

# CMC NEWSLINE

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FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

MAY 28, 2018

*For he is the living God and he endures for ever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end.*  
*Daniel 6:26*



## 15<sup>th</sup> World Rural Health Conference



The 15<sup>th</sup> World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners / Family Physicians (WONCA) World Rural Health conference, hosted by the Association of Family Physicians of India (AFPI) was held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi from April 26 to 29, 2018. The theme of this year's conference was "Leaving no one behind - Healing the heart of health care". The objective of this meet was to ensure healthy living and to promote well-being for all at all ages.

The conference was attended by more than thousand five hundred participants from various countries. The programme was inaugurated by the Hon. Vice President of India Shri. Venkaiah Naidu who in his address spoke about the need for making rural postings mandatory for all newly graduating doctors.

Christian Medical College, Vellore had a significant presence in the conference. Departments of Family Medicine, General Medicine, College of Nursing and Distance Education were represented in the conference.

Dr. Sunil Abraham, Professor and Head of the Department of Family Medicine presented and chaired a session on the "Different ways family medicine is practiced in the Low / middle income countries and the High income countries" and on "Comprehensive health services in rural India: the role and the road map for Family Medicine in CHCs and PHCs". Dr. Anand Zachariah, Professor of the Department of General Medicine, presented on the "CMC model" during the consultation on Strengthening Primary Health Care in Rural India.

Faculty from the Department of Distance Education presented

**Special Prayers : May 27 - June 02, 2018**

**Laundry:** Mr. Ebinezer Sundarraj and Staff  
Mr. Sadhu Sundar Singh and Staff

**Hospital Maintenance :**

Mr. C. Sunny Kuruvilla and Staff  
Mr. Sadhu Sundar Singh and Staff

**College Maintenance:**

Mr. Ebinezer Sundarraj and Staff  
Mr. A. Thanikachalam and Staff

**Security Services:**

Mr. I.K. Chellasamy and Staff

**Baptist Church of Mizoram**

Council Members : Rev. R. Zohmingliana  
Dr. B. Laldinliana

**Hospital :** Christian Hospital, Serkawn Christian Hospital, Lawngtlai and others

**Sunday Services : June 03, 2018**

6.00 pm : **New Examination Hall**  
Rev. D.P. Joseph Devaraj

6.30 pm : **Hospital Chapel**  
Rev. Lalbiaksanga Pachua

5.00 pm : **Friendship Chapel, KPTR Campus**  
Miss. Saramma Kuruvilla

**Welcome :**

**Dr. Arun Jacob Philip George**, Associate Professor, Department of Urology Unit-I on his return from sabbatical leave.

Workshops on "Mental Health in rural India: a three-pronged approach – training, assessment and treatment", "The use of Blended Learning to train health care professionals in primary care", "Training Non-medical NGO Workers to Improve Health in Rural Communities", and on "Healing the Heart of Healthcare – the Causes and the Cure". A poster on "The Health seeking behaviour among Selected Rural

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Communities in North, Central and North East India” and a symposium on “Introducing a Wholistic Health Education Curriculum into Rural Indian Schools to ensure a healthy GenNext” were also presented from the Department of Distance Education.

The contribution of CMC’s Distance Education unit towards the training of government doctors and the need for more state governments to avail of this training was recognized prominently.

The Distance Education unit was awarded the “Leadership in Health Care” award during the cultural programme by the Hon. Health Minister to the Government of India.

## Memoranda

- **Dr. Biju George**, Professor of Haematology, is appointed as Head of the Department of Clinical Haematology with effect from 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Thomas V. Paul**, Professor of Endocrinology, is appointed as Head of Endocrinology Unit-II with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Santosh Kumar**, Professor of Urology and Head of Urology Unit-II is appointed as Head of the Department of Urology with effect from 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Antony Devasia**, Professor of Urology will continue as Head of Urology Unit-I till his superannuation.
- **Dr. Vinod Joseph Abraham**, Professor of Community Medicine, is appointed as Head of Community Health Department and the Community Health & Development Programme (CHAD) with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 for a four year term.

## Congratulations!

**Dr. Meena Supriya S.** Postgraduate Fellow, Clinical Genetics, won first place in the quiz conducted for Lysosomal storage disorders at the CME by Fetal Care Research Foundation and Voluntary Health Services Hospital, Chennai.

## Retirements

**Mrs. J.S. Victoria Vijayakumari**, Sr. Secretary, Paediatrics Unit-I retired on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 after 38 years of dedicated service to the institution. Her husband, Mr. H.M. Jared Sathiyaseelan has retired from Central Reserve Police Force.



**Mrs. C. Tamilselvi**, Sel. Gr. Staff Clerk Gr.II, CHAD retired on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 after 36 years of dedicated service to the institution. Her husband, Mr. K. Vasikaran is a Labour Inspector in Chennai. They have a daughter Ms. V. Arthi who is a Staff Nurse in Saudi and a son Mr. V. Arvind who is an MBA Graduate.

CMC community is thankful for their years of commitment to the institution and wishes them God’s blessings on their retired life.

## Sports News : Summer Sports Coaching Camp for Staff Children

The summer sports coaching camp for staff children was conducted successfully in the month of April 2018. More than hundred and forty children participated.

The valedictory function was conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2018. Dr. Anna B. Pulimood, Principal was the Chief Guest and distributed certificates to the participants.



## Obituary



This is to convey the sad news of the passing away of Dr. R.V. Suresh (Batch of 1976) father of Dr. Sandhya Suresh (PG alumnus, General Medicine) on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2018. The funeral service was held on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

Dr. Suresh was born in CMC Vellore and grew up as a campus kid. He enjoyed his bond period in RUHSA where his surgical skills and community yeoman service originated. He was an avid sportsman and singer during his UG days and was the lead drummer in the college band. He did his postgraduation in General Surgery in Madras Medical College between 1985-88. Subsequently he joined Tamilnadu Government Service in 1989 and worked in several PHCs where he continued his work with the same values inculcated in him by CMC.

He started his academic journey as an Assistant professor of General Surgery from 1991 in Madras Medical College, Chennai and went on to become Professor of General Surgery in 2011 in Vizhuppuram, Chengalpet, Kilpauk and Stanley medical colleges. Due to his long stint and training in Endocrine Surgery, he served as Professor and HOD of the Department of Endocrine Surgery, MMC-RGGH and oversaw their MCh programme. His meticulous surgical skill, sincerity, dedication and compassion were appreciated by all. He was especially loved for his teaching proficiency by all his students.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Meena.T.S, Professor of OBGYN, KMC and his daughter, Dr. Sandhya Suresh. He was tremendously proud of the fact that his daughter returned to his revered alma mater to do her postgraduation in General Medicine.

For those who would like to get in touch with the family, the contact details of his daughter Dr. Sandhya Suresh are provided - Dr. Sandhya Suresh, Mobile: 9381093878. Email: [sandymmc@gmail.com](mailto:sandymmc@gmail.com)

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

## Situations Vacant

### 1. Assistant Professor with M.Ch. HPB Surgery / M.S. (General Surgery) with 2 years experience in HPB Surgery for the Department of HPB Surgery

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

Apply with bio-data, certificates and testimonial copies with contact phone number, e-mail ID and address to the Principal, Christian Medical College, Bagayam, Vellore – 632 002, email : [princi@cmcvellore.ac.in](mailto:princi@cmcvellore.ac.in) on or before **June 09, 2018** for Item 1.

### 2(a) Technician Trainee for Wellcome Research Laboratory

Qualifications : H.Sc. (+ 2) or equivalent. Age limit : 30 years. Stipend : Rs.5,225/-.

### 2(b) Staff III Technician for Wellcome Research Laboratory

Qualifications : H.Sc. with one year in-service training in CMC. Age limit : 35 years.

Salary scale : Rs.7,920 – 17,356/- Job description : Equipment maintenance in the Laboratory.

Preference will be given for those who have experience in laboratory equipment Maintenance.

Only male candidates need to apply.

### 3. Graduate Technician Trainee for the Department of Neurological Sciences (Neurophysiology)

Qualifications : Graduate (Physics / Bio-chemistry / Zoology).

Stipend : Rs.5,775/- Age limit : 30 years. Accommodation not provided.

Nature of job : To work as Graduate Technician Trainee for Intra-operative monitoring in Neurophysiology – Department of Neurological Sciences.

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

Applications will close on **June 04, 2018** for Items 2(a), 2(b) and **June 11, 2018** for Item 3.

### **Challenges and Changes**

The British Government, who ruled India, passed an act which gave Indians more provincial autonomy. Thus, a new government in the Madras Presidency voted to do away with the LMP medical course and to recognize only the MBBS course. This Act of 1935 changed the face of medical education in Vellore. To follow the new MBBS course, the college had to be affiliated with Madras University. For university recognition, academic standards had to be raised, the course upgraded from four to five years, at least twelve new professors were needed and of course new classrooms, labs, medical and surgical facilities. All of this meant an awful lot of money. Either the money had to be raised and the changes implemented, or the medical college would have to close down.

No one knew what was going to happen. Could the college that opened with such enthusiasm really close down? Amidst all the fears, one of Dr Scudder's friends began a prayer group - The Friends of Vellore. All over the world, friends and well wishers began to pray that God will show Dr. Scudder the way ahead.

For a while there was talk about a Christian Medical College for men in the South. Dr. Scudder thought about this a great deal. What if she opened the doors of her women's college to men as well? That would ease some of her burdens. Her idea drew sharp criticism from the Women's Missionary Boards which had funded the college so far. The fundraising campaigns in the US especially stressed the gender uniqueness of Vellore and the Board felt that to lose this identity would be like selling one's soul.

Dr. Scudder argued differently – she said that the India of thirty years ago had changed and that India no longer needed 'only women doctors' but "good Christian men and women doctors with the finest professional training and of sterling Christian character .....who would inspire the medical profession of India to self-sacrificing service." Here once again was a need and Dr. Scudder tapped into this need. This was the way ahead.

Another challenge lay ahead – the government inspection. This too went smoothly and the University Commission was most impressed with the staff, the buildings and the medical and surgical work.

There was both excitement and anxiety over the new challenges and great sadness for Dr. Scudder as the opposition from the Board still continued and as a result, Lucy Peabody, her stalwart supporter who was so instrumental in the setting up of the medical college parted from her in anger and disappointment.

The next challenge was that the University would grant temporary affiliation status only on the condition that the facilities and faculty would be upgraded. For staff and students during this time of upheaval, every day was a struggle; a time of waiting and hoping and praying. Only Dr. Scudder knew for certain that the medical school was God's plan for her life. She never doubted the authenticity of her calling and knew that despite all the obstacles that the college faced, that this was all part of God's plan to expand His Kingdom on earth.

Today, the College faces new challenges – the expectations of doctors have changed; so has the government's perspectives on medical education.

Every day is still a time of waiting, hoping, praying and knowing for sure that CMC will evolve according to God's plan for his Kingdom.

Just as Dr. Scudder allowed her mind to stretch to a new vision, perhaps this is also a time for CMC to be courageous and see a new vision, framed by the old.

Usha Jesudasan  
ushajesudasan@gmail.com