilemma- Dr. Amol Rameshrao Bhawane<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Prashant Gupta, Dr. Anand Chellappan |
| | **Venue:** Hall 6 (Nursing Demo Room 2, Ground Floor, Paramedical Building)<br>**Helicobacter Pylori: From Detection to Drug Resistance**<br>1. Beyond Detection: Unmasking Drug-Resistant H. Pylori- Dr. Shalinie Perera<br>2. Role of H. Pylori in Formation of Gastric Cancer- Dr. Neelesh Shrivastava<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Arvind Kurhade, Dr. Sheela Devi C |
| | **Venue:** Hall 7 (Anatomy Demo Room 1, Ground floor, Medical College Building)<br>**Pitfalls in Reading Antibiograms**<br>1. Nuances of AST Report- Dr. Sumit Rai<br>2. Interpreting Blood Culture Reports in the Clinical Scenario: Case based Challenges- Dr. Parikshit Prayag<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Bhaskar Thakuria, Dr. Gopal Nandlal Agrawal |
| | **Venue:** Hall 8 (Anatomy Demo Room 2, Ground floor, Medical College Building)<br>**Relevance of Bioinformatics in Clinical Microbiology**<br>1. Leveraging Multiomics and Machine-Learning in Virology Research: Biomarker and Antiviral Drug Delivery- Dr. Sarah Cherian<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Ashok Pathak, Dr. Varsha Potdar |
| 8:00-9:00 AM | **Venue:** Anatomy/ Nursing Corridor, AIIMS Nagpur<br>**Free Category Poster Presentation** |
| 9:00-10:00 AM | **Venue:** Hall 1 (Main Auditorium, AIIMS Nagpur)<br>**Dr. K.B. Sharma Memorial Junior Best Paper Award** |
| 10:00-10:30 AM | **Venue:** Hall 1<br>**Dr. S.C. Agarwal Oration Award**<br>Towards the Elimination of Viral Hepatitis from India-Dr. Ekta Gupta |

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|---|---|
| 10:30-11:00 AM | **Venue:** Hall 1<br>**IAMM Endowment Oration Award**<br>Intestinal Opportunistic and other Parasitic Infections in India:<br>Navigating an Uncharted Path- Dr. Ujjala Ghoshal |
| 11:00-11:15 AM | **Tea** |
| 11:15–12:30 PM | **Plenary Sessions**<br>**Venue:** Hall 1<br>**Immune Landscape in Infection**<br>**Moderator:** Dr. Jayanthi Shastri<br>1. Fighting the Pathogenic Fire with Flow Cells: Frontline Immune Monitoring in Outbreaks - Dr. Vainav Patel<br>2. Integrated Microbiome Immune Signatures In HIV- TB- Dr. Vikrant Bhor<br>3. Immunology of Maternal HCMV Infection: Implications for Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes- Dr. Rungmei S. K. Marak<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Shashikala Nair, Dr. Shashi Gandhi |
| 12:30 – 01:00 PM | **Keynote Address**<br>**Venue:** Hall 1<br>Building a Public Health Laboratory Network in India- Dr. Sandhya Kabra<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Yagnesh Thakar, Dr. Sangeeta Joshi |
| 1:00–2:00 PM | **Lunch (IAMM Quiz Screening Round 1:00-1:30 PM, Hall-1)** |
| 2:00–3:00 PM | **Debate**<br>**Venue:** Hall 1<br>Syndromic Panels are Helping Clinical Decision-Making<br>**Moderator:** Dr. Camilla Rodrigues<br>**For:** Dr. Preeti Ajapuje, Dr. Bansidhar Tarai<br>**Against:** Dr. Chhaya Chande, Dr. Nirmal Jaiswal<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Dr. Anju Kagal |
| 3:00- 3:30 PM | **Tea** |
| 2:00- 4:00 PM<br>(Simultaneously) | **IAMM Award Sessions** (Hall 4 B, C-Auditorium Building, 3rd and 2nd floor) |
| 2:00- 5:00 PM<br>(Simultaneously) | **Free Category Oral Paper and Poster Presentation** (Auditorium Building) |
| 4:00- 6:00 PM | Conference Room, Admin Block, AIIMS, Nagpur IAMM<br>**Executive Council Meeting** |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 3:30-5:00 PM | **Parallel Symposia** | | |
| | **Venue: Hall 1**<br>Microbiome Matters: Gut Health Chatters<br><br>**Chairpersons**<br>Lt. Gen. D. Raghunath,<br>Dr. Raghavendra D. Kulkarni<br><br>1. Gut Microbiome, Clostridium Difficile Infection & Faecal Transplantation- Dr. Shrikant Ambalkar<br>2. Probiotics, Prebiotics & Synbiotics: Safe options for New Therapeutics- Dr. Dimple Kasana<br>3. Super Donors and Microbiome in Neurological Disorders and Heart Failure - Dr. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly | **Venue: Hall 2**<br>Rare Emerging Agents (Rickettsia, Emergomyces, Emerging Parasites)<br><br>**Chairpersons**<br>Dr. Jagdish Chander, Dr. Priti Agarwal<br><br>1. Rickettsia and Rare Emerging Bacteria - Dr. Manisha Biswal<br>2. Emergomyces and Rare Emerging Fung - Dr. Malini R. Capoor<br>3. Emerging Rare Parasitic Infections: Role in Carcinogenesis-The Missing Link - Dr. Tuhina Banerjee | **Venue: Hall 3**<br>Pulmonary Mycoses: Diagnostic Challenges<br><br>**Chairpersons**<br>Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti, Dr. Shukla Das<br><br>1. Epidemiology: Spectrum and Emergence- Dr. Jayanthi Savio<br>2. When to Suspect Pulmonary Mycoses and Diagnostic Algorithm- Dr. Shivaprakash M Rudramurthy<br>3. Interpretation of Non-Culture-Based Diagnosis- Dr. Priyanka Narain |
| 5:00- 6:00 PM | **Industrial Sessions** | | |
| | **Venue: Hall-1**<br>Evaluating Disinfectants using EN/ASTM Standards - Dr. Benedict Vinothini<br><br>**Moderator:** Dr. Apurba Sankar Sastry<br><br>1. Hygienic Hand-rub Testing (EN 1500)<br>2. Suspension tests- Basic and Specialised (EN 1040 and others)<br>3. Carrier/Surface Tests (AOAC Use Dilution test)<br>4. Kelsey-Sykes Capacity Test<br><br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Ujjwala Gaikwad, Dr. S. K. Akulwar | **Venue: Hall-2**<br>Environmental Hygiene in Hospitals: Closing the Gaps<br><br>1. The Invisible Reservoir: Why it matters? -Dr. Lata Sheoran<br>2. Environmental Cleaning: Best Practices in High Risk Settings- Dr. Veenu Gupta<br>3. Environmental Surveillance: What, Where and When- Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi<br>4. From "Looks Clean" to Is it Clean?": Audit & KPIS- Dr. Lata Sheoran<br><br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Atul Rukadikar, Dr. Saurabh G. Agarwal | **Venue: Hall-3**<br>The Sepsis Care Continuum: From Diagnostics to Intervention- A Multidisciplinary Dialogue- Dr. Parikshit Prayag, Dr. Subhash Kr. Todi, Dr. Meena R. Mishra, Dr. Sankar Sengupta, Dr. Debkishore Gupta, Dr. Cecilia Carvalhaes<br><br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Ajit Shreeram Damle, Dr. Pramod R. Bhise |
| 7:00 PM Onwards | **Networking Dinner** | | |

# CONFERENCE (31st October 2026)

| TIME | MEET THE EXPERT |
|---|---|
| 8:00 – 8:45 AM | **Venue:** Hall 5<br>**Bone & Prosthetic Joint Infection**<br>1. Navigating the Diagnostic Journey of PJIS: From Operation Room to Bench- Dr. Aruna Poojary<br>2. The Journey of a PJI Patient: From Diagnosis to Recovery- Dr. Aditya Menon<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Manideepa Sengupta, Dr. Sunita Gajbhiye |
| | **Venue:** Hall 6<br>**From Culture/AST to Molecular Testing- Quality Matters**<br>1. Too Sensitive, Too Resistant? Quality Issues Behind AST Discrepancies- Dr. Sonal Saxena<br>2. From Extraction to Ct Values: The Quality Chain in Molecular Testing- Dr. Bharti Malhotra<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Vimala Venkatesh, Dr. Neena Nagdeo |
| | **Venue:** Hall 7<br>**Ocular Microbiology Diagnostics**<br>1. Microbiological Diagnosis of Eye Infections- Nuances of Specimen Collection and Routine Diagnosis of Viral and Non-Viral Eye Infections- Dr. Savitri Sharma<br>2. Uncommon Ocular Pathogens, Molecular Diagnosis and Metagenomic Approach in the Diagnosis of Eye Infections- Dr. Nishat Hussain Ahmed<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Sanjay More, Dr. Kalpana Date |
| | **Venue:** Hall 8<br>**The Shifting Microbial Landscape: What Today's Microbiologist Must Anticipate**<br>1. From Petri Dish to Patient: Lessons from a Lifetime in Microbiology - Lt. Gen. D. Raghunath<br>2. When Culture Doesn't Tell the Whole Story: The ID–Microbiology Dilemma- Dr. Ashwini Tayade<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Pratima Gupta, Dr. Balram Ji Omar |
| 08:00-9:00 AM | **Venue:** Anatomy/ Nursing Corridor, AIIMS Nagpur<br>**Free Category Poster Presentations** |
| 09:00-10:00 AM | **IAMM Quiz** (Hall-1) |
| 10:00-11:00 AM | **Dr. S. R. Sengupta IAMM Symposium**<br>One Health and Joint Outbreak Response<br>**Moderator:** Dr. Mala Chhabra<br>**Panelists:** Dr. Nivedita Gupta, Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Dr. Rahul Dhodapkar, Dr Nitin V. Kurkure |
| 11:00-11:30 AM | **Keynote Address**<br>**Venue:** Hall- 1<br>The Future of Communicable Diseases: Predict, Prevent, Protect- Dr. Nivedita Gupta<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Reba Kanungo, Dr. V. Ravi |

<table>
<tr><td>11:30-12:00 PM</td><td colspan="3">Keynote Address<br>Venue: Hall-1<br>Challenges in Diagnosis of Unusual Parasites and use of E-Diagnosis- Dr. Harshavardhan Sheorey<br>Chairperson: Dr. Vilas Jahagirdar, Brig. Dr. A. Nagendra</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:00- 01:30 PM</td><td colspan="3">General Body Meeting (Hall-1)</td></tr>
<tr><td>01:30- 02:30 PM</td><td colspan="3">Lunch</td></tr>
<tr><td>2:30- 3:30 PM</td><td colspan="3">Plenary Sessions<br>Interesting Case Discussion<br>Panelists: Dr. Nitin Shinde, Dr. Samir Dwidmuthe<br>Moderator: Dr. Aruna Poojary</td></tr>
<tr><td>2:00-4:00 PM<br>(Simultaneously)</td><td colspan="3">IAMM Award Sessions (Hall 4 B, C-Auditorium Building, 3rd and 2nd floor)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2:00-5:00 PM<br>(Simultaneously)</td><td colspan="3">Free Category Oral Paper and Poster Presentation (Auditorium Building)</td></tr>
<tr><td>3:30-5:00 PM</td><td colspan="3">Parallel Symposia</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Venue: Hall – 1<br>One Health in Action: Integrating Human, Animal and Environmental Health<br><br>1. Water, Waste & Bugs:Environmental Pathways to AMR-Dr. Jyoti Iravane<br>2. Implications of the One Health Paradigm for Clinical Microbiology- Dr. Nayana Ingole<br>3. Collaborate To Contain: Multisectoral Strategies for Health Security- Dr Pragya D. Yadav<br><br>Chairpersons: Dr. Vineeta Mittal, Dr. Vivek Agwan</td><td>Venue: Hall – 2<br>Culture the Uncultured: Advances in Anaerobic Infection Diagnosis<br><br>1. From Neglect to Necessity: Unmasking Anaerobes in Culture-Negative Infections-Dr. Padmaja A Shenoy<br>2. Convention Vs Automation: Diagnostic Dilemma- Dr. Shashwati Nema<br>3. Decoding Virulence and Resistance in Clinically Significant Anaerobes- Dr. Archana Angrup<br><br>Chairpersons: Dr. C.S. Patil, Dr. Chandrashekhar, N. Chaudhari</td><td>Venue: Hall - 3<br>Test What Matters: Diagnostic Stewardship in the Age of Automation and AI<br><br>1. Diagnostic Stewardship in the Age of Automation: Restoring the Clinical Reasoning- Dr. Vikas Manchanda<br>2. From Over-Testing to Test What Matter- Dr. Umabala Pamidimukkala<br>3. Speed with Sense: Rational Use of Rapid Diagnostics- Dr. V. Balaji<br>4. Clinical Impact & Cost-Effectiveness in Infectious Diseases- Dr. Devjani De<br>5. From Pathogen to Prescription: The Clinical Power of Timely Diagnostics- Dr. Anup Warrier<br><br>Chairperson: Dr. Rajni Gaind, Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi</td></tr>
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<tr><td>5:00- 6:00 PM</td><td colspan="3">Industrial Sessions</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Venue: Hall - 1<br>Beyond The Ventilator: Breaking the Chain of Infection in Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)<br><br>Moderator: Dr. Rungmei S. K. Marak<br><br>1. VAP: Understanding the Microbiology Behind the Infection- Dr. Anupma Jyoti Kindo<br>2. VAE Surveillance- Dr. Chinmoy Sahu<br>3. Terminal Disinfection and Reprocessing of Respiratory Equipment- Dr. Ankur Goyal<br>4. Breaking the Chain: Preventing VAP in ICU through Bundle Care- Dr. Nidhi Tejan</td><td>Venue: Hall - 2<br>Panel Discussion on Digital Innovation, Automation & Actionable Intelligence<br><br>1. Beyond the Culture Plate: The Future of Data-Driven Clinical Microbiology-Dr. Bansidhar Tarai, Dr. Subhranshu Mandal, Dr. Aruna Poojary, Dr. Rupali Suryawanshi, Dr. Nandini Seturaman, Dr. Neelam Taneja<br><br>Chairpersons: Dr. Rajendra Surpam, Dr. Anuradha De</td><td>Venue: Hall - 3<br>Sepsis and Bloodstream Infections: Bridging Clinical and Laboratory Excellence<br><br>Moderator: Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti<br><br>1. Sepsis 2026: Practice – Changing Insights you can't Ignore- Dr. Nitin Shinde<br>2. Fungal Bloodstream Infections: Diagnostic Challenges and Opportunities in the Microbiology Laboratory- Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti<br>3. Pediatric BSI's- Implementing Effective Diagnostic Stewardship- Challenges and Opportunities- Dr. Ranganathan Iyer<br>4. Clinical Vignettes: Diagnostic and Management Challenges in BSI/Sepsis- Dr. Ranganathan Iyer, Dr. Shehzad Mirza, Dr. Anuradha Deshmukh, Dr. Nitin Shinde</td></tr>
<tr><td>7:00 PM Onwards</td><td colspan="3">Banquet Dinner</td></tr>
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# CONFERENCE (1st November 2026)

| TIME | MEET THE EXPERT |
|---|---|
| 8:00-8:45 AM | **Venue:** Hall 5<br>**The Next Pandemic in Waiting?**<br>1. Which Virus Comes Next? Preparing for the Next Pandemic- Dr. Manickam Ponnaiah<br>2. Solution of AMR- Is IAS Practice (INSAAF) by Microbiologist? - Dr. Prasan Kumar Panda<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Rajesh Karyakarte, Dr. Ravindra Khadse |
| | **Venue:** Hall 6<br>**Two Lives at Stake: Are we Missing Infections in Pregnancy?**<br>1. Endosymbiont Strikes Back: Mitochondrial Signals in Placental Infection- Driven Preterm Birth - Dr. Siddhesh Aras<br>2. Two Lives, One Microbe: Cracking the Code of Pregnancy Loss - Dr. Chaitanya Shembekar<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Seema Khetan, Dr. Suchita Mundle |
| | **Venue:** Hall 7<br>**Leprosy & other Neglected Tropical Diseases**<br>1. The Spectrum of Leprosy: From Early Diagnosis to Difficult-to-Treat Disease- Dr. Sanjiv Vijay Choudhary<br>2. Approach to Neglected Tropical Diseases - Dr. Debasis Biswas<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Namrata Kumari, Dr. B. L. Sherwal |
| | **Venue:** Hall 8<br>**When to Stop Antifungal Therapy**<br>1. Antifungal Stewardship: Starting Right, Stopping Right - Dr. Rajashree Khot<br>2. When to Stop, When to Switch: A Microbiologist's Guide to Antifungal Therapy- Dr. Anjali Shetty<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Ragini Tilak, Dr. Mahantesh Nagamoti |
| 9:00-10:00 AM | **IAMM Student Symposium**<br>**Venue:** Hall - 1<br>**Surveillance of Device-Associated Infections**<br>**Moderator:** Dr. Purva Mathur |
| 10:00-10:30 AM | **Keynote Address**<br>**Venue:** Hall - 1<br>Implementation of National Action Plan on AMR 2.0 at Medical Colleges- Dr. Lata Kapoor<br>**Chairperson:** Dr. Pratibha Narang, Dr. Jayaram Shanmugam |
| 10:30-11:30 AM | **Debate**<br>**Venue:** Hall - 1<br>The Lab Vs the Prescription Pad: Who Really Controls AMR?<br>**Moderator:** Dr. Abhay Chowdhary<br>**For** - Dr. Sumit Rai, Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharya<br>**Against** - Dr. Rathod Bharat Sing Deorao, Dr. Anant Khot<br>**Chairpersons:** Dr. Bansidhar Tarai, Dr. Chirag Modi |

<table>
<tr><td>11: 30-12:30 PM</td><td colspan="3">Parallel Symposia</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Venue: Hall - 2<br>NTM Uncovered: An Update on Diagnosis, Drug Susceptibility, and One Health Approaches<br><br>1. Advances In NTM Diagnostics: From Conventional Methods to Next Generation Sequencing- Dr. Nilma Hirani<br>2. Drug Susceptibility Testing in NTM: Current Methods, Challenges and Clinical Correlation- Dr. Mandira Varma Basil<br>3. Environmental and One Health Perspectives in NTM Transmission & Surveillance - Dr. Joy Sarojini Michael<br><br>Chairpersons:<br>Dr. Mangayarkarasi V,<br>Dr. (Col.) Ashwini Agarwal</td><td>Venue: Hall - 3<br>Demystifying AES: Beyond Fever And<br>Altered Sensorium<br><br>1. Finding the Culprit: Targeted Approach to Diagnose AES- Dr. Amita Jain<br>2. AES on Target: Early Action, Robust Surveillance Lasting Impact! – Dr. Rahul Dhodapkar<br>3. From CSF to clarity: Integrating Molecular Diagnostic,Culture and DST- Dr. Gaurav Salunke<br><br>Chairpersons: Dr. Sumi Nandwani, Dr. Uma Tendolkar</td><td>Venue: Hall- 1<br>Post-Covid Virology: Are We Prepared or Just Experience<br><br>1. From Pandemic Panic to Pathogen Intelligence: Are our Surveillance Systems Truly Genomics Ready? - Dr. Rakesh Mishra<br>2. The Spillover Continuum: Clinical Management from Exposure To Recovery - Dr. (Prof.) Prashant P. Joshi<br><br>Chairpersons: Dr. Ashok Kumar Dhanvijay, Dr. Sonal Saxena</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:30-01:00 PM</td><td colspan="3">Valedictory Function</td></tr>
<tr><td>01:00 PM Onwards</td><td colspan="3">Lunch</td></tr>
</table>

# CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

## CHHATTISGARH ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGISTS

The academic activities conducted during this period were-

**1.** The Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Raipur, successfully organized a two-day academic Programme on 16th and 17th July 2026 to strengthen awareness and capacity for combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR), one of the most pressing public health challenges worldwide. The Programme brought together microbiologists, clinicians, laboratory personnel and healthcare professionals from across Chhattisgarh.

The event commenced on 16th July with a hands-on workshop for laboratory technicians, in which around 40 technicians nominated from healthcare institutions across the state participated. The participants received practical training in bacteriological techniques and antimicrobial susceptibility testing from the residents and technical staff of the Department of Microbiology, with the aim of strengthening diagnostic microbiology services across the region.

A Continuing Medical Education (CME) on "Decoding Resistance-Translating advanced diagnostics into optimal antimicrobial therapy and stewardship" organized by Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Raipur, under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologists (CAMM), on 17 July 2026. Dr. Anudita Bhargava, President CAMM was the organizing chairperson and Dr. Pragya Agarwala and Dr. Abhijit Prasad were organizing secretary and joint secretary respectively. Educational support was by Biomeriuex India.

Eminent faculty from New Delhi and Hyderabad delivered invited lectures, sharing their expertise on contemporary challenges in infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. The inaugural function was graced by Lt Gen Ashok Kumar Jindal, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Raipur, as the Chief Guest, while Dr Ramanesh Murthy, Dean and Professor & Head, CIMS Bilaspur, attended as the Guest of Honour.

**2.** CAMM Annual Conference was held on 7 & 8 August 2026 at CIMS, Bilaspur under the leadership of Dr. Ramanesh Murthy, Dean at CIMS Bilaspur and CAMM Patron. The organizing chairperson Dr. Rekha Barapatre, Organizing Secretary Dr. Sagarika Pradhan with team Microbiology, CIMS Bilaspur put in together a wonderful academic rundown.




The theme and the visual depiction and the surprise elements Zodiac quiz-"Astrology in Microbiology" and Bollywood quiz- "Melodies, microbes and maladies". Eminent state and national speakers covered most aspects of clinical Microbiology and infectious diseases: emerging bacterial and fungal diseases, updates on dengue virus and malaria vaccines, basics of microbial identification to advanced diagnostics with a talk and panel discussion on antimicrobial stewardship- overall an excellent cocktail of topics. UG quiz by quizmaster Dr. Navin Chandra Kaore and PG quiz with quizmaster Dr. Garima, were gave us enough to ponder. Dr Padma Das memorial award for the best oral paper was awarded to Dr Sirisha Mondal and Dr Deepmala memorial awards were presented to the highest scorers of UG Microbiology toppers.





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# IAMM-PUDUCHERRY

The Department of Microbiology and the Medical Education Unit of Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College & Hospital (SVMCH&RC), Ariyur, Puducherry, in association with the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM) Puducherry Chapter, successfully organized a one-day state-level conference titled "SURGE - 2026" on 10th July 2026.

The conference centered around the critical contemporary theme, "Surveillance of Upcoming and Re-emerging Global Epidemics focusing on Recent Viral Outbreaks," highlighting the imperative role of diagnostic surveillance in today's global health landscape. The formal inaugural ceremony was presided over by Dr. S Ratnasamy, Director of SVMCH&RC. During their presidential addresses, Dr Shashikala Nair, President IAMM - Puducherry Chapter emphasized the necessity of strong clinical surveillance systems and rapid institutional responses to combat mutating viral strains and newly emerging pandemics.

The scientific program was organized and spearheaded by Dr. Vinod R, Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology, along with the dedicated faculty members of the Department of Microbiology. The conference featured highly interactive technical sessions, drawing more than 170 participants both online and offline including medical practitioners, researchers, and postgraduate scholars. Delegates actively interacted and brainstormed with eminent guest speakers and subject experts who traveled from premier medical institutions all over India and from various medical institutions of Puducherry. The oral and poster presentation by the postgraduate students saw enthusiastic participation. 2 TNMC credit points were awarded.

## SURGE – 2026 : CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- One-day state-level hybrid conference held on 10th July 2026 at SVMCH&RC, Ariyur, Puducherry
- Theme: Surveillance of Upcoming and Re-emerging Global Epidemics focusing on Recent Viral Outbreaks
- More than 170 participants, online and offline
- Oral and poster presentations by postgraduate students
- Eminent speakers from premier medical institutions across India and Puducherry
- TNMC credit points 2



# DELHI CHAPTER 2026

### 1. WORKSHOP ON FLOW CYTOMETRY TITLED "FROM PLINTH TO PARAMOUNT"

The Department of Microbiology, AIIMS New Delhi in collaboration with IAMM Delhi successfully organized the Flow Cytometry Workshop titled "From Plinth to Paramount" on May 7, 2026. The workshop was conducted with the objective of imparting both theoretical understanding and practical exposure to flow cytometry and its biomedical applications. The program commenced with registration and inauguration, followed by an opening session by Dr Priyam Batra, who introduced participants to the significance and evolving role of flow cytometry in biomedical research and diagnostics. Dr Ravinder Singh delivered a lecture on the basics of flow cytometry, covering the principles of fluidics, optics, electronics, fluorescence detection, and interpretation of forward and side scatter. This was followed by a session by Dr Hitender Gautam on the clinical applications of flow cytometry, highlighting its utility in immunophenotyping, leukemia diagnosis, stem cell analysis, immune monitoring, and translational research. The workshop further included advanced scientific sessions conducted by Dr Vinay on spectral and imaging flow cytometry, where participants were introduced to high-dimensional cellular analysis and image-enabled spectral sorting technologies. A detailed overview of instrument configuration, software operation, compensation setup, data acquisition, and analysis workflows was also provided. The post-lunch hands-on practical acquisition session offered participants direct training in instrument handling, sample acquisition, gating strategies, and troubleshooting under expert supervision. The workshop concluded with an interactive quiz and closing remarks summarizing the key learning outcomes of the program. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from faculty members, researchers, postgraduate students, and technical staff, and was highly appreciated for its comprehensive scientific content and practical orientation.



## 2. PG WORKSHOP on "Approach towards Microbiology PG Examination: A Practical demonstration workshop for preparation for practical examination in Microbiology for post graduate students"

The Department of Microbiology, University College of Medical Sciences & Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi, under the aegis of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM) Delhi Chapter, organized a postgraduate workshop titled "Approach towards Microbiology PG Examination" on 24th July 2026. Held at Lecture Theatre-2, College Building, UCMS, the workshop, which was 3rd in its series, was specifically organized for 3rd-year Microbiology postgraduate students across Delhi and NCR to guide them through the structure, technical nuances, and methodologies of their practical examinations.

The proceedings commenced with introductory remarks outlining the practical examination pattern. The academic program initiated with a comprehensive session on "Approach to Pure Culture," co-conducted by Dr. Shukla Das (Head of Department and Director Professor, UCMS) and Dr. Rumpa Saha (Director Professor UCMS), who introduced participants to culture identification workflows, systematic specimen handling, and strategic exam approaches.

The inauguration of workshop was graced by the Dr Dheeraj Shah (Principal, UCMS) who addressed the gathering with inspiring words, highlighting the importance of academic rigor and practical competence.

The academic modules focused on clinical bacteriology and OSPE stations with emphasis on systematic diagnostic approach to stool, urine, sputum, throat, pus swab, BAL etc.. The morning session concluded with an OSPE module focusing on Molecular diagnostics, ELISA interpretation, and EQAS/Quality Control.

The post-lunch schedule resumed with an intensive series of interactive sub-specialty discussion, which included Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) in the context of clinical specimens, followed by approach to virology, serology exercises, offering case-based diagnostic insights.

Guidance on slide examination including both mycology and parasitology, was subsequently provided. The practical learning exposure wrapped up with two targeted OSPE modules: Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) and Animal OSPE.

This workshop offered postgraduate students an immersive and exam-oriented learning experience, the event successfully bridged core diagnostic principles with practical examination confidence under the expert guidance and mentorship of senior departmental faculty.



## 3. 2nd Chapter Meet of IAMM Delhi Chapter on "Smart Microbiology Smarter Healthcare,"

The 2nd Chapter Meet of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), Delhi Chapter was successfully organised by the Institute of Clinical Microbiology & Immunology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, on 29 August 2026 under the theme "Smart Microbiology Smarter Healthcare," The programme was organised under the leadership of the sitting President of IAMM, Dr. Chand Wattal, also the Organising Chairperson, with Dr. Jaswinder K. Oberoi as Organising Co-Chairperson and Dr. Neeraj Goel as Organising Secretary. The meeting was attended by approximately 100 delegates from institutions across Delhi-NCR. A heartfelt tribute was paid to the late Prof. Shrinivas in recognition of his invaluable contributions and enduring legacy. The gathering observed two minutes of silence as a mark of respect and remembrance.

The academic programme began with the postgraduate workshop, "Diagnostic Intelligence in Microbiology: Precision Starts in the Clinical Laboratory," followed by a poster session wherein around 40 posters were presented, featuring work in antibiotic susceptibility testing, immunodiagnostic techniques, and MD and PhD free-paper categories.

Dr. Ashok Rattan delivered the keynote lecture, "Clinical Microbiology 2036: The Crystal Ball," highlighting the future of clinical microbiology. This was followed by a panel discussion on "Next-Generation Sequencing: Hype, Hope, or Healthcare Transformation?", moderated by Dr. Chand Wattal, SGRH, New Delhi, with Dr. Ekta Gupta, ILBS, New Delhi; Dr. Hitender Gautam, AIIMS, New Delhi; Dr. Atul Gogia, SGRH, New Delhi; and Dr. Sudhir.

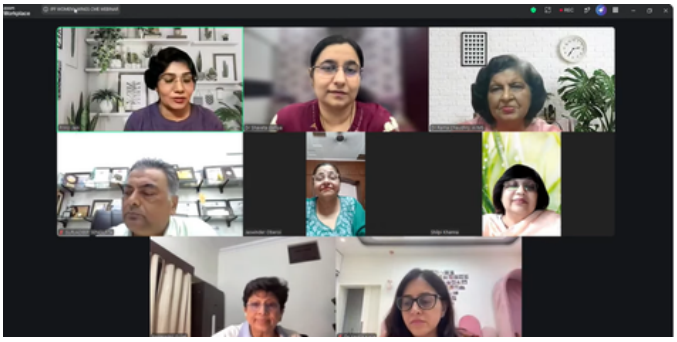
The postgraduate quiz added an engaging competitive element. The meeting provided a valuable forum for scientific exchange, trainee participation, and discussion of emerging diagnostic technologies.






**4. Collaboration with other scientific societies: CME Webinar: Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Women's Health**

With the rapidly evolving landscape of infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, emerging pathogens, and advances in diagnostics, the need for closer collaboration between microbiologists and clinicians has become increasingly important. Recognizing this need, the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists – Delhi Chapter (IAMM-DC), in collaboration with the Innovative Physician Forum – Women's Wing (IPF-WW), under the aegis of Innovative Physician Forum (IPF) successfully organized a Continuing Medical Education (CME) webinar titled "Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Women's Health" on 24 July 2026 at 8:00 PM via the Zoom platform. The scientific session included an enlightening lecture by Dr. Rama Chowdhary, ICMR Emeritus Scientist, former Dean (Research), and former Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi, on "The Vaginal Microbiome – Friend, Foe or Forgotten Organ?" Her comprehensive presentation highlighted the evolving understanding of the vaginal microbiome and its pivotal role in the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management of urinary tract infections and vaginitis in women. Dr. Anchin Kalia, Professor and Unit Head, Department of Medicine, Mahatma Gandhi Hospital, Jaipur, talked on "Breaking the Cycle: Tackling Recurrent UTI and Vaginitis in Clinical Practice." She provided practical, evidence-based strategies for the diagnosis and management of recurrent urinary tract infections and vaginitis, emphasizing an integrated clinical approach. This was followed by an engaging and interactive panel discussion wherein the audience actively participated through thought-provoking questions, making the session highly interactive and academically enriching. The webinar was a success with the collaborative efforts of IAMM-Delhi Chapter and IPF Women's Wing.



**5. IAMM DELHI CHAPTER TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOR MICROBIOLOGY LAB TECHNICAL STAFF: 3 training workshops were conducted**

**A. Laboratory Technician Workshop on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST):** The Department of Microbiology, Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC), in collaboration with IAMM Delhi Chapter, organized a Technician Training Workshop on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) on 19th June 2026. The workshop aimed to enhance the technical expertise of laboratory personnel in standardized AST practices, an essential component in combating antimicrobial resistance.

The scientific sessions were delivered by Dr. Sonal Saxena, Dr. Prabhav Aggarwal, Dr. Bhanu Mehra, Dr. Srestha Mitra and Dr. Anmol who covered important topics including AST principles, Kirby–Bauer disc diffusion, colistin and vancomycin susceptibility testing, and quality control practices. The hands-on training sessions were conducted by Dr. Pritika, Dr. Amritha, Dr. Anmol, Mr. Rajinder, Ms. Manisha, and Ms. Priyanka Jain, providing practical exposure to routine and specialized AST techniques.

The workshop saw active participation from technicians, who appreciated the practical demonstrations and interactive discussions.

Participants expressed that the sessions were highly useful in improving their understanding, confidence, and technical skills in performing AST accurately in routine laboratory practice.





**B. Laboratory Technician Workshop on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST):** The IAMM Delhi Chapter Technician Workshop on "Quality Assurance in Clinical Microbiology Laboratory" was successfully conducted with the objective of strengthening quality practices among microbiology laboratory technicians. The workshop was specifically designed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and day-to-day laboratory practices by emphasizing quality management across the entire laboratory workflow.

The program highlighted that quality is not limited to analytical testing but begins with proper specimen collection and continues through examination, documentation, reporting, and continuous quality improvement. The combination of focused scientific sessions and innovative hands-on quality stations provided participants with practical knowledge that can be directly translated into routine laboratory practice.






**C. Laboratory Technician Workshop on 'Fungal Diagnostics':** A one-day workshop on 'Fungal Diagnostics' was organized by the Mycology Section, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi, in collaboration with IAMM-DC. The workshop was intended to enhance the knowledge and technical skills of 14 laboratory technologists and professionals from the Delhi-NCR region in the domain of diagnostic mycology.

The event started off with attendee registration and an initial assessment, leading into expert talks covering mycology lab techniques, media and stain applications, fungal identification, and preservation methods. Following the lectures, attendees engaged in hands-on exercises. They practiced sample processing, media preparation, and specific identification techniques for yeasts (including MALDI-TOF) and moulds (using standard methods like slide cultures and LPCB mounts).

The workshop ended with a final evaluation and a closing ceremony. Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the practical training, though some suggested lengthening these hands-on modules to allow for deeper engagement. Ultimately, the program successfully met its goals by enhancing the attendees' skills and comprehensive understanding of fungal diagnostics.

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## WEST BENGAL CHAPTER:

16th IAMM WB Chapter State Conference (MICROCON WB 2026) WAS successfully hosted by Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, New Town, Kolkata from 1st October to 4th October 2026. The conference was attended by 228 delegates.

Prof. Dr. Sankar Sengupta Superintendent CNCI was the organising President and Dr. Subranshu Mondal was the organising secretary of the conference. There was a pre conference CME on 3D Stewardship on 1st October 2026 at Narayana R N Tagore Hospital, Kolkata. On 2nd October, two pre conference

workshops were held at CNCI, New Town. On 3rd October, first day of the conference, a CME on the topic Transforming Medical Microbiology through Innovation and best practices was held at CNCI, New Town followed by Oral and Poster presentation and Quiz at the same venue.

On 4th October 2026, Inauguration programme was held at CNCI Auditorium. Inaugural speech was given by our esteemed chief guest Dr. Abhizat Sheth, Chairman NMC. Guest Lectures were given by Prof. Dr. Arunaloke Chakraborty. Past President, IAMM, Prof. Dr. Sanjay Biswas, Secretary, IAMM, Dr. Ujjala Ghoshal, Prof. and HOD, AIIIMS, Kalyani, Prof. Dr. Debaprasad Pal, Ex-director AIIP&H, Prof. Dr. Prashanta Maity, Ex HOD IPGME&R Kolkata. The conference was ended by vote of thanks and prize distribution.






## TAMILNADU CHAPTER

### CME ON "CURRENT TRENDS IN CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, AMS & INFECTION PREVENTION"

*Held at CURI Hospital, Thoraipakkam, Chennai | 27 June 2026*

The Department of Microbiology, Chennai Urology & Robotics Institute Hospital (CURI Hospital), Thoraipakkam, Chennai, under the aegis of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM), Tamil Nadu Chapter, organised a hybrid Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme titled "Current Trends in Clinical Microbiology, AMS & Infection Prevention" on 27 June 2026 at the Conference Hall, CURI Hospital, Thoraipakkam, Chennai. Totally 124 Doctors participated in the CME.

The CME brought together healthcare professionals with the objective of highlighting contemporary practices in clinical microbiology, antimicrobial stewardship (AMS), diagnostic stewardship and infection prevention and control (IPC). The scientific programme focused on translating current evidence and guidelines into practical approaches for improving patient care and combating antimicrobial resistance.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Avinash, MD (Anaesthesia),Head, Department of Anaesthesiology. The scientific sessions began with Dr. Abba Ruba Sunanthini, MD (Micro), Consultant Microbiologist, Medical Director and Infection Control Officer, CURI Hospital, who spoke on "Three Pillars of Healthcare Stewardship—Diagnostic, AMS & IPC." The session highlighted the interconnected role of appropriate diagnostics, responsible antimicrobial use and effective infection prevention practices in healthcare.

Dr. Nandini Sethuraman, MD (Micro), Senior Consultant and Head, Department of Microbiology and Serology, Apollo Central Reference Laboratory, addressed "Optimizing AST in Routine Microbiology: Current CLSI Guidelines," focusing on antimicrobial susceptibility testing and current laboratory guidelines.

This was followed by Dr. Subha S, MD, DNB (Micro), CIC, Consultant Microbiologist & Infection Control Officer, Dr. Rela Institute and Medical Centre, who presented "Hospital Antibiograms: Our Experience & Future Possibilities." The session discussed the practical utility of hospital antibiograms in understanding local antimicrobial resistance patterns and supporting informed antimicrobial prescribing.

The programme also featured Dr. V. R. Yamunadevi, DA, MD (Micro), CIC, ICC-NY, FISQua, AL-CIP, MBA (ISB), Senior Medical Superintendent, Cluster 1, Senior Consultant – Infection Prevention & Control and Head of CSSD, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, who spoke on "AMSP & Antibiotic Policy." The session highlighted the importance of structured antimicrobial stewardship programmes and antibiotic policies in promoting rational antimicrobial use and addressing antimicrobial resistance.

The CME provided an interactive platform for participants to discuss practical challenges encountered in microbiology laboratories, antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention. The multidisciplinary nature of the programme reinforced the importance of collaboration among microbiologists, clinicians, infection control teams and other healthcare professionals in strengthening antimicrobial stewardship and patient safety initiatives.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ajay Rathoon, MD, DM (Nephrology), Head, Department of Nephrology. The CME served as a valuable forum for knowledge sharing, professional interaction and discussion of current practices in clinical microbiology, antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention.

# NOTICE FOR GENERAL BODY MEETING

Agenda: 49th Annual General Body Meeting of the IAMM
Venue: Nagpur Date: 31st October 2026 Time: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM
The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Obituary
2. Welcoming of New EC Members / Bid Adieu of outgoing EC members.
3. To confirm the EC/GB Meeting minutes held at the 48th IAMM congress at New Delhi in 2025.
4. Action taken on minutes of the GB Meeting.
5. Selection of topics for 50th IAMM Congress: a) Dr SR Sengupta IAMM Symposium and b) IAMM Student Symposium
6. Decision regarding the venues for 51st & 52nd IAMM Congress
7. Decision of various Awards:
   - Dr S C Agarwal Oration Award
   - Dr H I Jhala Award
   - IAMM Endowment Oration Award
   - Dr U C Chaturvedi Lifetime Achievement Award
8. Secretary's Annual Report by Dr Sanjay Biswas
9. Editor's report and statement of IJMM accounts by Dr Sangeeta Joshi
10. Presentation of Annual Statement of IAMM Accounts by Dr Sheela Devi
11. Brief report of IAMM EQAS programme by the Co-ordinators:
    - South Centre (Vellore)- Dr V Balaji and Dr R Kannangai
    - North Centre (New Delhi)- Dr Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi
12. Proposal/suggestions of training program, PG Assembly, IPC course, IAMM PG
13. Masterclass
14. Election of Office Bearers of IAMM 2026-27
15. Any other matter with permission from chair.

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

Published By:
**Dr Sanjay Biswas**
Secretary, IAMM

**BOOK-POST**

**To,**
**Dr.** _____
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