Symposium on Therapeutic Drug Monitoring held

The 2nd National Symposium on Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM), with a pre-symposium workshop, was organised by the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology from the 10th to the 13th of July, 2017, in conjunction with the International Association of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology. The symposium was organised as a tribute to Dr Denny Fleming who will be leaving to the UK after having contributed immensely to the department and the institution since 1998.

The central focus of the symposium was on the significance of Thiopurine Methyl Transferase monitoring and TDM of antibiotics, immuno-suppressants and anti-cancer drugs, for cost effective drug management.

The symposium was well attended by a variety of delegates including pharmacologists, pharmacists, PhD scholars and clinicians from different medical colleges and hospitals in India. The international experts present included Dr Michael Neely from the United States, Dr Maria Shipkova and Prof Eberhard Wieland from Germany, Dr Gareth Veal from the United Kingdom and Prof Deborah Marriott from Australia.

The pre-symposium workshop provided an overview into pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic data presentation and the pharmacometric approach to dose optimisation.
The event concluded with various interactive sessions. It was a great learning experience and an encouragement for other colleges and hospitals to initiate similar TDM Units in their own departments.