Centre for Stem Cell Research conducts symposium on cell and gene therapy

The Centre for Stem Cell Research (CSCR) here, (a unit of inStem, Bengaluru) organised the 2nd Annual Symposium on Cell and Gene Therapy on the 7th and 8th of September, 2017. The symposium brought together scientists, physicians and others who have played important roles in developing this field in the country. The symposium was supported by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (DBT) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

The programme this year focused on Cell and Gene Therapy in Haematological Disorders, Gene Editing Technology, Non-viral Gene Transfer Technology and Cancer Cell and Gene Therapy.

Over a 100 participants from across the country and 18 speakers from around the world took part in the symposium. Professor Arun Srivastava from the University of Florida College of Medicine, USA, delivered the keynote address titled 'AAV: From Almost A Virus to An Awesome Vector', where he discussed the evolution of Gene Therapy. Dr.Vijay Raghavan, Secretary, DBT and Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Secretary, Department of Health Research (DHR) and Director General, ICMR, addressed the participants through video link.

The symposium was well received by the participants who were actively engaged in the discussions. CSCR plans to conduct this symposium on an annual basis, to help promote this area of research in the country, through cross-discipline dialogue and collaborations on a diverse range of inter-connected issues relevant to the field.