



Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute
University of Delhi, Delhi-110007, India

VPCI NEWSLETTER

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(upto 31.10.17)

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(w.e.f. 03.11.17)

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FROM THE EDITORS DESK

It is with great pleasure; we are presenting the VPCI Newsletter to you for the period July - December 2017. Prof. Raj Kumar took charge as Director (Acting) VPCI, w.e.f. 3rd November 2017 from Prof. A. Ray.

The V.P. Chest Institute organized many academic programmes during the period including: Symposium on Recent Advances in Nitric Oxide Research, 13th Prof. Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration, 3rd Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration, National Workshop on advancement in immunology, Public lectures etc.

The VPCI e-hospital facility was initiated to facilitate better communication with patients to improve healthcare services and integration of patient admission, billing and laboratory reports. The institute observed the Swachhata Drive, Constitution day programme and Vigilance Awareness week during this period.

Signing of MoU b/w V.P Chest Institute, University of Delhi, India & University of Klinikum Munster, Munster University, Germany

1st Indian Summit on Allergy Diagnosis & Allergen Immunotherapy was organised at VPCI in collaboration with University Klinikum Munster in this period. The major highlight of the Summit was the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute and University Klinikum Munster, Germany in areas of mutual interest.



Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), congratulates the VPCI faculty, staff and students on their achievements and wishes them all the very best in all their future endeavors.

Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi, Delhi-110007, India

e-portal: <http://vpci.org.in> | <https://ors.gov.in> | <http://ehospital.nic.in> | <https://ehospital.gov.in>

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

75th Year of Quit India Movement (Pledge) - 11th August 2017



The Institute observed “70 years of Freedom and 75 years of Quit India Movement” on 11th August 2017. Prof. A. Ray, Director (Acting) administered the “**Sankalp Pledge**” (in Hindi) to the staff members of VPCI with an aim to work earnestly towards a New India by year 2022. In this context, the Faculty members and the students were also encouraged to actively participate in the On-line Quiz programme as per the modalities received from Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education (Govt. of India).

Independence Day Celebration- 15th August 2017



The 71st Independence Day function was celebrated on 15th August 2017 at the VPCI campus with great fervor. The ceremony was attended by VPCI staff with their family members. Prof. A. Ray, Director (Actg.) hoisted the National flag. He later distributed sweets to all those present as well as indoor admitted patients.

Teacher's Day Celebration - 5th September 2017



The Teacher's Day was celebrated on 5th September 2017 at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium. The students greeted the teachers with flowers and the interaction continued with sharing of words of wisdom by the teachers.

Symposium on Recent Advances in Nitric Oxide (NO) Research and Its Impact on Therapy - 6th September 2017



The Symposium on Recent Advances in Nitric Oxide (NO) Research and its Impact on Therapy was held on 6th September 2017 in collaboration with Society for Nitric Oxide and Allied Radicals (SNOAR) and Delhi Pharmacological Society, at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium of the Institute. Prof. Ramesh K. Goyal, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University (DPSRU), was the Chief Guest of this event. Prof. A. Ray, Director (Acting), VPCI was the Organising Chairman and Prof. Kavita Gulati, Dept. of Pharmacology, VPCI was the Organising Secretary of the Symposium.

5th Skill Development Programme of IPC at VPCI - 9th September 2017



An Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring Centre (AMC) has been functioning at VPCI under the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI), since 2012. The Centre has been designated by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Govt. of India and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC). About 50 trainees participating in the 5th Skill Development Programme at IPC, Ghaziabad under the PvPI visited the AMC at VPCI on 9th September 2017 as a part of their training module. Under the supervision of Prof. A. Ray and Prof. Kavita Gulati, the participants were given training on how to collect ADRs from OPD and IPD patients of a hospital and report to PvPI through vigiflow.

Special Swachhata Drive-Swachhata Hi Sewa - 15th September to 2nd October 2017



The Institute observed Special Swachhata Drive, “Swachhata Hi Sewa” from 15th September to 2nd October 2017. In this connection, a collective Swachhata Pledge programme was held at main entrance (Gate No. 1) of the Institute. During the period, the Institute maintained thorough cleanliness and hygiene in and around the Institute and initiated several activities to bring success to the ‘Swachhata Hi Sewa’ programme. Prof. A. Ray, Director (Acting) administered the “Swachhata Pledge” (in Hindi and English) to all the Staff members and Students of the Institute on 25th September 2017. The Institute displayed banners, posters on Swachhata elements. The programme was successfully observed under the guidance and supervision of Prof. Kavita Gulati, Dept. of Pharmacology, VPCI, and Mr. P.R. Santhanam, Joint Registrar, VPCI.

13th Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration - 22nd September 2017



The Institute organised the 13th Prof. Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration on 22nd September 2017. The Oration (titled: “Cardiac Asthma – J to RAR and Beyond”) was delivered by Dr K. Ravi, Former Director Professor, Dept. of Physiology, VPCI, Delhi. Prof. Devesh K. Sinha, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, Delhi, was the Chief Guest and Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI presided over the function.

National Workshop on Advancement in Immunology - 12th - 13th October 2017



The National Workshop on "Advancement in Immunology"(Hands-on Training) was organized by VPCI in collaboration with Indian Immunology Society on 12th - 13th October 2017. The Workshop focused on teaching cutting edge techniques in research and clinical diagnostics including ELISPOT, Flow Cytometry, Stem cell culture, etc., by theoretical classes followed by practical session of basic to advanced techniques. The Workshop was inaugurated by Prof. G.P. Talwar, recipient of prestigious Padma Bhushan. Prof. Madhu Khanna, Department of Microbiology (Virology), VPCI was the Organizing Secretary of the Workshop.

3rd Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration - 24th October 2017



The Institute organized 3rd V.K. Vijayan Oration on 24th October 2017. The Oration (titled: “Understanding the making of TB to find ways to unmake it”) was delivered by Prof. Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi. Prof. Ramesh K. Goyal, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University (DPSRU), was the Chief Guest of this event. Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI presided over the function.

Tobacco Not Cool - A Dialogue by WHO & Youth Ki Awaaz 25th October 2017



The National Tobacco Quitline Services participated in “Tobacco Not Cool – A Dialogue by WHO & Youth Ki Awaaz” on 25th October 2017 at Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi. The National Tobacco Quitline Services counsellors and supervisors attended this event and distributed educational material kit amongst the audience with clarification of their doubts.

Vigilance Awareness Week - 30th October - 4th November 2017



The Vigilance Awareness Week was observed from 30th October - 4th November 2017. Prof. Arunabha Ray, Director (Acting) administered the “Integrity Pledge” (in Hindi and English) to the staff members of the Institute on 31st October 2017 at VPCI. Several banners on Vigilance Awareness Week were put at all entry gates, display boards of the Institute.



Prof. Raj Kumar taking charge as Director (Acting) VPCI on 3rd November 2017 from Prof. A. Ray



Prof. Raj Kumar Director (Acting) with Prof. R. Bhatnagar, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI



Prof. Raj Kumar Director (Acting) with Prof. D. Behera



Meeting of Director (Actg), Prof Raj Kumar with Faculty Members - 8th November 2017



Meeting of Director (Actg), Prof Raj Kumar with Nursing Cadre staff - 14th November 2017



Meeting of Director (Actg), Prof Raj Kumar with Administrative & Technical staff 14th & 16th November 2017



E- Works at VPCI Gem Portal



VPCI adopted the e-tendering facility to procure all the instruments and equipments from Government e-marketplace (GeM) in pursuance with Government of India, Digital India campaign to practice a corruption free environment and the first order was placed through GeM portal on 23rd November 2017.

E- Hospital



The VPCI e-hospital facility was initiated during this period to facilitate better communication with patients. The Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute e-Hospital portal can be accessed at <http://vpci.org.in>, <https://ors.gov.in>, <http://ehospital.nic.in>, <https://ehospital.gov.in>. Dr. Vishal Bansal, Department of Physiology & Nodal Officer and Mr. Sunil Kumar, Technical, are in-charge of this e-facility. The patients can find a doctor and book an appointment through this portal. The patients or treating doctors can log in to access electronic health record [EHR] anytime anywhere with defined access control and authentication mechanism.

मेरा अस्पताल (My Hospital)

मेरा अस्पताल (My Hospital) is Ministry of Health, Government of India initiative to capture patient feedback for the services received at the hospital through user-friendly multiple channels such as Short Message Service (SMS), Outbound Dialing (OBD) mobile application and web portal. VPCI was integrated with Mera Aspataal application on 14th June 2017.

Online Registration System - 1st December 2017

The VPCI Online Registration System (ORS) was started on 1st December 2017. It is a framework to link various hospitals across the country for Aadhaar based online registration and appointment system, where counter based OPD registration and appointment system through Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) has been digitalized. The application has been hosted on the cloud services of NIC. The portal facilitates online appointments with various departments of different Hospitals using eKYC data of Aadhaar number, if patient's mobile number is registered with UIDAI.



VPCI Digital Library Facility



The Library has a dedicated E-Resources Centre for accessing more than 100 Chest Diseases and Allied Medical journals and full text electronic journals from a good number of databases subscribed by VPCI Library & DULS. The Library is also affiliated with DELNET (Developing Library Network) for accessing various databases like DELNET Union Catalogues, other Databases of NLM, full text medical journals, MEDLINE database etc. These can be accessed by visiting site <http://vpci.org.in>, <http://www.delnet.nic.in>.

Change Face of Indian Journal of Chest Diseases and Allied Sciences

The Institute continued to publish its quarterly periodical "Indian Journal of Chest Diseases and Allied Sciences" (IJCDA) with an aim to disseminate scientific knowledge and latest advancement in the field of Chest Diseases. It has a wide National and International circulation. It is running in its 59th year of publication. The new look was given to the journal in this period.



Public Lecture - 24th November 2017



The Institute organized a Public Lecture on “Effect of Air Pollution on Lungs” Programme at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium on 24th November 2017. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, spoke about the different sources of the air pollution and its effect on different diseases. Prof. Anant Mohan, Department of Pulmonary Medicine and Sleep Disorders, AIIMS, New Delhi, spoke about the various preventive measures for Air Pollution. Prof. B.K. Menon, Dept. of Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI, explained the cardiovascular effect of air pollution and its long term effect on human health. Approximately, 300 people participated in this Programme. There were extensive patient interactions with the eminent specialists who answered a variety of queries from patients. Participants were thankful for the interactive session and expressed happiness about the simple explanations provided about their air pollution related problems.

Constitution Day Programme - 26th November 2017



The Institute observed the Constitution Day Programme on 26th November 2017 at the Conference Room, adjacent to Director’s Office at VPCI. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting) VPCI addressed the gathering with a brief speech about the evolution, contribution and the importance of Indian Constitution. The Staff members read out the Preamble to the Constitution and Fundamental Duties in the Constitution with the Director of the Institute.

Workshop on Good Inhalation Therapy Practices for Nursing staff - 27th & 29th November 2017



The National Centre of Respiratory Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (NCRAAI) of Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI) organized a Workshop on “Good Inhalation Therapy Practices for Nursing Staff” at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium at VPCI on 27th and 29th November 2017. Approximately, 80 Nursing Staff members from Delhi NCR Hospitals participated in the two-day Workshop. The aim of the Workshop was to train the Nursing staff on various modalities of Inhalation Therapy and enable to get the maximum benefits of the medications and improve the quality of life for the patient.

Workshop Update on Bronchial Asthma and Good Nebulization Practice - 30th November 2017



The National Centre of Respiratory Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (NCRAAI) of Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI) organized a Workshop Update on Bronchial Asthma & Good Nebulization Practice at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium at VPCI on 30th November 2017.

Scientific Advisory Committee and Institutional Ethics Committee Meeting held at VPCI - 7th December 2017



The meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee and Institutional Ethics Committee were held on 7th December 2017 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Vijayan, Former Director, VPCI and were attended by members from within and outside the Institute.

1st Indian Summit on Allergy Diagnosis & Allergen Immunotherapy - 8th & 9th December 2017



Signing of MoU b/w V.P Chest Institute, University of Delhi, India & University of Klinikum Munster, Munster University, Germany



The Vallabhbai Patel Chest Institute, in collaboration with the University Klinikum Munster (UKM), Munster, Germany, organized the “1st Indian Summit on Allergy Diagnosis & Allergen Immunotherapy” on 8th & 9th December 2017 at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi. Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI, presided over the function. Prof. J.P. Khurana, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi, Delhi, was the Chief Guest of this Programme. Several eminent speakers of National and International repute delivered lectures on different areas of Allergy, Asthma and Applied Immunology. Prof. Randolf Brehler, Department of Allergology, University Klinikum Munster (UKM), Germany, spoke about the prevalence of allergic diseases that are increasing like epidemic all over world. He also stressed that collaboration between VPCI and UKM would try to evolve better methods and technology to control and eradicate allergic diseases.

Public Lecture - 14th December 2017



A Public Lecture on “Harmful Effect of Tobacco & How To Quit Tobacco” was held at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium on 14th December 2017. The programme highlighted the harmful use of tobacco and it’s cessation among the public. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI. Prof. B.K. Menon, Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI, Delhi and Dr. Nitin Goel, Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI, Delhi were speakers of this lecture.

Public Lecture - 29th December 2017



A Public Lecture on “Awareness of Tuberculosis: An Age Old Menace” Programme at the VPCI Auditorium on 29th December 2017. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, spoke on Tuberculosis and stressed that early diagnosis and treatment is the key to stopping TB. Prof. Mandira Varma-Basil, Dept. of Microbiology, VPCI spoke on the diagnostic techniques of TB. Prof. B.K. Menon, Dept. of Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI, spoke on prevention of Tuberculosis and Drug resistant TB and its treatment. The Speakers answered a variety of queries on Tuberculosis from public. Participants were thankful for the interactive session and expressed happiness about the simple explanations provided about their disease.

VPCI Sports & Cultural Activity 2017 - 29th December 2017 to 7th January 2018





The Institute conducted the VPCI Sports and Cultural Activity - 2017 programme from 29th Dec. 2017 to 7th January 2018. The Sports events include: Musical Chair, Table Tennis, Badminton, Bench Press (Weight Lifting), Carom and Chess; and the Cultural events include: Play, Dance, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music and Poem Recitation. Most of the staff members, students and family members of VPCI participated in this programme.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Multi-Disciplinary Research Unit

The VPCI-DHR-ICMR-Multi-disciplinary Research Unit (MRU) is a part of the Government of India approved initiative for establishment of multidisciplinary research units in Government medical colleges/research institutions during the 12th plan period. Under this scheme, financial assistance of upto 5.25 crores is being provided to VPCI to set up State of the Art Multidisciplinary Research Facility.

Two research projects, one on lung cancer (P.I.: Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil) and other on lung fibrosis (P.I. Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha) are ongoing in this scheme. Two research papers



one each from above projects were presented in National Conferences during this period. Prof. Kavita Gulati, Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil and Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha underwent training on, "Clinical and Laboratory Medicine Research held at ICMR-National Aids Research Institute/Moving Academy of Medicine and Biomedicine, Pune cosponsored by Dept of Health Research, MOHFW, GOI from 28th August to 2nd September 2017.

Extramural Research Projects

Presently, 17 extramurally funded by ICMR, DBT, INSA, DST, DST-Fist, AYUSH, CCRUM, MH&FW, DIPAS and NIF. Two VPCI-DHR-ICMR Multi-Disciplinary Research Unit (MRU) funded research projects and 12 Research Fellowships funded by DST, ICMR, UGC, CSIR, NAM S&T Centre are ongoing in the Institute. In addition, two new extramurally funded Research Project & one Research Fellowship was additionally sanctioned during the period.

S. No.	Title of the Project	Department
1.	Experimental studies to evaluate the mode of action of traditional herbal agents in bronchial asthma.	Department of Pharmacology P.I.: Prof. A. Ray & Prof. Kavita Gulati Grant: 0.928 (lakhs) (Funding agency: NIF)
2.	Experimental studies on the herpato-protective and immunomodulatory effects of dawa-ul-kurkum, a polyherbal unani preparation and its cellular and molecular mechanisms in rats.	Department of Pharmacology P.I.: Prof. Kavita Gulati Grant: 23.57 (lakhs) (Funding agency: CCRUM)

National Tobacco Quit Line Services



The National Tobacco Quit Line services is sponsored scheme by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Govt. of India, runs under the aegis of Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi, which aims to quit tobacco for a healthier life. The National Tobacco Quit Line services (NTQLS) is a confidential, non-judgmental telephone based counselling, information and referral service for anyone seeking help for their own or another person's tobacco use. This quitline is accessed through a toll free number **1800112356** which is operative from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on all

days except on Monday. Tobacco quit line services are already established in more than 53 countries, but for the first time India has also become part of this social cause. This quitline was inaugurated by the Honorable Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare India Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 30th May 2016. This programme is headed under the supervision of Prof. Raj Kumar (HOD) Department of The National Centre of Respiratory Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (NCRAAI) and Director (Acting), VPCI.

AWARDS & HONOURS

- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the External Examiner of Practical Examinations, Dept. of TB & Respiratory Medicine, PGIMS, Rohtak on 4th July 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Expert to formulate guidelines for reissue of CPAP/BIPAP/Oxygen Concentration Machines at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on 17th July 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Member of the Expert Committee to review the functioning of BLDE University, Karnataka wide UGC, New Delhi on 8th August 2017.

- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture on ‘Experience of Tobacco Quit line in India’, WHO FCTC Global Knowledge Hub on SLT organised by National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research, Noida at Le Meridien New Delhi on 16th -18th August 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered two Guest Lectures, on ‘Allergy Management: Evidence from the last Decade’ ‘Allergen Immunotherapy’ in Allergy Diagnosis and Allergen Immunotherapy Workshop organised by AIIMS, New Delhi at Hotel Novotel, Aerocity, New Delhi on 20th August 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was nominated for deputation as ICCR Chair at Malwai University of Science and Technology, Malwai on 24th August 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was awarded the Fellow of National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi on 28th October 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on ‘Inhaled Devices’ during Workshop on Bronchial Asthma & Good Nebulization Practice” at VP Chest Institute, Delhi on 30th November 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered three Guest Lectures, on ‘Clinical Cases Discussion’, ‘Allergen Immunotherapy for Allergic Asthma’, ‘Patient Selection for Allergen Immunotherapy’ and was the Moderator in ‘Panel Discussion - Implementing AIT protocol for Aero-allergens’ during 1st Indian Summit on Allergy Diagnosis & Allergen Immunotherapy at VP Chest Institute, Delhi on 8th – 9th December 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the External Examiner of DM Practical examination at AIIMS, New Delhi on 14th December 2017.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** received Environmental Excellence Award 2017 in the Exemplary Contribution in protecting the environment, by Environment and Social Development Association (ESDA) Delhi, India on 28th December 2017.
- **Prof. Malini Shariff** won Satish Chandra Talwat memorial award for best published research paper entitled, "Similar virulence properties of infection and Colonization associated Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Authors: Aditi, Malini Shariff, Sunil K. Chhabra, Mujeeb-ur Rahman by Indian Association of Medical Microbiologist Delhi Chapter in their 9th Annual Conference at India Habitat Center, New Delhi on 7th - 9th December 2017.
- **Prof. Madhu Khanna** received ESCMID Observership at University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG) from 20th to 27th November 2017 in Groningen, Netherlands.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** participated in “National consultation to operationalize NAP-AMR” organized by MOH&FW and WHO-Country Office-India on 24th-25th August 2017.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk on, "One-Health Approach to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance – Overview of Global and National Action Plan for Golden Jubilee" in the Indian Pharmacological Society Conference at NRIPSCON Ghaziabad on 1st-2nd September 2017.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk on, “Antimicrobial Resistance: Impact on Pharmacovigilance" at National Coordination Centre – Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (NCC-PvPI), Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission on 22nd September 2017.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Guest lecture on “Balancing Appropriate Access to Antibiotics in India” for Emblem Health Value Initiative lecture series by the Global Healthcare Innovation Management Center, Fordham University, New York on 24th October 2017.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** took Charge as Head of the Department, Dept. of Pharmacology, VPCI on 1st November 2017.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on " A tool for Drug safety during Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP-2017) at B.R. Ambedkar Centre for Biomedical Research, University of Delhi on 2nd July 2017.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited Talk on "The process of Reporting ADRs" during skill Development Programme on Basic and Regulatory aspects of Pharmacovigilance: Striving for Excellence at Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Program of India (PvPI),

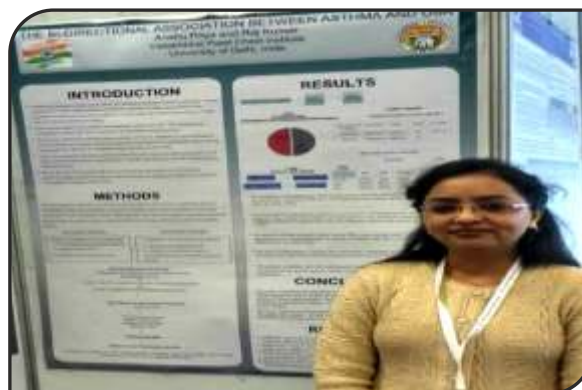


Ministry of H&FW, Govt. of India on 4th July 2017.

- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** was elected as Fellow of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (FIACS), Canada on 1st September 2017.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** joined as Coordinator of ADR Monitoring Center (AMC), Pharmacovigilance Program of India (PvPI), Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, GOI from 1st November 2017.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** was the Guest Speaker on "Evaluation of methylxanthine induced cardiotoxicity: a translational approach", at International Symposium on Molecular Medicines for lifestyle Diseases: Emerging Targets and Approaches, CDRI, Lucknow on 20th - 21st November 2017.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati, Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil and Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** attended Workshop on Clinical and Laboratory Medicine Research held at ICMR-National Aids Research Institute/Moving Academy of Medicine and Biomedicine, Pune cosponsored by Dept of Health Research, MOHFW, GOI from 28th August to 2nd September 2017.
- **Dr. Vishal Bansal** delivered Guest lecture on, "Assessing Respiratory fitness in special situation and was the Resource person of the "Role of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the Management of Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) at Respire IX, Pulmonology conference of Sri Lanka College of Pulmonologists, Colombo, Sri Lanka from 6-8th July 2017.
- **Dr. Vishal Bansal** delivered Guest lecture on, " Role of exercise training in management of Chronic respiratory diseases and was the Resource person of the DRDO-DIPAS jointly Sponsored Lecture cum practical workshop on New Horizons in Exercise and Health, held at Sri Venkateshwara University, Tirupathi, Telangana from 4th -5th August 2017.
- **Dr. Vishal Bansal** delivered Guest lecture on, " Treat the Muscles to treat the Lungs" at the annual congress of Federation of Indian Physiological Societies, FIPSPHYSIOCON- 2017 organized by DIPAS, DRDO from 5th -7th November 2017 at Delhi.
- **Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil** delivered Invited Talk on “The Role of Calreticulin Transacetylase Mediated Epigenetic Modulation by Polyphenolic Acetates in Lung Tumor suppression” in the “World Cancer Congress-2017”, Kolkata from 20th to 22nd September 2017.
- **Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil** presented paper entitled , “Anticancer activity of Polyphenolic Acetates mediated by Calreticulin Transacetylase in Lung Cancer: An Epigenetic Modulation” at the Conference, “25th World Congress on Cancer & Science and Therapy” at Baltimore, Maryland, USA from 18th to 20th October 2017.
- **Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil** was External Expert for “Project Monitoring And Review Committee Meeting (PMRC) meeting of 12th Five year plan projects held in DIPAS, (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India on 31st July 2017 and 30th October 2017.



- **Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil** delivered Guest Lecture on " Novel epigenetic drugs: Polyphenol acetates, putative second-generation drugs for lung cancer " Session on Biochemistry & Molecular Biology at "FIPSPHYSICON 2017" organized by Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences, DRDO, Delhi, India on 7th November 2017.
- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** delivered Guest lecture on, "Non neoplastic lesions of the lung bronchoscopic biopsies and their interpretation", at the CME - Melange of Non - Neoplastic Pathology" at the PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Coimbatore on 27th - 28th October 2017.
- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** presented Paper on, 'Designing of Inhalation based polymeric nanoparticle drug delivery systems for the treatment of lung fibrosis', at the 2nd Annual conference of Indian Society of Nanomedicine (ISNM) Nanobiotek-2017 at Trivandrum on 6th -8th December 2017.
- **Dr. Anshu Priya** received 3rd Prize in Prof. S.N. Gaur Young Scientist Award Session- NAPCON 2017 for paper presentation (oral)"The effect of Obstructive sleep Apnea on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases. Authors: Priya A, Goel N, Kumar R.
- **Dr. Anshu Priya** presented paper on "The bidirectional association between asthma and OSA" international presentation (poster) at World Sleep Congress, Prague October 2017. Authors: Priya A, Kumar R.



MEDIA REPORTS

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article "Mosquito you killed can bug you even when it is dead: Study", in the Times of India (Delhi Edition) on 17th September 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview to the Kashmir Monitor (English daily) was quoted in an article "Pollens one of the reasons behind asthma attacks: study", in the Kashmir Monitor (Srinagar Edition) on 25th September 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article "Capital's polluted air is killing your lungs", in the Hindustan Times, Delhi Edition, on 19th October 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article "Diwali festivities left you breathless? That's because taking in lungfuls of Delhi's toxic air is like smoking FIFTY cigarettes a day, warn doctors", in Mail Online India (e-edition)) on 21st October 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** gave an interview to the Mail Today (e-



edition) was quoted in an article “Breathless in the city”, 22nd October 2017.

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Think twice before planning for baby” in The Pioneer, Delhi Edition, on 8th November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** gave an interview for Health Show on Rajya Sabha TV about “Pollution and Respiratory Problems” on 9th November 2017 at New Delhi Studio. This was also telecast on Total TV on 10th November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Pollution kills: Hospitals fill up as Delhi smog shorten lives, say doctors”, on 12th November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview to the Mail Today (e-edition) was quoted in an article “Young, breathless: Delhi smog causing respiratory problems for half of city’s college kids, finds study”, 16th November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** gave an Interview in Nationl TV Zee News Hindi Channel by Mr. Sudhir Chaudhary, DNA: Analysis on harmful consequences of burning incense sticks on 23rd November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Indoor pollution is just as dangerous, say docs”, in theHindu (Delhi Edition) on 25th November 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Docs see rise in asthma and lung infections”, in the DNA (Delhi Edition) on 27th November 2017.
- The VPCI Institute conducted a two-day 1st Indian Summit on Allergy Diagnosis & Allergen Immunotherapy, almost all the English and Hindi dailies covered the stories of the Conference which were published on their respective Delhi editions during 8th - 11th December 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Daily pollen count to help asthma patients”, in the Times of India (Delhi Edition) on 19th December 2017.
- **Prof. Raj Kumar** interview was quoted in an article “Health Card 2017”, in the Navbharat Times (Delhi Edition) on 24th December 2017.



Daily pollen count to help asthma patients

Times News Network

New Delhi: In a big relief for patients with asthma and other respiratory disorders, Delhi University's Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute has decided to issue daily count of pollens in the city.

It would be displayed at the hospital and their website so that people who are predisposed to allergy caused by pollens

Many studies found that pollen grains, fungal spores, dust mites, insect debris and animal epithelial were also among major contributors causing allergies

can take preventive measures.

Dr Raj Kumar, acting director of the institute, said pollens are fine powder that comes from the stamens of flowering plants. “They can trigger allergic reactions, such as runny nose, sore throat, coughing, hiccups and asthma,” he said.

Studies show that three out every 10 people in Delhi and

NCR suffer from allergy. Pollens act as a trigger to set off allergic reactions in many such patients.

Advance information about its count can help the vulnerable, Dr Kumar said. Many studies found that not only vehicular and industrial emissions but pollen grains, fungal spores, dust mites, insect debris and animal epithelial were also among major contributors causing allergies, breathing problems and respiratory disorders, he added.

Having a pollen count station could be instrumental, especially for people with asthma and other respiratory ailments as they can check the forecast and take preventive measures, like taking anti-histamines or staying indoors and minimise health risk, said Kumar.

A recent study found that 30% of the population reportedly suffers from one or the other allergic ailment and majority is not even aware what exactly is flaring up their condition and how to avoid it. As per the study, the pollen concentration starts increasing in the months of September, October and November.

The Tribune

City to have first-ever pollen count station

In what could aid in the better management of respiratory patients, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute has opened a pollen count station in the Capital, which is going to be Delhi NCR's first-ever such station to monitor levels of airborne grass pollen, from the Centre will start issuing advisory related to pollen count to help patients with respiratory disorders. Many studies have found that not only the vehicular and industrial emissions but pollen grains, fungal spores, dust mites, insect debris and animal epithelial are also amongst major contributors causing allergies, breathing problems and respiratory disorders.

Having a pollen count station can be instrumental, especially for people with asthma and other respiratory ailments, as they can check the forecast and take preventive measures, like taking anti-histamines or staying indoors and minimise health risk. Experts say that for patients with respiratory troubles and ailments, the pollen count could be a key resource to help manage their symptoms and get on their health. A recent study by the Institute under Delhi University found that 30 percent of the population is reportedly suffering from one or the other allergic ailment. To add majority is not even aware about what is flaring up their condition and ways to tackle.

As per the study, the maximum and minimum pollen counted for the year was in September (482 pollen) and December, (197) pollen, respectively. The pollen concentration starts increasing in September, October and November (200, 275, 71, and 200 pollen) respectively and starts declining in December. Being that besides pollen, airborne pollen can also have a major impact on respiratory systems, says VPCI Director (Dr) Dr. Raj Kumar adding that while awareness about impact of pollen on health has increased, the need is being done dealing with pollen, which adversely impacts the health of respiratory patients.

“Having a pollen count station can be crucial for such patients as they beforehand can check pollen count status in the vicinity and take necessary steps to avoid exposure,” adds Dr Raj, who is also Dr Head, Department of Pulmonary Medicine and National Center of Allergy Asthma and Immunology VPC Institute, Delhi University.

millenniumpost

NO HALF TRUTHS

Delhi gets its first pollen count station

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, DEC 8

Here's good news for asthmatics and people suffering from other respiratory diseases. To monitor levels of airborne grass pollen, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute opened a pollen count station in Delhi, the first one in Delhi-NCR.

Having a pollen count station can be instrumental patients can check the forecast and take preventive measures such as taking anti-histamines or staying indoors and minimise health risk.

A recent study found that 30 per cent of the population is reportedly suffering from one or the other allergic ailment and a majority is not even aware what exactly is flaring up their health condition and how to avoid it.

The maximum and minimum pollen counted for the year was in September (482 pollen) and December, (197) pollen, respectively. The pollen concentration starts increasing in the months of September, October and November (200, 275, 71, and 200 pollen) respectively and started declining in December.

Many studies have earlier said that not only the vehicular and industrial emissions, but pollen grains, fungal spores, dust mites, insect debris and animal epithelial are also amongst major contributors causing allergies, breathing problems and respiratory disorders.

Experts said that for patients with respiratory problems and ailments, the pollen count would be an indispensable resource to help manage their symptoms and protect their health.

An MoU has been signed between VPCI and department of allergy, University Klinikum Munster, Germany for research and exchange of patients with allergy. Experts believe collaboration will bring a radical change in management of respiratory disorders and help minimise the risk factor on patients.

To exchange knowledge on effects of allergens etc, 1st Indian summit on Allergy Diagnosis and Allergen Immunotherapy was held on Friday.

PROMOTIONS AND NEW RECRUITMENT



Director Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, Dept. of Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI joined as the Director (Acting) VPCI on 3rd November 2017. Prof. Raj Kumar took charge from Dir. Prof. A. Ray (Dept. of Pharmacology) who superannuated on 30th October 2017 from VPCI.

SUPERANNUATION AND FAREWELL



Prof. A. Ray, Head, Department of Pharmacology superannuated from his services on 30th October 2017 after a successful completion of almost 20 years in VPCI.



Shri Rajinder Kumar, Animal Catcher superannuated from his services on 30th November 2017 after a successful completion of almost 38 years in VPCI.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



The new road work and the weathering course work at Dhaka residential complex were completed. The renovation works of Maurice Nagar flats was initiated and the approval for further infrastructure development works was given during the period :

1. Providing underground water tank of 1.2 lakhs capacity at Dhaka complex of VPCI,
2. Repairing of boundary wall at Maurice Nagar officer's flats of VPCI,
3. Specialized job work of civil for providing optimizer for the record room at VPCI,
4. Civil work for renovation of room no.07 of VPCI,
5. Boundary wall at Dhaka complex of VPCI,
6. Boundary wall

at Maurice Nagar single room flats of VPCI, 7. Civil work for painting in 2nd floor of Main Building of VPCI, 8. Proposal for execution of Swachhta Action Plan of estimating 4.00 Crores of VPCI, 9. Renovation of Bronchoscopy Room of CRC of VPCI, 10. Tiles flooring in front of VCH of VPCI.

The equipments for facilitating patient care and research activities worth Rs. 35 lakhs (Appox.) were processed for purchase, in the period by the Purchase Section. Some of these included Dry Bath, Rehab. Table, Ice Flaking Machine, Instrument for Indoor Environmental Sampling & Monitoring & New Generation Microbiological Documentation Purification Unit, etc.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT VPCI

1. 12th January 2018: Institute Day will be organised at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi.
2. 30th January 2018: Public Lecture on “Use and Misuse of antibiotics” will be organised at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi.

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