



# Christian Medical College Vellore

Newsline

November 24, 2025



*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. John 16:33*

## Shaping the Next Decade of Healthcare: Government of Andhra Pradesh and CMC VELLORE Deepen Strategic Collaboration



**15<sup>th</sup> November, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

Christian Medical College Vellore and the Government of Andhra Pradesh signed an MoU with the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board, **promising exponential development in the next decade in healthcare and the state economy.** The MoU stated that CMC Vellore will commit to investing approximately ₹1,728 Crores over 10 years (2025–2035) for the development of the Teaching Hospital and the upcoming Medical College at its Chittoor Campus. This project is **expected to generate 1,236 direct jobs and 5,000–6,000 indirect jobs**, contributing to the state's healthcare infrastructure and economic growth. Aligned with the government's vision, CMC Vellore, one of India's premier medical institutions established in 1900 and celebrating 125 years of excellence, highlighted its Chittoor Campus, which has been operational since 2012. As a strictly not-for-profit institution, CMC Vellore reinvests all its resources into its mission — subsidising medical education, providing free or highly subsidised care to deserving patients, supporting community outreach programmes, and developing healthcare infrastructure and research.

The MoU was signed during the 30<sup>th</sup> Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit 2025, organised in partnership with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Chaired by Piyush Goyal, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, N. Chandrababu Naidu, serving as Co-Chair; the Summit was officially inaugurated by C. P. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President of India, in the presence of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Syed Abdul Nazeer.

Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director, CMC Vellore, said: “This MoU strengthens our shared commitment to advancing healthcare and medical education in the region, and we look forward to serving the community through the development of the Chittoor Campus.”

As part of this collaboration, CMC Vellore will extend the distinctive elements of its MBBS education to the Chittoor Campus, with a strong emphasis on the discipline of Primary-cum-Secondary Health Care (PSHC). This focus aims to address the widening disparities in the Indian healthcare sector by preparing medical graduates who are skilled, community-oriented, and committed to strengthening primary and secondary care across underserved regions.

## The Great Heritage Quiz 2025



### The Great Heritage Quiz 2025

As part of the 125-year celebrations of the Christian Medical College Vellore, **The Great Heritage Quiz** was organised on 5th November 2025. A total of 31 teams, each comprising three members, participated enthusiastically in the preliminary round held at the New Examination Hall. The event began with an opening prayer by Rev. Deepak Gnanaprakash.

From the preliminaries, six teams qualified for the final round, which took place at the Scudder Auditorium. This commenced with a prayer by Rev. Joseph Devaraj, followed by the welcome address by Dr. Ebby George Simon, Associate Director (Medical) and Convenor of the 125 years Celebrations Committee. Dr. Alfred Job Daniel, former Principal and Professor of Orthopaedics, served as a rousing Quizmaster.

The final included six exciting segments — **General Round, 90-Second Round, Buzzer Round, Picture Round, Jeopardy Round, and Rapid-Fire Round**. The competition was closely fought, with only 20 points separating the top three teams. The event concluded with a prayer by Rev. Finney Alexander and the singing of the College Song.



The quiz was well received by both participants and spectators, rekindling interest and pride in CMC's illustrious history. The winners were as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> place: Neurosurgery:** Dr. Ranjith K. Moorthy, Dr. Ananth P. Abraham and Dr. Kent Regi K.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place: Haematology:** Dr. Biju George, Dr. Anu Korula, Dr. Sharon Lionel.

**3<sup>rd</sup> place: Chaplaincy:** Rev. Finney Alexander, Rev. Joseph Devaraj, Rev. Deepak Gnanaprakash.



## The Department of Haematology Hosts the '2<sup>nd</sup> Survivors' Meet'

"But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." - Matthew 19:26

The Department of Haematology Department, Ranipet, organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> Survivors' Meet on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025. The event was a great success, with **88 survivor families in attendance**. Since 1986, the department has treated **3,411 patients and performed 3,617 transplants**.



The event was led by Dr. Biju George, Senior Professor, Department of Haematology, and hosted by Dr. Joshy Nutan Damodar, Assistant Professor, coordinated by Mrs. Gomathi Joseph, Senior Social Worker, Mrs. Mahalakshmi BMT Coordinator, and Ms. Kavitha Raju, Office Facilitator.

The programme commenced with a prayer by Rev. Ebinezar, setting a positive tone for the day. Dr. Aby Abraham delivered the welcome speech, and Dr. Biju George addressed the gathering. Dr. Reuban Thomas Kurien, Deputy Medical Superintendent, felicitated the event, emphasising the importance of continuing the event in the future.

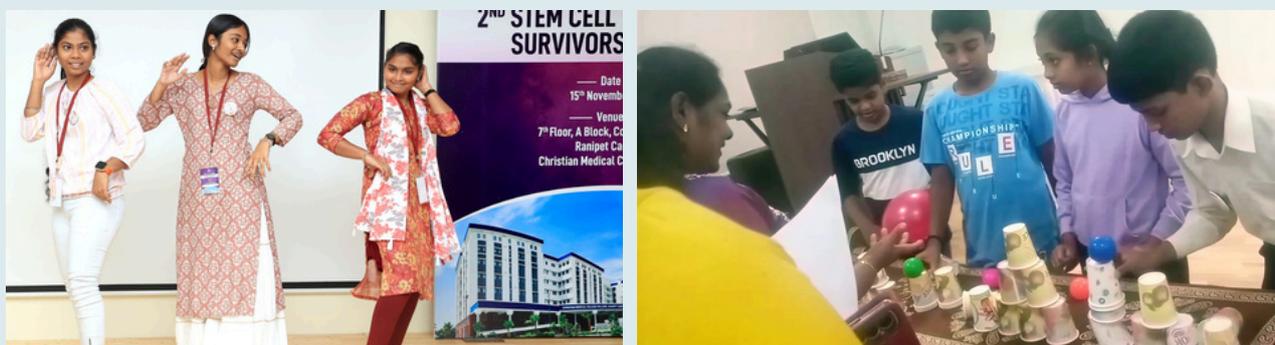
The programme featured a prayer song by BMT coordinators (Nursing)-Ms. Devakirubai Mohan, Ms. Beulah Augustin, Ms. Manjula M, Ms. Philomena, Ms. Devakirubai N, and Haemophilia coordinators-, Mr. Abraham Sunder Singh, Ms. Anbu Jeba, and Ms. Monica, Office Facilitator.



The magic show was a resounding success, with the magician captivating the audience by involving the children in his mesmerising tricks and illusions. His interactive approach earned widespread applause from all the participants, especially the children—who were thoroughly enthralled by the spectacle.

This was followed by a vibrant dance performance by the children. Dr. Ayushi Gupta, Assistant Professor, taught them the routine within an hour, enabling them to perform confidently at the event—a remarkable effort that was highlighted during the programme. Mrs. Vaijayanthi, Play Therapist, and Ms. Mansy P, Counsellor, organised a variety of engaging games, which were a huge hit with the children. Dr. Biju George graciously distributed gifts to the winners, filling the atmosphere with joy and motivation.

The staff dance was performed by Nursing BMT coordinators Ms. Philomena and Ms. Manjula and social workers Ms. Rizwana A, Ms. Jenitta J; Clinical assistants Ms. Arifa S, Ms. Dhanalakshmi, and Ms. Monica AM, CTO.



### Stories of Strength and Survival

Thirteen survivors shared their inspiring testimonies, recounting their journey of overcoming challenges and returning to normalcy. Their stories were both emotional and uplifting, reflecting the compassionate care provided by the Haematology Department.

Mr. Sethuraman, a remarkable 78-year-old, spoke about his journey as a BMT survivor, having undergone a life-changing transplant at the age of 59. He described the experience as a rebirth, saying, “I was given a second chance at life, and I’m 18 years young today!” His heartfelt words deeply moved the audience.

Dr. Aditya, who underwent a haploidentical transplant in 2016, shared how faith and prayer had guided his healing, quoting, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). His testimony resonated strongly with the audience.

Young survivor Ms. Hassini expressed her gratitude to the Haematology Department for her successful transplant. Many survivors fondly remembered and acknowledged the staff who had supported them—some even recalling names from more than 20 years ago.

The event was further enriched by the presence of Mr. Vipul Rathore, a survivor who underwent his transplant in 1993, adding a powerful testament to long-term survivorship.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Biju George, expressing gratitude to the patients and their families for their participation across India. The Haematology Department's commitment to compassion, professional loyalty, integrity, and humanity was evident throughout the event, and the survivors expressed their appreciation for the holistic care and selfless service provided by the physicians and staff.

The department would like to extend gratitude to the incredible team that made the recent event a resounding success!

Mr. Radha Krishnan Sr., Office Facilitator, for organising video coverage along with efficient management of the microphone and sound system, which was expertly handled by him.

The patient's guidance team included Mr. Sam Prabhakar, Senior Office Facilitator, Mr. Dinesh D, Office facilitator, Mr. Amose Vicky, Administrative Assistant, and Mr. Nandha Kumar, Office Facilitator.

Registration was carried out by Ms. Sangeetha T, Coordinator, Ms. Revathi SM, Secretary, Ms. Chamundeshwari K, Senior Office Facilitator, Ms. Sivaranjani, Office Facilitator, Ms. Gayathri Priya, Clinical Assistant, Ms. Sasikala, CTO, and Ms. Santhya, Administrative Assistant.

A special photo point was organised, allowing survivors, donors, and their families to capture cherished selfies. The event was a testament to the department's mission to provide hope, healing, and transformation to patients and their families, and it will be remembered for its warmth, camaraderie, and inspiration.

Please find the link below to access the same: [2nd survivors' meet 2025.mp4](#)

## Public Awareness Programme and Exhibition on the Importance of Periconceptual Folic Acid Supplementation and CME on Spinal Dysraphism

October of every year is designated as **Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus** Awareness Month.

In commemoration of this, the Department of Neurological Sciences (Neurosurgery Unit-II) and the other representative departments of the Spinal Dysraphism Clinic Group (Foetal Medicine, PMR, Urology, Paediatric Surgery and Paediatric Orthopaedics) conducted a public awareness programme and exhibition on the importance of periconceptual folic acid supplementation at the Town Campus on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025 followed by a CME on spinal dysraphism on 25<sup>th</sup> October at the Ranipet Campus.



The Spinal Dysraphism Clinic has been operational as a multidisciplinary clinic in Ranipet campus since August 2024 every Wednesday afternoon and has helped patients with spinal dysraphism seeking care with all the above listed specialities working in tandem to manage these patients. This clinic has enabled to decrease the number of visits that a patient with spinal dysraphism needs to make to see all the specialities involved in management and rehabilitation of these patients.



The public awareness programme consisted of talks on the basics of spinal dysraphism and the **importance of periconceptional folic acid in preventing neural tube defects**, and a skit organised by the Neurosciences Nursing Department. The Collector of Vellore District Tmt. V.R. Subbulaxmi I.A.S, and the Deputy Director of Health Services Dr. B. Baranidharan, graced the occasion with their presence and promised to take up the issue of dietary folic acid fortification with the government of Tamil Nadu. The programme was attended by doctors, community health nurses, social workers, and college teachers from Vellore, who actively engaged in the interactive session. An exhibition for the general public, featuring stalls with educational videos and multilingual posters, was also opened and received a good response.

Spina bifida or spinal dysraphism is a **congenital malformation of the spinal cord that develops as a result of folate (Vitamin B9) deficiency in the mother**, and is estimated to affect between 4 to 6 per 1000 children born in India. The spinal cord develops during the first 4 weeks after conception (formation of the embryo) from a structure called the neural tube, which has to fold and close to form the spinal cord. Defects in this process during the formation of the embryo result in neural tube defects. Folate plays a vital role in this step of embryogenesis, and research has shown that proper dietary supplementation with folic acid (synthetic form of folate) in the mother can reduce the risk of neural tube defects by over 70%. Children with spinal bifida can have significant weakness and deformities of their lower limbs, along with bowel and bladder incontinence, resulting in lifelong disabilities and poor quality of life.

In India at present, all pregnant women are given folic acid once the pregnancy is detected. However, as the brain and spinal cord are formed even before the woman realises she is pregnant, it is important to ensure supplementation with folic acid starts preconceptionally (3 months before pregnancy is planned) and is continued during the first 3 months after pregnancy is detected. The World Health Organisation guidelines state that all women who are trying to conceive should take folic acid supplements (0.4 mg daily) and those women with a previous child with a congenital malformation like spina bifida should be given 5 mg of folic acid daily during the periconceptional period.

Several countries have introduced mandatory folic acid fortification in food products like wheat flour, which has resulted in a decrease in the number of children born with neural tube defects or spina bifida. The multidisciplinary CME the next day featured talks by faculty from all units involved in patient care, followed by a quiz for residents from Neurosurgery, PMR, and Urology. Mixed teams were formed to emphasise the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in managing spinal dysraphism.



The winners of the poster competition for nurses held on this occasion are as follows:  
**Anushiya S. (English), Ajay Nesa Kumar A. (English) and Vigneshwaran M.S. (Tamil).**

The winners of the quiz competition for the residents are as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> place:** Dr. Vijay Sivaraj S. – PMR, Dr. Siddarth S., Urology and Dr. Ravi Kiran B., Neurosurgery.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place:** Dr. Vanmathi R., PMR, Dr. Mayank Kumar, Urology and Dr. Aaron Jose Fernandes, Neurosurgery.

**3<sup>rd</sup> place:** Dr. Sam Robin Singh, PMR, Dr. Sachin Paul James, Urology and Dr. Kumar Mehul, Neurosurgery.

### **The Department of Trauma Surgery Eighth Advanced Trauma Life Support – ATLS® Provider Course**



The Department of Trauma Surgery at CMC Vellore is delighted to share the successful completion of the eighth Advanced Trauma Life Support – ATLS® Provider Course for the year, held from November 13-15, 2025, at the Paul Brand Building, CMC Vellore. This comprehensive training programme, which attracts healthcare professionals from across the country, concluded with 16 participants, including those from our institution as well as various esteemed medical centres.

#### **Course Leadership and Faculty**

The ATLS® Provider Course was led by Prof. Biblap Mishra, Professor of Surgery and Division Chief of Trauma Surgery and Critical Care (TSCC) at JPNATC, AIIMS, New Delhi. The faculty team comprised distinguished medical professionals, including:

- **Dr. Nanda Kishore Maroju**, Professor of Surgery, Head of Emergency Medicine, JIPMER
- **Dr. Vinny Sukanth Kareketi**, Emergency Physician, KIMS Hospital, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
- **Dr. Srujan Lam Sharma**, Associate Professor, Department of Trauma Surgery, CMC Vellore
- **Dr. George Kurian**, Associate Physician, Department of Critical Care, CMC Vellore
- **Dr. Nandhini Selvakumar**, Senior Resident, Department of Anaesthesiology, CMC Vellore
- **Dr. Joses Dany James**, Associate Professor, Department of Trauma Surgery, CMC Vellore (Instructor Candidate).

The ATLS® Provider Course is designed to enhance critical thinking, improve trauma management skills, and promote effective teamwork among healthcare providers. Through a combination of theoretical lessons and practical simulations with manikins and simulated patients, participants were able to develop vital clinical decision-making skills and refine their trauma care techniques. This programme plays a pivotal role in improving trauma management capabilities across healthcare institutions. The course also exemplifies our dedication to educational excellence and to fostering a culture of continuous learning, which ultimately contributes to better patient outcomes and enhances the overall quality of care in the field of trauma surgery.



### International Day of Older Persons 2025

The International Day of Older Persons is observed by the United Nations on October 1 every year to recognise the contributions of older individuals to our society and to examine issues that affect their lives. The College of Nursing, CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus, observed the International Day of Older Persons on October 10, 2025, under the leadership of Mr. John Wesley P., M.Sc. Nursing Tutor. The theme for the year was **"Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspirations, Our Well-Being and Our Rights"**. Awareness programmes on elderly care were conducted in Thummindapalayam, Marigunta, Bandapalli, Thalambedu, Anupalli, Chinnamarakalkuppam, and Mapakshi village, and the contribution of the elderly to society was appreciated. Various talks on elderly care, such as healthy ageing, geriatric health, and elderly nutrition, were delivered by the community staff to the public. A special programme was organised for the senior citizens in Rasanapalli village on October 9, 2025.



Students of CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus were encouraged to participate in essay writing and short-film-making competitions to engage nursing and AHS students to promote intergenerational bonding. The valedictory programme was conducted on October 10, 2025, which began with a prayer song by B. Sc. Nursing 3rd year students, followed by an opening prayer and devotion by Rev. Ajay, Chaplain, CMC Vellore. Mrs. Nirmala Margaret, Principal, College of Nursing, CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus, delivered the welcome address. The chief guest for the occasion, Mr. Muthyalu Chetty, coordinator of RASS (Rashtriya Seva Samiti) Old Age Home, Chittoor Town, addressed the gathering with his inspiring speech. He emphasised that healthcare workers being change agents can contribute more to the care of the elderly population in our society. He reinforced that by consistently sharing the compassionate message of hope, they can empower people in every community.

Dr. Vibisha, consultant, Community Medicine unit from CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus, Mrs. Anbarasi, Associate Nursing Superintendent, CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus and Mrs. Grace Angeline, Associate Professor, College of Nursing, CMC Vellore Chittoor Campus, offered felicitations. The B. Sc Nursing III year students performed a role play on elderly care. Prizes were distributed to the prize winners of various competitions. Mrs. Sophia Percy, M. Sc. Nursing Tutor, delivered the vote of thanks, and Rev. Ajay offered the closing prayer and benediction. The programme was attended by patients, patients' relatives, staff, students, and others.



### CMC Vellore Hosts the First Workshop on Radiomics and Auto-Segmentation

The Department of Radiation Oncology Unit II and the Biomedical Informatics Unit, in partnership with the Quantitative Imaging Research and AI lab (QIRAIL) at Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore, organised its **inaugural Workshop on Radiomics and Auto-Segmentation** on November 14 and 15, 2025.

This event brought together clinical and healthcare researchers to engage in learning about Radiomics, an emerging field in medical imaging that focuses on converting standard medical images into quantitative digital data by using advanced computational algorithms to better understand. Auto segmentation focuses on defining the regions within an image that clinicians may be interested in observing in more detail, using automated tools, including AI as necessary. Held at the Ranipet Campus of the Radiation Oncology Department, the workshop was tailored for beginners (Level 1). The programme focused on practical applications of radiomics and AI-driven auto-segmentation techniques, emphasising their role in clinical impact-driven research.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Dheepak Selvaraj, Associate Director and Dr. Joy Mammen, Head of BMIU and Dr. Thomas Ram, Head of Radiation Oncology, who offered their felicitations. 20 participants engaged in expert lectures, hands-on demonstrations, and collaborative discussions on using AI tools for auto segmentation and radiomics. The sessions highlighted the role of quantitative imaging and the need for data standardisation and automation for future innovations in health.

The sessions were handled by experts from QIRAIL (Dr. Simon Pavamani, Dr. Hannah Thomas, Dr. Balu Krishna S, Dr. Rajendra Benny and Dr. Jino Wilson); Dr. Varsha Gouthamchand from Maastricht University, Netherlands and Dr. Jeny Rajan and Mr. Asjad Nabeel from NIT Suratkal. The hands-on sessions were handled by the QIRAIL team (Dr. Hannah Thomas, Mr. Sathya A, Mr. Hasan Shaikh and Mr. Praveenraj C).

Future workshops will be announced on our website <https://qirail.cmcvellore.edu.in/>.

This initiative stays true to CMC Vellore's commitment to fostering knowledge exchange and using technology-driven solutions ethically and appropriately in healthcare.



### Children's' Day Celebration at B3 Ward

The Department of Paediatric Orthopaedics and the Department of Hand Surgery hands together, organised a fun-filled Children's day programme on 14th November 2025 in B3 Ward, New Paul Brand Block. Dr. Thomas Palocaren, Head, Paed.Ortho, Ms. Jyoti, Nurse Manager, graced the occasion and celebrated Children's Day along with the children and parents in New Paul Brand Block. It was a heartwarming experience for the parents and the children to see the B3 ward staff perform various art forms, skits and songs. Children's day gifts were distributed to all children in the B3 ward, followed by the prayer by Rev. Dr. Jim Paul.



## Victory for Men's Football Team at SYNAPSE 2025

Govt. Vellore Medical College organised the Intercollegiate Sports Fest – SYNAPSE 2025, held in Vellore from 8th to 10th October 2025. Our college Men's Football team participated and emerged as the Winners.



## Special Prayers : November 23 - 29, 2025

**Laundry** : Mrs. Sonia Valas and Staff

**Hospital Maintenance** : Mr. C.V. Daniel Deva Kumar and Staff

**College Maintenance** : Mrs. Indhumathi and Staff

### **Baptish Church of Mizoram**

Council Members : Rev. Vanlalmuankima

Dr. B. Laldinliana

Hospital : Christian Hospital, Serkawn and others.



## Memoranda

- **Dr. Shalini Nair**, Professor & Head, Neuro Critical Care, is appointed as Head, Department of Critical Care Medicine with effect from 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Patricia S**, Professor, is appointed as Head, Radiation Oncology Unit-III with effect from 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Rajan Sundaresan V**, Professor, is appointed as Head, Oto-Rhino-Laryngology (ENT) Unit-I from 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 for a four year term.
- **Dr. Paul Trinity Stephen D**, Associate Professor, is appointed as Ag. Head, General Surgery Unit-IV with effect from 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025 until further notice.

## Laurels & Recognitions

**Dr. Barney Isaac T.J.**, Professor & Head of Pulmonary Medicine, was awarded the Fellowship of the Indian chest society (FICS) at NAPCON, Jaipur

The following participants from **Paediatric Neurology** received prizes at the **17<sup>th</sup> Asian Oceanian Congress of Child Neurology (AOCCN 2025) held at New Delhi, September 2025.**

- **Dr. Narmadham K Bharathi** (Associate Professor) and Dr. Abhinaya Venkatakrishnan (Assistant Professor) for securing second prize in the NeuroWhiz Quiz.
- **Dr. Narmadham K Bharathi** for the best moderated e-poster titled 'Phenotype and genotype in children with nuclear gene related mitochondrial complex I deficiency' under the category Genetic-Metabolic disorders.
- **Dr. Chakicherla Sai Monica** for the best oral presentation titled 'Clinical and genetic profile of children with mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes' under the category Genetic-Metabolic disorders.

At the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists- MICROCON 2025 held at New Delhi between October 29th - November 2nd, the following participants from the Department of **Clinical Microbiology** received awards.

- **Dr. Annie Sheeba**, Assistant Professor, was awarded the Dr. K.B. Sharma Memorial IAMM Junior best paper prize-2025 for the paper entitled “Phenotypic drug susceptibility testing and genotypic characterisation of bedaquiline resistance in drug-resistant tuberculosis”
- **Dr. Jobin John Jacob**, Post-Doctoral Fellow, received first place in the free oral presentation Molecular diagnostics category. The title of the presentation was “Development and evaluation of a rapid & sensitive RPA-assisted CRISPR/ Cas12a Assay for detecting Salmonella Typhi & Salmonella Paratyphi A”.
- **Dr. Madhumathi Irulappan**, Post-Doctoral Fellow, secured first place in the free oral presentation Bacteriology category. The title of the presentation was “Emergence of XDR Shigella in India: Clinical correlates and promising oral therapeutics”.
- **Mrs. Janaki Kumaraswamy**, Project Research Scientist II, received second place in the Free oral presentation- Molecular diagnostic category. The title of the presentation was “Molecular profiling of Orientia tsutsugamushi isolates from Vellore: Insights from 56KDa gene and MLST”.
- **Mr. Praveen**, Project Research Associate, was honoured with the Best free poster award in the Molecular diagnostic category. The title of the poster was “Development and validation of a multiplex PCR assay for accurate and simultaneous detection of Typhoidal Salmonella Serovars”.
- **Dr. Nirmaladevi P**, Post-Doctoral Fellow, received third place in the free poster award- Bacteriology category. The title of the poster was “In silico evaluation of serological biomarker candidates for typhoid diagnosis: Insights from in vitro assays.”

Achievements from the Department of Physiology

- **Dr. George Paul**, first-year physiology postgraduate, won the first prize in the quiz programme conducted during the CME on "Diabetes Landscape: updates, insights and practical applications" on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.
- **Dr. Rhea Susan Koshy**, second-year physiology postgraduate, won the second prize in the quiz program conducted during the CME on "Diabetes Landscape: updates, insights and practical applications" on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.

- **Dr. Sathya Subramani**, senior professor of physiology, won the third prize in faculty oral presentation during the Excel and Educate 2025 Future of Medicine International Medical Conference conducted by the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University and Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu, from October 16-18.
- **Dr. Elizabeth Vinod**, Associate Professor of physiology, was awarded a travel grant by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to attend the 18th International Cartilage Regeneration and Joint Preservation Society (ICRS) congress in Boston, USA, from October 11-14.
- **Dr. Neetu Prince**, Associate Professor of physiology, was awarded a travel grant by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to attend the 30th International Complement Workshop in Brisbane, Australia, from 14th to 19th September, 2025.

## Upcoming Event: CSCR Foundation Day

### CSCR Foundation Day – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025

The Centre for Stem Cell Research (a unit of inStem, Bengaluru), Christian Medical College, Vellore, is pleased to announce the celebration of CSCR Foundation Day on **1<sup>st</sup> December 2025**, to be held at the CSCR Auditorium.

This year's programme has been curated especially to benefit Postgraduate students from Life Sciences and Medical disciplines, providing valuable exposure to cutting-edge research, expert perspectives, and advanced laboratory facilities at CSCR.

PG Life Science and Medical students are strongly encouraged to participate, as this event provides an excellent platform for academic enrichment, and understanding opportunities in advanced biomedical research.

**CSCR Foundation Day**  
Celebration on  
**1<sup>st</sup> December, 2025**

**SCIENCE**

**BRIC** **inStem** **CSCR**

**Venue: CSCR Auditorium**

**Time: 09:30 AM to 12:30 PM (Batch-1)**  
**01:30 PM to 04:30 PM (Batch-2)**

**Target Groups**  
Postgraduate (Life Sciences)  
Medical disciplines

**Program Outline**  
Journey of CSCR  
Scientific talk: Stem cell and gene therapy  
Scholars' Perspective: Stem Cell Research  
Visit to various facilities at CSCR

**Contact us:**  
<https://www.cscr.res.in/>  
+91 416 228 5108  
[cscrdo@cmcvellore.ac.in](mailto:cscrdo@cmcvellore.ac.in)

**Organized by**  
Centre for Stem Cell Research (a unit of BRIC-inStem, Bengaluru)  
Christian Medical College, Bagayam Campus, Vellore, Tamil Nadu

### Registration Deadline: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Please refer to the attached flyer for detailed information.

**For queries, kindly contact:**

**Phone Number: +91 416 228 5108/5101**

**Email ID: [cscrdo@cmcvellore.ac.in](mailto:cscrdo@cmcvellore.ac.in)**

**Organised by:**

**Centre for Stem Cell Research (a unit of BRIC-inStem, Bengaluru)**

**Christian Medical College, Bagayam Campus, Vellore, Tamil Nadu.**

## Obituaries

**Dr. Ravi Ralph**, father of Dr. Ravikar Ralph, (Professor of Medicine Unit-1 & Poison Information Centre, CMC Vellore), passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. Vinitha Ralph, sons Dr. Ravikar Ralph, Mr. Diwakar Ralph and all other bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

**Mr. D. Dorairaj**, former staff - Electrical Department at CMC Vellore, husband of the late Mrs. Kanthi Dorairaj, (Radiotherapy Technologist), and father of Dr. Anitha Thomas, Head of Gynecologic Oncology, and Dr. Baskar Dorairaj (BPT 1994) on the evening of 17<sup>th</sup> November. 2025. Let us uphold his son-in-law, Dr. Thomas S. Ram, Head of Radiation Oncology; daughter-in-law, Mrs. Evangelene Baskar (BPT 1992); grandchildren, Dr. Angelina Sharon Thomas, Dr. Abhilasha Jane Thomas, Abeth, Belicia, Caleb, and all extended family members in our prayers.

The Live Stream link for the service in Hospital chapel is below:

[https://www.youtube.com/live/3FBrmalSxMY?si=wjE\\_2\\_sjFP8dbeRx](https://www.youtube.com/live/3FBrmalSxMY?si=wjE_2_sjFP8dbeRx)



**Dr. Joyce Thomas** (MBBS batch of 1965) passed away on the evening of November 13, 2025. Joyce was born on July 4, 1948, in Kerala, India—a fitting birthday for someone who went on to embrace the world with independence and determination. She was the eldest daughter of K.M. Thomas and Accamma John and spent her early childhood in Chennai, India. Even as a young girl, Joyce showed a spirit of adventure. At age twelve, she accompanied her aunt through the Middle East and Europe before spending a year studying in Indiana. That year abroad opened her eyes to the wider world and planted the seeds of a life filled with global curiosity.

After returning to India, she went on to earn her medical degree from Christian Medical College, Vellore (MBBS batch of 1965). She then returned to the United States, where she completed pathology, dermatopathology, and dermatology residencies. In 1974, Joyce married her classmate, Dr. Bobby Mathew Thomas. They moved to Athens in 1980 and became longtime attendees of Beech Haven Baptist Church. With a mutual passion for travel, they explored more than 90 countries together. In 1986, Joyce opened her dermatology practice in Athens and became the first female dermatologist in the city. Over more than three decades of caring for patients, she became known not only for her clinical expertise but also for her warmth. Joyce remained deeply connected to her Indian heritage, actively participating in community events in Athens and Atlanta. Outside of medicine, she delighted in dancing, nature walks, Pilates, and lively conversations with friends. Above all, Joyce cherished her family. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Dr. Bobby Thomas; her children, Dr. Roshan Ramlal (Richard) of Suwanee, Georgia, and Nisha Dearborn (Jay) of Yarmouth, Maine; and her grandchildren, Karina (17), Kavya (14), Kaiden (13), and Kiran (12), who brought her immense joy. She is also survived by her sisters, Alice Varghese, Grace Mathews, and Jessie Thomas.

The Memorial links are given below:

<https://evt.live/dr-joyce-thomas-funeral>, <https://facebook.com/LordandStephens>

For those who would like to get in touch with the family, the contact details of Dr. Bobby Mathew Thomas are given below: Email: [bobbymthomasmd@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbymthomasmd@yahoo.com)

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

**Mr. Prince**, husband of Mrs. Emimma, Staff Nurse, C202 ward, Ranipet Campus, passed away on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2025. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. Emimma and their 6 months old daughter 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. Associate Research Officer** for the **Department of Community Health, CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus** *Job Code : 1629*

**Qualification :** 1<sup>st</sup> class in master's in public health.

**Experience :** 3 years of Experience in Public Health research and expertise in writing articles would be desirable.

**Job Summary :** We are seeking a motivated and skilled Associate Research Officer to contribute to two critical health system evaluation initiatives in Jharkhand and Gudipala Mandal (Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh). The Jharkhand project focuses on empowering local women trained as Care Coordinators to deliver health services using a Clinical Decision Support System (CDSS)-based mobile application. Your role involves conducting qualitative research in Jharkhand, including conducting in-depth interviews and facilitating focus group discussions (FGDs). Additionally, you will support the implementation of a community based care coordination model in Gudipala Mandal, overseeing activities and mentoring Care Coordinators working across a 50,000-population catchment area.

**Responsibilities :** Conduct qualitative research including key informant interviews and FGDs in Jharkhand

- Travel to Jharkhand as needed for on-ground fieldwork and supervision
- Implement research protocols and ensure adherence to ethical research practices
- Analyze qualitative and quantitative data using statistical software
- Supervise and support the care coordination team operating in Gudipala Mandal
- Monitor project implementation and ensure timely reporting of progress and outcomes Collaborate with community volunteers, healthcare providers, and project stakeholders
- Assist in documentation, report writing, and dissemination of project learnings
- Maintain confidentiality and security of all patient and community data.

**Job condition :** Project contract, primary health care community-based project.

**Job Preference :**

- Strong grounding in qualitative research methods and community-based health projects
- Proficiency in digital tools and mobile health applications
- Excellent command of Hindi and English; Telugu desirable to know
- Experience in supervising public health fieldwork teams
- Willingness to travel frequently to Jharkhand and within Chittoor District
- Familiarity with health systems.

**External Salary :** Consolidated Rs.50,000 (including HRA).

**Age Limit :** Up to 35 years. **Mode of Appointment :** Project Mode.

**Accommodation :** Not Provided.

Applications to be done only through an 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 15, 2025.**

## **2. Training Officer for the Department of Distance Education Unit**

**Job Code : 1630**

**Qualification :** AHS Graduate / Post – Graduate (BPT / BOT / MPT / MOT) with 5 years of relevant clinical experience and a minimum of 1 year teaching experience. The post involves travel.

Preference will be given to candidates with experience in online and blended learning. Technical skills related to online course delivery are desirable.

**Salary :** As per institutional rules.

**Mode of Appointment :** Project Mode.

**Accommodation :** Not Provided.

Applications to be done only through an 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 06, 2025**

## **3. Junior Research Fellow (JRF)**

**Job Code : 1631**

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 on a SERB-funded project in the area of stem cell and regenerative biology. This project involves cell culture, immunomodulatory studies, molecular biology work, immunohistochemistry, histological staining and analysis, gene – editing techniques, and animal studies.

**Qualification :** M.Sc. and M.Tech in any branch of Life Sciences with a minimum of 55% of marks. The candidates with DBT / CSIR/ UGC / DST-INSPIRE / ICMR / Any Government Fellowships and GATE will be preferred.

**Project Mode. External Salary:** (Consolidated) Rs.31,000 + 8% HRA (With NET / GATE Qualified) (or)

**External Salary:** (Consolidated) Rs.25,000 + 8% HRA (Without NET / GATE Qualified).

**Accommodation :** Not Provided.

For more details of the positions and the application forms visit :

<https://www.cscr.res.in/research-opportunities/>

Please submit duly filled application form with all the certificates, either by soft copy to [cscredu@cmcvellore.ac.in](mailto:cscredu@cmcvellore.ac.in) or by hard copy to The Principal, Christian Medical College, Bagayam, Vellore 632 002, Tamil Nadu, India. on or before **December 05, 2025.**