The Annual Winter Symposium 2017 on Vascular Anomalies was conducted by the Department of Radiology on 13th and 14th January, 2017. It was a multi-disciplinary meet involving the Departments of Radiology, Dermatology and surgical specialties such as Vascular, Plastic and Paediatric Surgery.

The winter symposium was inaugurated by Dr. Vishwanthan, Chancellor of VIT University, Vellore, along with the Director, Dr. Sunil Chandy, the Medical Superintendent, Dr. C.E. Eapen and the Principal, Dr. Anna Pulimood.

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The Division of Surgery conducted the Prof. A. S. Fenn Continuing Medical Education in General Surgery from 1st to 3rd December, 2016. The emphasis of this CME was centralised on bedside clinics and exam-oriented clinical presentations. The various symposiums conducted were attended and chaired by eminent members of various specialities including Radiology, Radiotherapy, Pathology, Nuclear Medicine and Gastroenterology in addition to the numerous surgical teaching faculties of CMC as well as other institutions.

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Department of Radiology organises Winter Symposium 2017 on Vascular Anomalies

A spectrum of vascular anomalies was covered along with recent advances at the basic molecular level, interventional radiology and vascular surgery. Interactive sessions were conducted by both the foreign and Indian faculty, which were well received. Multiple interesting cases that were found to be diagnostic challenges were presented by national faculty.

The keynote lectures included a talk on *Marginal Vein* by Dr. Byoongboong Lee (Emeritus professor of Vascular Surgery, Washington University) and on *Newer treatment options for vascular anomalies* by Dr. Laurence Boon (President of ISSVA and Plastic Surgeon, University Clinic, Belgium).

The symposium featured prominent speakers from across the world and was widely attended by over 100 delegates from premier institutes like AIIMS, PGI Chandigarh, KEM Bombay and TATA Memorial, Mumbai.

**Stride of Purpose**

In the run-up to the Winter Symposium, a walk was organised on 10th January, 2017 to primarily create awareness among the local people of Vellore about vascular anomalies. Inaugurated by Mr. P. Pakalavan, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Vellore district, the walkathon stretched from the entrance at the Vellore Fort to the Periyar Park, drawing a participation of over 150 people.

Continuing Medical Education in General Surgery for Registrars

The highlight of the event was the Dr. John S. Carman oration that was delivered by Dr. Subramania Iyer, who is currently the Professor and Head of the Division of Reconstructive Surgery and Head & Neck Surgery/Oncology at the Amrita Institute. This address by him was titled *Team work in surgery - the key to success*. His surgical team led the first and second bilateral hand transplant, the first bilateral forearm transplant and the first tracheal transplant, and was recognised as the BMJ Best Surgical Team in 2015.

Approximately 80 students from all over the state of Tamil Nadu attended this CME, which was credited with a total of 30 points by the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR University.

Environmentally Benign: CMC’s initiative to reclaim Wastewater

To treat the effluent from the CMC Chittoor Campus, the Environmental Engineering Department has installed a typical sewage treatment plant called Decentralised Wastewater Treatment Systems (DEWATS) to recycle the waste water for gardening and flushing applications.

Since its installment, CMC has been able to save initial investment and maintenance costs as no imported materials or components are needed.

DEWATS combines the following technical treatment steps in a modular manner:

- The primary treatment happens when the Total Suspended Solids (TSS) settle at the bottom, much like in sedimentation ponds, settlers, septic tanks or biodigesters.

- The secondary treatment process occurs when the methane and oxygen from the clarified liquid are released through air vents, as in plant anaerobic baffled reactors, anaerobic filters or anaerobic and facultative pond systems like the lagoon at CMC Bagayam campus.
The Developmental Paediatrics Unit was envisioned by a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Ashirvad, Chennai and the CMC in 1997. Over the past 18 years, the Unit has grown tremendously and currently caters to over 17,000 children per year from different parts of India and abroad, mainly to those children with special needs, who are differently abled to optimise their developmental potential.

The Unit has a multi-disciplinary team of developmental paediatricians, psychologists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and special educators. Each child is assessed by each member of the team depending on the need of the child and a comprehensive plan is made to promote and optimise the development.

In India, due to a multitude of interlinked factors such as poverty, ignorance, malnutrition, consanguinity, many of these children are born to parents already struggling to make ends meet. Many of these parents have more than one child with special needs. Literature from the West estimates that the direct and indirect costs of bringing up a child with disability amount to $30,500 per year per family with one disabled child. Given that the yearly income of majority of the parents is less than 0.01% of that, it is hardly shocking that many a time, hospital costs incurred by acute illness in such a child push them into debt, making them bonded labourers to their debtors.

Moreover, in the Indian paternalistic society, having a child with a disability is viewed as a curse, often stigmatising the mother as the cursed one. In many such situations, the mother and child are abandoned by the husband and her in-laws. She is then forced to depend on her parents, who themselves struggle financially.

A unique factor in this system is that it operates without mechanical means and sewage flows by gravity through the different components of the system. Up to 1,000 cubic metres of domestic and non-toxic industrial sewage can be treated by DEWATS. It is further intriguing to note that most important parts of this system work without technical electrical energy inputs and cannot be switched off intentionally.

Its tolerance towards in-flow fluctuation and its odourless operation make it a tenable, environment-friendly mechanism for CMC.

Environmentally Benign: CMC’s initiative to reclaim Wastewater

- In the tertiary or post-treatment, aerobic polishing ponds further clarify the liquid, after which it is finally used for gardening. The open pond or the polishing tank recreates a living environment for the wastewater to clean itself, naturally.

Stories from CMC’s Services

The Developmental Paediatrics Unit was envisioned by a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Ashirvad, Chennai and the CMC in 1997. Over the past 18 years, the Unit has grown tremendously and currently caters to over 17,000 children per year from different parts of India and abroad, mainly to those children with special needs, who are differently abled to optimise their developmental potential.

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Congratulations!

Late Professor B.K. Bachhawat, India's first trained Neurochemist, joined the Department of Neurological Sciences in 1958, and developed one of the finest and highly rated Neurochemistry laboratories in both India and the World. For his outstanding scientific contributions, especially in the field of enzymology, Dr. Bachhawat received several honours and awards, including the *Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Award* in 1964. An annual international Scientific Travel Grant of Rs.1,00,000/- has been instituted by his friends and students and is administered by the Christian Medical College to encourage young scientists.

Dr. Rayala Suresh Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Technology (IITM), Adyar, Chennai has been awarded the *Professor B.K. Bachhawat Travel Grant for Young Scientists* for the year 2017.

Memoranda

Dr. Sathish Kumar T., Professor of Paediatrics, is appointed Head of Paediatrics Unit-II with effect from 9th January, 2017 for a four-year term.

Dr. Ebor Jacob Gnananayagam, Professor of Paediatrics, is appointed Head of Paediatrics Unit-IV (PICU) with effect from 14th January, 2017 for a four-year term.

Dr. Gibikote Sridhar V., Professor of Radiodiagnosis, is appointed Head of Radiodiagnosis Department with effect from 16th January, 2017 for a four-year term.

Obituary

Mr. K.A. Roxon Dhayasingh, husband of Mrs. Rosemary Roxon, Retired Department Sister, Mental Health Centre, on 11th January, 2017.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved members of the family at this time of grief and loss.

Chaplaincy Department offers Clinical Pastoral Education

Chaplaincy Department is offering the next unit of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) to interested teachers, healthcare staff, pastors, counsellors or social workers. This is a 10-week fulltime programme.

Minimum qualification: Any degree.

Registration fee Rs.1000/-.

Interested persons may apply immediately with biodata. For further details, contact: e-mail: chaplain@cmcvellore.ac.in.

Phone: 0416-2282016.
Situations Vacant

1. **Assistant Professor / Tutor** with MD (RT) / DNB (RT) / Diploma in Clinical Specialities for the Palliative Care Unit

   **Age limit:** 35 years. **Salary:** As per institutional rules.
   Accommodation provided (Partly furnished, depending on availability).

2. **Senior Resident** with M.S.(General Surgery) for the Department of Surgery Unit-III

   **Salary scale:** As per institutional rules. **Accommodation provided** (Partly furnished, depending on availability).

   Apply with bio-data, certificates and testimonial copies, contact phone number, email ID & address with pincode to the Principal, Christian Medical College, Bagayam, Vellore-632 002. email: princi@cmcvellore.ac.in on or before **February 04, 2017** for Items 1 and 2.

3. **Project Officer** for the Distance Education Unit

   **Job Code:** 1174

   **Qualification:** B.Tech., / B.E., with knowledge of E-learning platforms with a minimum experience of 6 months in course administration.

   **Job description:** Initiating, planning, organising, executing, monitoring, co-ordinating and administering the whole process of establishing Distance Education courses on E-learning platforms and co-ordinating multimedia content creation.

   **Mode of appointment:** Project mode. **Salary:** As per institutional rules. **Accommodation not provided.**

   Apply with bio-data, certificates and testimonial copies, contact phone number, email ID & address with pincode to the Principal, Christian Medical College, Bagayam, Vellore - 632 002. email: princihr@cmcvellore.ac.in on or before **January 27, 2017** for Item 3.

   **Note:** Please mention the Job Code in the application form / email. The application / email without Job Code will not be accepted.

4. **Erratum:** Counsellor Gr.V for Adolescent Medicine in the Department of Paediatrics Unit-III

   **Qualifications:** MA / M.Sc., in Psychology + PG Diploma in Counselling (or) M.A. / M.Sc., in Counselling Psychology (or) M.A. (Pastoral Theology & Counselling). One year work experience in their field (psychology / counselling psychology / theology and counselling).

   **Job description:** Counselling on various aspects of adolescent specific health issues viz. nutrition, exercise, substance abuse, mood related problems, sexual and reproductive health related problems, both in the hospital and community setting.

   **Salary:** As per institutional rules. **Age limit:** 35 years.

5. **Staff III Medical Lab.Technician** for the Department of Community Health

   **Qualifications:** H.Sc. with Diploma in Medical Lab.Technician recognised by the CMAI.

   **Age limit:** 35 years. **Salary scale:** As per institutional rules. **Preference will be given to Male candidates.**

   **Nature of Job:** To perform basic laboratory tests in periphery including tribal areas in Jawadhi Hills and to support laboratory services at CHAD.

6. **MCTT Gr.III** for CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus

   **Qualifications:** Graduates and who have completed 1 year Training Course in CMC and have ability to communicate in English, Hindi and Tamil fluently.

   **Salary scale:** As per institutional rules. **Job Description:** To work in MCTT Cash Counters in CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus & Peripheral units round the clock.

   Applications to be done only through online application system. Please log on to [http://www.cmch-vellore.edu](http://www.cmch-vellore.edu) Link: “Vacancies”. **Note:** Only online applications will be accepted; Hard copies will not be accepted.

   Applications will close on **February 06, 2017** for Items 4, 5 and 6.

7. **Schieffelin Institute of Health - Research and Leprosy Centre, Karigiri – 632 106** invites applications for the post of **Pharmacist Gr.IV.**

   **Qualifications:** Diploma in Pharmacy / Bachelor of Pharmacy.

   Apply with detailed bio-data along with photocopies of certificates, testimonials and a demand draft for Rs.50/- in favour of “SIH - R & LC, Karigiri” addressed to the Director, S.I.H - R & LC., Karigiri – 632 106, Vellore District. (Please refer website: [www.karigiri.org](http://www.karigiri.org))

   The last date for receipt of applications is **January 28, 2017** for Item 7.