



Winter Symposium held on theme, 'Renal Medicine – Pushing the Boundaries'

“That was the day of my actual ordination,” said Fr. Davis Chiramel talking about the day when he donated one of his kidneys to a man of another faith in his hometown, and the subsequent meeting with the donor recipient. The Syro-Malabar Catholic priest from Kerala, dubbed the ‘Kidney Priest’ both for his extraordinary act and for his successful campaigning for both live and cadaver kidney donation in his home state and various parts of the country, was speaking in CMC recently at the inaugural ceremony of the annual Winter Symposium on ‘Renal Medicine: Pushing the boundaries’, that concluded yesterday.

Fr. Chiramel, who founded the Kidney Federation of India, has inspired thousands to engage in altruistic donation of kidneys. He exhorted the doctors present to serve others, and to enjoy the happiness and self-respect that arises out of such service every day.



Other speakers among the august group of experts at the function, included nephrologist Dr. K. V. Johny and urologist, Dr. Mohan Rao, who headed the team that carried out the first successful live kidney transplantation in India, at CMC Vellore, in the year 1971.



News Highlights

The Chief Guest, Dr. Cherian Varghese, Co-ordinator, Management of Non-Communicable Diseases at the World Health Organisation made a lively presentation on 'WHO strategy for tackling non-communicable disease epidemic'. Dr. Vivekanand Jha, President Elect of the International Society of Nephrology spoke about 'Chronic Kidney Disease and Renal Research milieu in India' while former Head of the Department of Nephrology, Dr. Chakko Korula Jacob, gave a fascinating overview of five decades of renal transplantation at CMC.

The symposium which featured talks by 13 international faculty and four national faculty among others covered the latest and cutting-edge research in nephrology. Interactions between the senior faculty and attending delegates - both formal and informal - were laudable. The bonhomie and camaraderie between the CMC Nephrology alumni who attended, spanning five decades was a delight to behold and culminated in an alumni reunion on the evening of 11th January.



The aim of CMC's annual winter symposia is to motivate young medical minds to engage in quality research by offering an exposure to the recent and upcoming advances in the field of medicine.