



# VPCI NEWSLETTER

Vol 4, No. 2

## Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute Newsletter

VPCI Newsletter (July - December 2016)

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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 2016. The Institute organised a number of Orations, Conferences, Workshops, Public Lectures and other programmes during the period. These included VPCI Oration, Public Lectures, 12<sup>th</sup> Prof. A.S. Paintal Memorial Oration, Neelambari - 2016, ICAAICON - 2016, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration, GSICON-2016. The 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, Teacher's Day and Vigilance Awareness Week were celebrated with great fervour.

I wish you all enjoy reading this edition as always.



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## EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### Lecture Series



Prof. (Dr) Gustavo Zubieta, Director, High Altitude Pulmonary and Pathology Institute, Bolivia, delivered a Lecture on the topic; "Systemic hypoxia and organ dysfunction" on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016. This lecture was organized by VPCI in association with Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences, Indian National Academy of Stress Sciences and Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (Delhi Chapter). Prof. S.K. Bansal, Head, Department of Biochemistry, was the Coordinator of this Lecture.

## Public Lecture



The VPCI and Biotechnology Society of India (BSI) jointly organised an invited lecture on "Genetically engineered vaccine against anthrax: from clone to clinical trial" by Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, School of Biotechnology, Jawaharlal Nehru Univeristy, New Delhi and Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Prof. S.K. Bansal, Head, Department of Biochemistry, was the Coordinator of this Lecture.



## 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebration



The 70<sup>th</sup> Independence Day function was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at the VPCI campus with great fervor. The ceremony was attended by VPCI staff with their family members. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Actg.) hoisted the National flag. He later distributed sweets to all those present as well as indoor admitted patients.

## Quiz Programme



The Institute conducted a QUIZ programme for Post Graduate Students of Pulmonary Medicine (MD/DNB/DM/DTCD) & General Medicine on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting), VPCI along with faculties Prof. Raj Kumar and Dr. Nitin Goel. More than 25 physicians were participated from different medical institutions of Delhi. First and Second winner awarded the prizes and rest of the participant were facilitated by certificate of participation. Dr. Chandrakant Tarke (DM Student) was awarded First prize and Dr. Harsh Vardhan (MD Student) was awarded Second prize.

## Azadi 70 - Yaad karo Qurbani







The Institute celebrated Azadi 70 - Yaad Karo Qurbani (Freedom Fortnight) Celebration by Mass Tree Plantation by VPCI Students at VPCI Lawn on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and Mass Singing of National Anthem by all the staff members (Teaching, Non-teaching and Students) at Gate No.1, VPCI Admn. Building on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016.

### Teacher's Day Celebration



The Teacher's Day was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 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.





The Institute organized the 12<sup>th</sup> Prof. Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. The Oration (titled; "Developing and Promoting Research Integrity Structures") was delivered by Dr. Ashima Anand, Principal Investigator, DST Research Project, VPCI, Delhi. Prof. O.P. Kalra, Vice-Chancellor, Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma University of Health Sciences, Rohtak, was the Chief Guest of this Oration.



A Postal Envelope, designed with the photographs of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute's building, University of Delhi was released by Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting), VPCI on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at "Neelambari-2016", a District Level Philately Exhibition organized by Sr. Superintendent of Post Offices, Delhi North Division at Delhi. Prof. S.N. Gaur was the Chief Guest of the 'Neelambari-2016', closing ceremony of this Programme.



## ICAAICON - 2016



The Institute organised ICAAICON – 2016, Golden Jubilee National Conference of the Indian College Allergy, Asthma & Applied Immunology from 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016 under the aegis of Indian College of Allergy, Asthma & Applied Immunology (ICAAI). Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Government of India, was the Chief Guest and Dr. Jaspal Singh Sandhu, Secretary, University Grants Commission was the Guest of Honour of this Programme. Several eminent speakers of National and international repute delivered lectures on different areas of allergy, asthma and immunology during this Programme. Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, NCRAAI and Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI was the Organizing Secretary of this Conference.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration







The Institute organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The Oration (titled; "TB Control in India – Where are we?") was delivered by Prof. Digambar Behera, Head, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh. Prof. P.N. Tandon, Former Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI was the Chief Guest of this Programme. Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman Governing Body, VPCI, presided over the function.

## Vigilance Awareness Week



The Vigilance Awareness Week - 2016 was observed from 31<sup>st</sup> October - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting) administered the "Vigilance Awareness Pledge" to the staff members of the Institute. Several banners on Vigilance Awareness Week were put at all entry gates, display boards of the Institute and Website.

## GSICON-2016



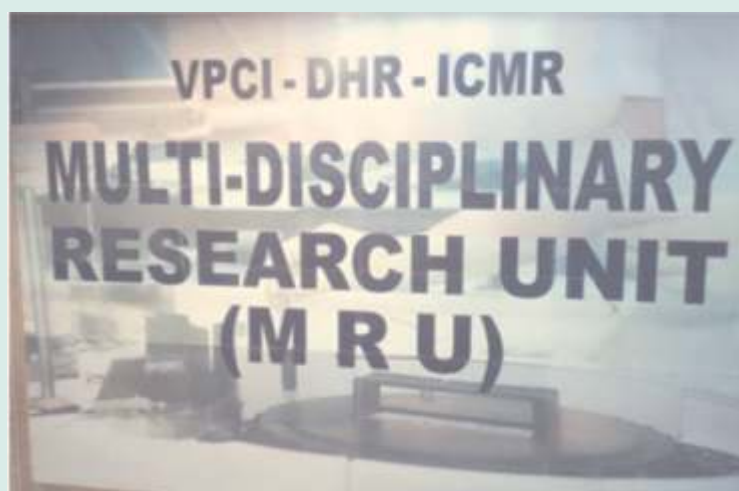




The 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geriatrics & Gerontology (GSICON 2016) was held on 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016. The Conference was organized by Geriatric Society of India (GSI) in association with V.P. Chest Institute. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting) VPCI was the Organising Chairman and Prof. O.P. Sharma, General Secretary, Geriatric Society of India, was the Organising Secretary of this Conference. It was witnessed by approximately 200 delegates from various parts of India and exchanged their views on elderly care and update with the latest developments in the field of geriatric medicine. During the conference a convocation ceremony of the GSI in which newly elected fellows are conferred upon the prestigious fellowship of the Society.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### Multi-disciplinary Research Unit



The VPCI-Department of Health Research (DHR)-Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of India-Multi-disciplinary Research Unit under the aegis of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), is made fully functional on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the Multistoried Building. The Second Grant-in-aid of Rs 2.23 crores was received in December 2016. Research work on the two sanctioned projects (P.I: Dr. V. Rohil, Dept. of Clinical Biochemistry and Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha, Dept. of Pathology) are in progress during the period.

### Extramural Research Projects

Presently, 15 extramurally funded research projects by ICMR, DBT, INSA, DST, DST-FIST, AYUSH, MH&FW, DIPAS, NIF and CSIR and two MRU-ICMR-VPCI and 15 Research Fellowships funded by DBT, DST, ICMR, UGC and CSIR are ongoing in the Institute. In addition, two new extramurally funded Research Project, and one Research Fellowship was additionally sanctioned during the period.



S.No.	Title of the Project	Department
1.	Aptamer-mrna Chimera- The Next Generation Rna Vaccine	Department of Respiratory Virology P.I.: Prof. Madhu Khanna Grant: 13.31 (lakhs) (Funding agency : DST-SERB)
2.	To investigate the role of J receptors as a primary causative factor leading to dyspnea on exertion in patients with pulmonary hypertension 1 (i) with and (ii) without atrial septal defect and (2) with connective tissue disease.	P.I.: Dr. Ashima Anand, Ph.D Grant: 14.13 (lakhs) (Funding agency : DST)
S.No.	Title of Research Fellowship	Department
1.	A novel and improved heterologous prime-boost vaccine regiment against tuberculosis	Mr. Vikas Kumar Somani, DST-PDF SRF P.I.: Dr. Mandira Varma Basil, Supervisor Department of Microbiology Grant: 9.60 (lakhs) (Funding agency : DST)

#### AWARDS AND HONOURS

- **Dir. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting)** was elected as President of the Geriatric Society of India, 2016-17.
- **Dir. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting)** was the Chief Guest of the 'Neelambari-2016', a District Level Philately Exhibition organized by Sr. Superintendent of Post Offices, Delhi North Division, Delhi, held on 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. S.N. Gaur, Director (Acting)** was the Chief Guest of National Allergy Center's Training Programme on Allergy and Immunotherapy, New Delhi held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was elected Fellow of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS), Canada, September 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was appointed Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Delhi, October 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was nominated Chairperson, Board of Research Studies, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Delhi, October, 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was nominated Member of Governing Body, UCMS, University of Delhi, November 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was nominated Member of Governing Body, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India, July 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was elected, Member, Governing Council, Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (India), November 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. A. Ray** was the Guest Speaker and Chair at the International Conference on Immunology, Chicago, IL, USA, October 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered two Guest Lectures, on "Indication of Immunotherapy" and 'Prescribing AIT and Dose Schedules' and was the Member Panel/Open Discussion, 'Personal Experience of AIT by participants' in ASI 2016, Consensus Meet on Allergen Specific Immunotherapy at Bangalore on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Member Panel/Open Discussion, 'Personal Experience of AIT by participants' in ASI 2016, Consensus Meet on Allergen Specific Immunotherapy at Bangalore on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Chairperson -Panel Discussion, Precision in OAD Management-From Diagnosis to Delivery', organized by Glenmark at The Leela Hotel, New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was invited as Guest Faculty in National Workshop to Formulate Guidelines for Spirometry in India at PGIMER, Chandigarh from 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on



'Smoking Cessation' in National Conference on Interventional Pulmonology, Respiratory Medicine & Sleep (RESPICON-INDIA) at NDMC Convention Centre, Connaught Place, New Delhi on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on 'Indoor Air Pollution–Lung Health in Children' in International Conference on Environment and Occupational Health (ENVOCCON 2016) in Association with Physiologist of Tamil Nadu at Dept. of Physiology, Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital, Chennai on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on 'Clinical Immunological Diagnosis of Food Allergy' during Allergy and Immunotherapy Workshop 50<sup>th</sup> ICAAICON-2016, The Golden Jubilee National Conference of the Indian College of Allergy, Asthma & Applied Immunology held at VP Chest Institute, Delhi on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on 'Life Style – Diet & Asthma', 50<sup>th</sup> ICAAICON-2016, The Golden Jubilee National Conference of the Indian College of Allergy, Asthma & Applied Immunology held at VP Chest Institute, Delhi on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Member, Delegation led by Honorable Health Minister Sh. JP Nadda, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India for WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) at Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP, from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, 'Food Allergy-Status in India' in the 18<sup>th</sup> Joint National Conference of the National College of Chest Physicians & Indian Chest Society NAPCON-2016” at Hotel Grand Hyatt, Mumbai during 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, November 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** was the **Chairperson**, at the 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geriatrics and Gerontology (GSICON2016), held at V.P. Chest Institute, Delhi from 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- **Dir. Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on “Food Allergy in India” in AAPI Global Health Care Summit 2016 organized in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at Udaipur, Rajasthan, India.
- **Prof. Madhu Khanna** was awarded Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Health Award to attend Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology "Hemorrhagic Fever Viruses (S3)" held from 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at New Mexico, USA.

- **Prof. Madhu Khanna** attended the workshop on "Ease of Implementing the Biomedical Waste Management Rules 2016" organised by the Biomedical Waste Management Divison, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), New Delhi on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** was the Editorial board member for EC Pharmacology and Toxicology Journal, July 2016.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on “A clinical study to evaluate the effects of yogic intervention on pulmonary functions and quality of life and the cellular mechanisms in patients of bronchial asthma” during National Seminar on Emerging trends of Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, Delhi from 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** was awarded the Best Poster Award entitled “A clinical study to evaluate the effects of yogic intervention on pulmonary functions, inflammatory marker and quality of life in patients of bronchial asthma” during Golden Jubilee National Conference of Indian College of Allergy, Asthma and Applied Immunology (ICAAICON) from 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.
- **Dr. V. Rohil** was invited as an External Expert by DIPAS to attend the meeting on "Project Monitoring and Review Committee Meeting to review the progress of XIIFYP Projects" in DIPAS, DRDO, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India on 29<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016.



•**Dr. V. Rohil** was awarded with "Scientist of the Year Award 2016" for his outstanding contribution and recognition in the field of Medical Biochemistry in the

conference, Biomedicon 2016, on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

- **Dr. Mujeeb-ur-Rahman** attended a course on Applied Statistics for Health Researchers at Institute of Home Economics in collaboration with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, U.K. under UK- India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) from 21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** was invited as the Faculty Member at Regional Workshop on Capacity Building of the Faculty/ Researchers in the Medical college /



Research Institutions at National Institute for Cancer Prevention & Research (NICPR), Noida from 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

- **Ms. Kuldeep Patial** received best poster award titled; "Mallampati Score as a predictor of obstructive sleep Apnea-hypopnea syndrome" in National Conference on bioprospecting in life science research for human welfare, 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of Orissa Botanical Society on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

## Media Reports

Prof. S.N. Gaur gave an interview to the Hindu (English daily) which was quoted in an article "**Pollution likely to affect children's resistance to allergy**", the Hindu (Delhi Edition) on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Prof. Raj Kumar gave an interview to the Hindu (English daily) which was quoted in an article "**The pigeon paradox: Feeding them could be bad for your lung**", in the Times of India (Delhi Edition) on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016.



Prof. Raj Kumar participated in a Health Show on DD Bharti National Channel about Pollution and Respiratory Problems on 03.11.2016 conducted by Ms. Geet Sharma at New Delhi Studio.

The Institute conducted a four-day **Golden Jubilee Conference of the Indian College of Allergy, Asthma and Applied Immunology (ICAAICON-2016)** almost all the English and Hindi dailies covered the stories of the Conference which were published on their respective Delhi editions during 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Prof. B.K. Menon wrote an article on "**Coping with diagnosis of IPF – Managing the Disease in 2016**" in The Week (Weekly English Journal) on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.

Prof. Anita Kotwani gave an interview to the Times of India (English daily) which was quoted in an article "**Antibiotics no child's play, experts want lessons for kids**", in the Times of India (Delhi Edition) on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

## SUPERANNUATION AND FAREWELL



Shri. Ram Dass, Animal Attendant, superannuated from his services on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016 after a successful completion of almost 38 years in VPCI.



Dr. Ashok Shah, Director- Professor, superannuated from his services after a successful completion of almost 31 years in VPCI on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.



Shri R. C. Narang, Section Officer, superannuated from his services after a successful completion of almost 36 years in VPCI on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.





Dr. S.K. Chhabra, Director- Professor, took voluntary retirement form his services on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 after a successful completion of almost 28 years in VPCI.

Shri. Alias M.V., Care-taker, took voluntary retirement form his services on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 after a successful completion of almost 24 years in VPCI.



### INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- The work for new 1350 LPM capacity O2 plant was completed for an amount of Rs. 1.32 crores.
- The equipments for facilitating patient care and research activities which includes procurement of equipments for establishment of MRU & Research Projects work worth Rs. 60 (Appox.) lakhs were processed for purchase, during the period by the Purchase Section. Some of these included Vertical deep Freezer-86, Co<sub>2</sub> Incubator, Portable Polysmography System, SteriGen Disinfectant Generation system, etc.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT VPCI

- 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017: Sports and Cultural Events
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017: Institute Day will be organised at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi.
- 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April 2017: 42<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Respiratory Allergy: Diagnosis and Management

### ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

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