



Christian Medical College Vellore



Newsline

December 16, 2024

being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus - Philippians 1:6

Tribute to a Lifetime of Service

Dr. Annie Regi Retires



Dr. Annie Regi has made remarkable contributions to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Christian Medical College Vellore, since she joined the institution in 1987. With a passion for medical education and a commitment to clinical excellence, Dr. Annie completed her MD in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1990. Subsequently she joined OG Unit-III as a consultant where she worked with reputed colleagues including Dr. Balasubramaniam, Dr. Prabha Jairaj and Dr. Padmini Jasper. Together, they advanced both clinical standards and educational opportunities within the department.

One of her main areas of focus has been curriculum innovation for undergraduate medical students. She has been instrumental in shaping the next generation of healthcare providers, ensuring that they are better prepared to handle the challenges of medical practice. Recognising the importance of hands-on training in emergency obstetric care, she organised EmOC workshops which trained doctors from various regions of India. These workshops not only enhanced the knowledge and skills of participants but also positively impacted the quality of obstetric care across the country.

Dr. Annie's influence extended significantly after she assumed the role of Head of the Department in 2015. Under her leadership the department saw a substantial increase in the number of postgraduate seats, expanding it to three times of what it had been before. Her tenure was marked by a focus on research and collaboration, particularly through internationally funded studies. Her work with the late Professor Mark Steinhoff had profound impact on vaccination protocols for Influenza infection in pregnancy in India.

In addition to her administrative and academic achievements, Dr. Annie was committed to expanding clinical services at CMC Vellore. She initiated a perinatal clinic within Obstetrics and Gynecology Unit-III, providing specialised care for high-risk pregnancies. She also played a vital role in re-organising outpatient services for the OG department, enhancing patient flow and the overall experience for both patients and staff. Her efforts also extended to CMC Vellore Chittoor campus, where she supported the development of the OG department.

Dr. Annie's family also shares her commitment to healthcare. Her husband, Dr. Regi Oommen, is a renowned Radiation Oncologist who established the Nuclear Medicine Department in CMC Vellore. She is blessed with two daughters who have followed her footsteps into the medical profession. Her elder daughter, Dr. Soumya, is a consultant radiologist in the UK, married to Dr. Binu. Her younger daughter, Dr. Sneha, is working in the Department of Radiology. Dr. Annie takes great joy in spending time with her grandson, Nathaniel. Dr. Annie's career reflects 35 years of selfless service and dedication to her profession. She leaves behind a legacy of positive change in medical education, clinical services and research. Her impact will undoubtedly continue to be felt in the institution and among the countless individuals she has trained and mentored over the years.

The CMC community is thankful to Dr. Annie Regi and wishes her a joyful and fulfilling retirement.

AHS Graduation Ceremony 2024

The faculty and students of CMC Vellore got together on the 18th of November 2024, to celebrate the Graduation of the Allied Health Science students. The ceremony began with the usual pomp and splendour with the final year students carrying the 'Jasmine Chain' in the traditional procession led by Mr. Juan Jacob Thomas followed by the graduates and the faculty.

The programme started with prayer and a song of invocation, followed by the College Song. Dr. Jachin Velavan, Associate Director, Missions chaired the function. The respective faculty presented their candidates to the Principal, Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar. A total of 290 graduands of 48 courses were awarded during the ceremony. The principal gave the charge to the graduates and lead them as they took the pledge during the momentous occasion. The Chief Guest for the Graduation Ceremony was Mr. Madireddy Pratap, IPS, Director General and State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, He addressed the students on the remarkable qualities of sympathy, compassion, and the services of Aunt Ida Sophia Scudder. He also applauded CMC Vellore for its unique ability to connect with people from all walks of life and in the continuing care provided to the sick, the poor, and the marginalised, often in the most challenging of circumstances.

Dr. Suganthy J, Registrar, presented the General Proficiency award winners to the chief guest. The chief guest honoured the recipients of various special awards and prizes were distributed by Dr. Satheesh ST Selvin, Vice Principal, AHS. Mr. Joel Jayaraj Janumala, Student Representative felicitated the Graduates on behalf of the students; and the graduates' response on behalf of the batch of 2024 was delivered by Ms. Keerthana V. and Ms Ann Leela Mathew. The ceremony concluded with the national anthem followed by dinner.

The AHS Baccalaureate Service was held on the previous day, at the Scudder Auditorium and the message was delivered by Mr. Durai Jasper. This was followed by the symbolic lamp lighting ceremony urging the students to nurture this spark and to illuminate the paths and the world around us. The students' choir and the songs provided a meaningful and spiritual foundation for the congregation. As we honour the accomplishments of our students and wish them continued success, we also pause to reflect on the blessings they have brought to our institution and express our gratitude for God's guidance and provision.



Dignitaries at the Foyer receiving the Graduands and the Faculty



Lamp Lighting Ceremony



Chief Guest Mr Madireddy Pratap addressing the Graduates

Celebrating 50 Years of Pioneering Endoscopy Services



The Pulmonary Medicine Research Laboratory in C Block, 7th floor, Ranipet Campus was inaugurated on the 10th December 2024 by renowned scientist and researcher Dr. Gagandeep Kang. Dr. Kang, who retired from CMC service as a Professor in the Department of Gastrointestinal Sciences & the Wellcome Research, is currently the Director of Global Health at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The function was graced by the presence of Dr. Dheepak Selvaraj, Associate Director (Ranipet Campus); Dr. Lallu Joseph, Associate General Superintendent, Dr. D.J. Christopher, Senior Professor, Pulmonary Medicine, Dr. Barney Isaac, Head of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine; and Rev. Joseph Devaraj. The programme began with a prayer song by the choir, followed by the welcome address by Dr. Barney Isaac. Dr. D.J. Christopher then described the need for this lab and the future plans of the lab, outlining the ongoing projects and the future plans. This was followed by Dr. Gagandeep's address, she mentioned that service has always been central to CMC Vellore and research aids in providing the best possible care and service for the patients. She congratulated the Department of Pulmonary Medicine for the thoughtful approach of having this research lab, along with their excellent patient care services. This was followed by the felicitation address by Associate Director Dr. Dheepak Selvaraj. The programme concluded by vote of thanks by Dr. Kingsley followed by prayer of blessing and dedication by Rev. Joseph Devaraj, Chaplain. The lab was Inaugurated for use by ribbon cutting by Dr. Gagandeep. We thank the Lord Almighty for this blessing!

College Hill Kindergarten Celebrates Aunt Ida's 154th Birthday

Aunt Ida's 154th birthday was celebrated at College Hill Kindergarten (unit of Vidyalayam Association) on 9th December, 2024. The school organised a special assembly in her honour, where students and staff gathered to commemorate her remarkable life. During the event, Dr. Ida's favorite song, Be Thou My Vision, was sung to the children. The story of Aunt Ida, highlighting her contributions and legacy, was shared with the children to inspire them and remind them of the values she cherished. It was a heartfelt celebration that brought together generations to honour a woman whose life continues to touch the hearts of many.



Dr. Ida's 154th Birthday Celebrated by Medical Record Technicians, Batch of 1997

On the occasion of 154th birthday of Dr. Ida Scudder, the Medical Record Technicians, Batch of 1997 celebrated the life of Dr. Ida Scudder by providing breakfast, lunch and dinner for the inmates of Mary Foundation Trust Home, Bagayam, Vellore on 9th December, 2024. Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director, Dr. Jenifer Jeba, Head, Medical Records Department and Mrs. Manju Christopher, Manager, Outpatient Services took part along with the other MRD staff in this celebration by cutting cake and serving lunch to the inmates.



Professor Benjamin M. Pulimood Oration

The Departments of Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine organised the 13th Professor Benjamin M. Pulimood Oration on 22nd November 2024. The welcome address was given by Dr. Samuel Hansdak followed by Dr. Dilip Mathai who shared snippets of the life of Dr. Benjamin M. Pulimood and the history of BMP oration. Felicitations were offered by the Associate Director, Associate Medical Superintendent and other senior professors in Medicine. Dr. Louise Thwaites, Emerging Infections group at the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and Associate Professor in the Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health at the University of Oxford gave the oration on Tetanus: Evolution of management concepts for this old scourge. A plaque and citation were presented to Dr. Louise Thwaites for her pioneering contribution epitomizing bench to bedside management of Tetanus.



16th International Short Course in Clinical Tropical Medicine

The Department of Infectious Diseases in collaboration with the departments of Wellcome Microbiology, Clinical Microbiology and Clinical Virology hosted the 16th International Short Course in Clinical Tropical Medicine from 18th to 30th November 2024 at IDTRC. Twenty-four students attended the two-week long course which offered lectures, clinical bedside sessions and laboratory practicals in bacteriology, virology, parasitology and mycology. Expertise was offered by international faculty from the McGill University Canada, Haukeland University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine New York, University of Oxford, NIMHANS Bangalore and School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata. Faculty of CMC Vellore from the Departments of Wellcome Microbiology, Clinical Microbiology, Virology, Child Health III, Neurology, Medicine, Dermatology, SLRTC Karigiri, CHAD and Infectious Diseases contributed actively to the learning process. This course was started in 2007 and has received tremendous appreciation from the participants and so far, 131 Indians and 253 International students have been trained in the different aspects of Tropical Medicine. The feedback has been extremely positive and we hope to continue this programme in the following years with active participation from the CMC faculty.



11th Basic Course in Medical Education (BCME)

The National Medical Commission's 11th Basic Course in Medical Education was conducted for faculty from CMC Vellore from 3rd to 5th December 2024 in the Nodal Centre, Medical Education Department; 30 Assistant Professors participated and benefitted from this course.

The objectives of this programme were to:

- Sensitise the participants to understand the principles of learning
- Frame specific learning objectives for a competency
- Enumerate various interactive learning methods in a large group or a small group
- Choose the right assessment method for the competency
- Give timely feedback to the students
- Apply innovative methods in teaching & assessment of AETCOM (Attitude Ethics and Communication) modules.

Dr. Margret Shanthi F. X. started the day with a word of prayer & welcomed the members present. Resource persons from various departments in CMC Vellore facilitated the most active sessions. Dr. Prakash S. S. & Dr. Latif Rajesh Johnson, proposed the Vote of thanks on the third day. The Department of Medical Education gratefully thanks, Dr. Margaret Shanthi F.X., Dr. Reena George, Dr. Sudha J., Dr. Vinod Abraham, Dr. Vinay Oommen, Dr. Vandana K., Dr. Divya Elizabeth Muliyl, Dr. Prakash S. S., Dr. Srujan Lam Sharma, Dr. Rajat Raghunath, Dr. Katti Blessi Sara, Dr. Latif Rajesh and Dr. Audrin Lenin for all their contributions towards the successful conduct of the Course.



2nd GRACE Training Workshop (General Rural and Community Laboratories Establishment) Organised

The Department of Clinical Microbiology organised the 2nd GRACE Training Workshop (General Rural and Community Laboratories Establishment) from November 25 to 30, 2024. This initiative aimed to identify challenges, train personnel, and enhance diagnostic capabilities in rural laboratories within the CMC mission network hospitals. The workshop focused on strengthening the early detection of infectious diseases in peripheral rural hospitals. Following a thorough needs assessment, 15 laboratory technicians were nominated by 12 network hospitals for a week-long hands-on training programme.

The event commenced with an inaugural prayer by Chaplain Rev. Pearson, followed by an overview of the programme by the Course Coordinator, Dr. Beula Subashini. Dr. John Jude, Professor and Head of Clinical Microbiology welcomed the participants. Dr. Jachin Velavan, Associate Director (Missions), inspired the attendees to continue serving and bearing witness through their work in mission hospitals.

The workshop covered a wide range of topics, from basic to advanced laboratory techniques, tailored to address the specific diagnostic challenges identified in the network hospitals. Participants engaged in both lectures and practical sessions designed to enhance their skills and knowledge. Dr. Vijayanand and Dr. Ann Miriam, Missions Coordinators, provided insights into the various mission activities undertaken by CMC across its network hospitals. The programme concluded with a valedictory function, where participants were awarded certificates for their successful completion of the training. This initiative was made possible through support from the CMC Vellore Mission Network Grant 2023 and the Australian Alumni Grant 2023, provided by the Australian Consulate General, Chennai. The workshop was highly appreciated by participants, who expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to gain valuable skills and contribute more effectively to their laboratories and communities.



Founders Day Staff Athletic Meet

The college Founders Day Staff Athletic Meet was conducted on 23rd November 2024 at Oval Ground, Dr. Satheesh Solomon T. Selvin, Vice Principal (AHS) inaugurated and distributed awards for the prize winners. Dr. Balaganesan proposed the welcome address and vote of thanks.

Results:

Overall Championship : **Nursing Services**

Individual Championship (For Men) :

Mr. Settu (Transfusion Medicine)

Mr. Nelson J. (Nursing Services)

Individual Championship (For Women) :

Ms. Sindhuja T. (Nursing Services).



Special Prayers This Week

December 15 -21, 2024

Chittoor Campus : Dr. Uday George Zachariah and Staff

United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel

Board of International Ministerial Ministries of the American Baptist

Foreign Mission Society

Christian Institute of Health Sciences and Research, Dimapur

Council Member : Dr. Sedevei Angami



Memoranda

- **Dr. Anna B. Pulimood**, Professor, Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, is appointed as Academic Advisor, Chittoor Campus with effect from 1st January 2025 until further notice.
- **Dr. Dorothy Lall**, Assistant Professor, Community Medicine Unit, Chittoor Campus is appointed as Academic Co-ordinator, Chittoor Campus with effect from 1st January 2025 until further notice.

Laurels & Recognition

- **Dr. Sheeja Susan John**, Professor and Head of Ophthalmology Unit-III has been awarded the Outstanding Reviewer Award 2024 by the editorial board of Kerala Journal of Ophthalmology for her exceptional contribution to its robust peer review process. The award was received at the annual conference of KSOS, DRISHTI 2024 on 29th November 2024.
- **Dr. Susheel Sudesh**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anaesthesia won 2nd prize in Oral Poster presentation on 7th December, 2024 organized by Tata Memorial Centre in Mumbai.
- **Dr. Mohammed Anwar Hussain**, Assistant Professor won the first prize in E-poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Endocrine Society of India (ESICON) held at Visakhapatnam from the 7th to 10th November 2024.
- **Dr. Rebecca John**, Senior Registrar (final year DM trainee) has won third place in the postgraduate quiz conducted at the Annual Conference of the Endocrine Society of India (ESICON) held at Visakhapatnam from the 7th to 10th November 2024.
- **Dr. Ajoy Oommen**, Department of Medical Oncology for being awarded the ‘Conquer Cancer Global Young Investigator Award’ for the year 2024.
- **Dr. Kripa Elizabeth Cherian**, Professor, has won the AR Sheth Award for the best research paper in Clinical Endocrinology at the Annual Conference of the Endocrine Society of India (ESICON) held at Visakhapatnam from the 7th to 10th November, 2024.
- **Mr. Venkatesan K**, Staff Gr. Medical Lab Technician II, Cytopathology Technician, has been awarded the Dr. Bhaskar Reddy Prize in the 54th Annual Conference of the Indian Academy of Cytologists (CYTOCON 2024), held at AIIMS, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 15th to 18th November, 2024.

Obituaries

- **Mr. S. Praveen**, Jr. Microbiologist, aged 24 years, s/o. Mr. M. Sudhakar, passed away on 9th December, 2024. He joined PG Diploma in Medical Microbiology course in 2020 and was an excellent student. He was the recipient of the Ruth Myers Best outgoing student award in 2022. He then joined the department as a junior staff member in 2023. He was meticulous in his work, cheerfully accepted the tasks assigned to him and was a very dependable junior staff member. All microbiology staff remember him as a smart, friendly yet respectful and humble person. To his batchmates and friends he was an affectionate friend, a great listener and source of encouragement. His loss has shocked all who knew him. Let us uphold all the bereaved members of his family and friends in our prayers.
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- **Mr. Punniyakotti**, retired hospital attendant, Clinical Epidemiology Unit, CMC Vellore, father of Mr. P. Premkumar, Hospital Attendant, Cardiology Department, CMC Vellore, passed away on 9th December, 2024. Let us uphold all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
 - **Mrs. Nagammal**, mother of Mr. J. Samuel, HHKA, ISSCC Facilitation office and Mr. J. Albert, HHKA, Hospital Maintenance Department, passed away on 12th December, 2024. Let us uphold all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

- **Mrs. Julie Soundaranayagam**, former Teacher in Vidyalayam, wife of Mr. J.R. Soundaranayagam, former Head of the Electrical Department, passed away on 12th December, 2024. Let us uphold her husband Mr. J.R. Soundaranayagam, daughter Dr. Jeeva Rima (MBBS Batch of 1995) son Mr. Jeeva Rathinam and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
- **Mr. E. Hariharan**, retired Accounts Officer of Finance & Accounts Department on 13th December, 2024. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. H. Sumathi, daughter Mrs. Sathiyapriya and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

Situations Vacant

Click the following link to view the vacancies
<https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Vacancies under the Principal's Office - for queries contact the mentioned office

1. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MD (General Medicine) for the Department of General Medicine Unit - III

Salary : As per Institutional Rules.

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognized teaching institution for applying Assistant Professor post.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 21, 2024.**

2. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MS (ENT) for the Department of E.N.T. Unit-II

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognized teaching institutions for applying Assistant Professor post.

Salary Scale : As per institutional rules.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 28, 2024.**

3. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MD (Dermatology, Venereology and Leprosy) for the Department of Dermatology Unit - I

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognized teaching institution for applying Assistant Professor post.

Salary : As per institutional rules.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 28, 2024.**

4. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MS (Obst. & Gynae.) for the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Unit - I

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as Assistant Professor in any NMC recognized teaching institution for applying Assistant Professor Job.

Candidates with DNB qualification should fulfill the latest NMC criteria for teaching appointment.

Salary Scale : As Per Institutional Rules.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 28, 2024.**

5. Senior Resident with MD (Paediatrics) for the Department of Paediatrics Unit – III

Salary Scale : As Per Institutional Rules.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 28, 2024.**

6. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MD (General Medicine) for the Department of General Medicine Unit - I

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognized teaching institution for applying Assistant Professor post.

Salary : As per Institutional Rules. **Accommodation Provided :** (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **January 04, 2025.**

7. Physiotherapist (Term Post) with BPT Graduate from IAP recognized College / University for the Department of P.M.R. (Physiotherapy)

Should have completed 6 months of compulsory rotatory internships on or before **31st October, 2024.**

Age Limit : Below 30 Years. **Consolidated Salary :** As per the institutional rules.

Accommodation : Not Provided.

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **January 05, 2025.**

8. Project Research Scientist - I (2 Posts) for the Department of Biochemistry

Job Code : 1570

Qualification : Candidates must have a first – class Post Graduate Degree (M.Sc.) in Life Sciences (including integrated PG Degrees). Those who have a Ph.D in life science and experience in conducting Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) and molecular biology techniques will be preferred. An excellent academic record, strong research skills, and proficiency in statistical analysis are essential.

Job Description : The role primarily involves coordinating and implementing an RCT. He / She will also be carrying out molecular biology benchwork and supervising junior researchers. There is the possibility of registering for a Ph.D for those who do not have a Ph.D Degree. **External Salary :** Rs.61,040/- (Consolidated) (Including HRA).

Mode of Appointment : Project Mode. **Accommodation :** Not Provided.

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 24, 2024.**

9. Junior Research Fellow

Job Code : 1571

The Centre for Stem Cell Research (CSCR), [a unit of inStem Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (Government of India) and the Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore] invites applications for the Junior Research Fellow to work in the area of cell and molecular biology related to stem cell research.

Qualification: M.Sc. and M. Tech Life Sciences / Biochemistry / Biotechnology candidates with a minimum of 55% marks and with or without GATE.

Preference will be given to the candidates with CSIR /UGC / DBT / ICMR Junior Research Fellowships.

For more details of the positions and the application forms visit <https://www.cscr.res.in/researchopportunities/>

Please submit duly filled application with the copy of fellowship award letter, either by soft copy to csc.edu@cmcvellore.ac.in or by hard copy to The Principal, Christian Medical College, Bagayam, Vellore - 632 002, Tamil Nadu, India. on or before **December 27, 2024**.

Vacancies under the office of Medical Superintendent-for queries contact the mentioned office

10. Jr. Emergency Care Technician (Term Appointment) for the Department of Emergency Medicine (CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus)

Qualification : B.Sc., (Accident & Emergency Care Technician Course).

Note : *Only Recognized University / Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.*

Consolidated Pay: Rs.26,540/-.

Age Limit : 30 years.

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 23, 2024**.

11. Technician Trainee for the Department of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology (CMC Vellore, Ranipet Campus)

Qualification : H.Sc., (+2) English Medium with science subjects with ability to read and write English and Tamil.

Stipend : Rs.7,700/- **Age Limit :** 30 years.

Job Description : To work as Autopsy Technician.

Note : *Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.*

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **December 30, 2024**.