

Christian Medical College Vellore

NEWSLINE





Department of Clinical Biochemistry - Golden Jubilee

For His faithfulness endures forever. Psalm 117:2



IN THIS ISSUE

Department of Clinical Biochemistry - Golden Jubilee

World Cancer Day Celebrations 2023

Paediatric Burns Survivors Camps Organised by the Department of Paediatric Surgery

Department of Palliative Medicine conducted an Interactive Workshop

CMC's 60-Day PTP Campaign

Special Prayers

Welcome

Memoranda

Laurels and Recognitions

Retirement

Sports News

Obituaries

Situations Vacant

The South Zone ACBI Conference was organized by the Department of Clinical Biochemistry and the Tamil Nadu Chapter of ACBI on the 27th and 28th January 2023, to mark the Golden jubilee of the department. The programme began with prayer by Rev. Deepak. Dr. Pamela Christudoss, Professor and Head welcomed the Dignitaries and the delegates and introduced the event. The dignitaries : Dr. Joy Mammen, Associate Director (Medical); Dr. Solomon Satish Kumar, Principal; Dr. Arivazhagan, HOD, Adayar Cancer Research Institute & ACBI-TN State Representative; Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy, former Professor and Head of Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Dr.Peter Hill, former Professor, Dept of Clinical Biochemistry, Dr. Raju, Deputy Director, Tamil Nadu State Public Health Laboratories and Mr. N. Venkateswaran, CEO, NABL - Chief Guest gave their felicitations. Mr. N. Venkateswaran and Dr. Raju acknowledged the outreach service- EQAS (External Quality Assurance Scheme) provided by the department to the medical labs in the country.

Department of Clinical Biochemistry - Golden Jubilee

The conference began with the key note address of the rich experience from the stalwarts of Clinical Biochemistry – Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy and Dr. Peter Hill. The conference was well attended by 150 delegates which included MD biochemists, Ph.D's, lab managers, quality managers from South India. Around 17 speakers inclusive of professors from the clinical departments in CMC and from other medical institutions in India and as well from overseas were invited to give the guest lectures.

The Clinical Biochemistry laboratory has its humble beginnings in the early 60s with the simple manual photometric methods for routine chemistries requiring large volume of patients' blood, long procedures which resulted in delayed test results. The introduction of the continuous-flow batch analyser in 1970, followed by Hitachi discrete selective analyser in 1985, Chemiluminescent technology in 1997, improved sensitivity and TAT. The standalone Cobas Preanlaytical with Auto validation & Delta check installed in 2014 had made further improvements in efficiency. The new Cobas Connection Module (CCM) installed in 2019 with the ability of connecting the preanalytical systems to analytics through a fast transportation system guaranteeing quick release of results conceived for high throughput labs. Over the years the Department of Clinical Biochemistry has made it possible to handle around 7000 samples per day with 195 parameters and release of approximately 25000 test results per day.

External Quality Assessment Scheme has become a household name among the laboratories all over our country and neighbouring countries. The number of participating laboratories has crossed the 12000 mark with 11 programmes. Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to enrol all their 2127 PHC's in the Basic Chemistry Programme.

Dr. Pamela acknowledged the dedication and contributions of Dr. Robert Carman, Ms. Margaret Nash, and the former Heads of the Department of Clinical Biochemistry. The commitment of the faculty, technical staff, office facilitators and support staff of the Department both past and present were acknowledged. Planning and setting up another laboratory at the new CMC Vellore, Ranipet Campus in 2022 was indeed a humongous job and was completed in record time.

Dr. Pamela had a short telephonic conversation with Dr. Robert Carman, Mineapolis, USA. It was so amazing that Dr. Carman still has a rich memory of the Clinical Biochemistry lab between mid 60's and 70's, and mentioned quite a few interesting points including the EQAS outreach programme and the contributions of Dr. Kanagasabapathy, Dr. Peter Hill, Dr. Punnoose Mathew. He congratulated and sent his best wishes to the department and to CMC as well.

Our appreciation to the ACBI for giving us this opportunity and the ACBI Tamil Nadu representative for the support. Our appreciation to the NABL office & team for their positive criticisms during the assessments which has helped in continual improvement.

The department takes this opportunity to thank the administration of CMC and to the c linicians for their kind support and encouragement through the past 5 decades.



World Cancer Day Celebrations



In commemoration of World Cancer Day, the Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing of the College of Nursing, CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus organized various activities on the theme "Close the Care Gap" to create awareness among the staff and students of CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus and the public of Chittoor. Posters, slogan and quiz competitions were organized for staff and students in which they participated

enthusiastically and prizes were awarded to the winners. On 2nd February a school health programme was organized at CNR Junior and Degree College in Gudipala, Chittoor for creating awareness on the prevention and early identification of cancer. Lectures, discussions and Villupattu were organized to educate the students on cancer awareness. Ms. Annie Elizabeth gave a lecture on 'prevention of breast cancer' with emphasis on breast self-examination. Mrs. Florence Segaran, Principal and the students of the College of Nursing presented the health awareness to these college students.

There were 100 female students of 1st and 2nd year intermediate students and 5 teachers who actively participated in this awareness programme. On 4th February an awareness programme was organized in the outpatient waiting area of the CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus. The Chief Guest was Dr. Thomas Samuel Ram, Professor and Head of Radiation Oncology and Associate Director for Missions who addressed the students and the public and briefed about how our Founder Dr. Ida Sophia Scudder had a vision and commitment in 'closing the care gap' by reaching out to the community of Chittoor through her roadside clinic. Mrs. Florence Segaran, Principal CON, CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus, Mrs. Sophia Vijay, Additional Deputy Nursing Superintendent, CMC Vellore, Mrs. Anne Jarone, Associate Nursing Superintendent for Chittoor Campus and Dr. Gautham Waran, Assistant Professor in Radiotherapy offered felicitations and made the gathering aware of the history, trends and future vision for cancer care nationally, globally and in our institution. The 3rd year B.Sc. Nursing students performed a Villupattu and mime on cancer prevention. Three of the cancer survivors of Chittoor Campus shared their experience which was a motivation for the public. Prizes were distributed to the winners of all the competitions. The slogans and posters were displayed for the public to view. The event was informative and useful to the students and the public who attended the programme.









Paediatric Burns Survivors Camps Organised by the Department of Paediatric Surgery

To commemorate the International Burns Awareness week, a camp for children who had survived extensive burns injuries was held by the Department of Paediatric Surgery on 4th of February in the VIP Hall, VGS canteen. The event was attended by forty children along with their parents. Age based group discussions were held for parents to share their experiences and to resolve their queries. This was followed by a medical check up by a team of plastic surgeons, hand and reconstructive surgeons and physiotherapists. The Department of Nursing conducted educational programmes on rehabilitation practices for the children. Dietary department had a desk with regimens for nutritional strengthening which was explained to the parents. Games were organised for the children and gifts were distributed. The event served to highlight the ongoing problem of burns injury in children in our society. It helped to create awareness about the preventive measures and the appropriate treatment that needs to be provided.









Department of Palliative Medicine conducted an Interactive Workshop

The Department of Palliative Medicine conducted an interactive workshop on "The 6Cs of Compassionate Care" on 6th and 7th February, 2023.

Dr. Solomon Sathish Kumar, Principal inaugurated the session of the first day and reminded the gathering on the mission of Christian Medical College to provide compassionate care. Dr. Rajesh Isaiah, Medical Superintendent facilitated the gathering on the second day and highlighted the importance of good communication skills to enhance patient care and satisfaction.

Three eminent faculties taught during these sessions. Dr. Fiona Rawlinson, Palliative Medicine Consultant, Professor and Programme lead for Post-graduate Palliative Medicine course at Cardiff University, Dr. Nikki Pease, Macmillan Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Velindre Cancer Centre at Cardiff and Dr. Jo Hayes, Palliative Medicine Consultant and Medical Director at Marie Curie Hospice, Cardiff, UK.

The workshop was interprofessional, attended by 129 health care professionals including doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, chaplains and allied health professionals. The theme of the session, The 6 Cs of Compassionate Care - Care, Compassion, Courage, Commitment, Communication and Competence were highlighted. Communication skills in health care and within teams were discussed. The strategy and tools to help in difficult conversations were taught in detail, using didactic lectures, role plays and discussion on real life challenges. The importance of self-care and care within teams was emphasized. Participants expressed the usefulness of such sessions and expressed need for similar sessions to empower us to provide compassionate care. We are grateful to God for His guidance and help.





CMC's 60-Day PTP Campaign

CMC's 60-day **#PTP2023** campaign to help 500+ poor patients is off to a flying start! Already 237 generous **PTP Champions** have contributed **Rs.14.5 lakhs** for **145** poor patients and their families.

We have 4 weeks left to raise **Rs.36 lakhs. Every bit counts** – YOUR contribution will make a difference for a poor patient. Donate today on this link **https://r.give.do/yhFMUEgw**

Create a **ripple effect** by sharing this PTP link with your contacts, friends and family around the globe.





February 26-March 04, 2023

Special Prayers This Week

Biostatistics: Dr. P. Prasanna Samuel and Staff

Bioengineering: Dr. Sivakumar Balasubramanian and Staff

Anatomy: Dr. Suganthy J. and Staff

Physiology: Dr. Elizabeth Tharion and Staff

Asha Kiran Hospital, Lamtaput



Welcome

- Dr. Anish Jacob Cherian, Professor, Department of Endocrine Surgery, on his return from study leave.
- **Dr. Marilyn Mary Ninan,** Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Microbiology, on her return from study leave.

Memoranda

- **Dr. Samuel George Hansdak**, Professor and Head of the Department of General Medicine will continue as Head of Medicine Unit-IV with effect from 4th February, 2023 until further notice.
- **Dr. Priya Mary Mammen**, Professor will continue as Head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Unit with effect from 1st March, 2023 until further notice.

Laurels and Recognitions

- **Dr. Vrisha Madhuri,** Professor, Department of Paediatric Orthopaedics for delivering the POSI Oration on "Research in Paediatric Orthopaedics Concept to Reality" at the 29th Annual Conference of Paediatric Orthopaedic Society of India at Bhuvaneshwar on 11th February 2023.
- **Dr. Thomas Palocaren,** Head, Department of Paediatric Orthopaedics for being elected as the Executive Committee member (south zone) for the Paediatric Orthopaedic Society of India.
- **Dr. Bharathi Srilatha G,** Assistant Professor, Department of Palliative Medicine was awarded the second prize for the Best Oral Presentation at the IAPCON 2023 (Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Palliative Care) held at Bengaluru, from 10th to 12th February, 2023 for the presentation titled "Patient needs and priorities guiding palliative care delivery-a quality improvement project".
- **Dr. Rohan Michael Ramesh,** Senior Resident, The Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Division of Gastrointestinal Sciences won the first prize in the "Oral Paper Presentation Session" held on 18th January 2023, during the ESRI national geospatial conference on "Geographic Information Systems in Health Systems Research in Rural Nagaland" at New Delhi.
- **Dr. Shikhar Garg** and **Dr. Shoban Haridass** awarded winners of the Grand IR quiz conducted at the 23rd Annual conference of ISVIR 2023 held between 9th and 12th February, 2023 at Hyderabad.
- **Dr. Tejaswi Hemachandran**, 3rd Year M.Ch. Registrar, Paediatric Surgery won the first prize in video presentation in the annual conference of Paediatric Endoscopic Surgeons (PESICON) held in Jipmer, Pondicherry between 10th 12th February, 2023.
- **Dr. Niveditha Shama,** Assistant Professor, Paediatric Surgery, was awarded the Rameshwar Nath Minocha travelling fellowship for 2023 sponsored by the Paediatric Endoscopic Surgeons of India and British Association of Paediatric Surgeons (PESI-BAPS).

Retirement

Mr. Sampath M., Senior Hospital Attendant, Department of Paediatrics, joined CMC 36 years ago. From single-handedly calling all the patients in the out-patient and immunization clinics in the days before the loud-speaker systems, Mr. Sampath would ensure the smooth flow of the children and their families. In the offices, he was always the first to arrive and pro-actively ensured that all the doctors and office staff were able to discharge their duties efficiently and comfortably as well as directing patients who came with enquiries or other needs. With his years of experience, Mr. Sampath was a source of knowledge about both the institution and Vellore and always went out of his way to help anyone in any way he could. His wife, Mrs. Kothai Nayaki, is a retired Hospital Attendant. His son, Mr. Rajendra Prasad, after his



Bachelor's degree, did his Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics from CMC and is married and working in Chennai.

The Division of Child Health will greatly miss this efficient and warm-hearted stalwart of our department and joins the CMC community in thanking Mr. Sampath for his years of dedicated service and commitment to this institution and wishes him God's blessings for his retired life.

Obituaries

- Mr. Jembulingam, retired. Sr. Consultant Training Officer, RUHSA Department passed away on 18th February, 2023. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. Shanti Jambulingam, sons Mr. Vignesh, Mr. Magesh and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
- **Dr. Catherine Suvarnabai Padakandla** (MBBS Batch of 1963) passed away on 19th January, 2023.

Below is a write up by the batch of 1963:

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing away of Dr. Catherine Suvarnabai Padakandla (MBBS Batch of 1963) on 19th January, 2023, in Wichita Falls, Texas, USA.



Dr. Suvarna was born on July 4, 1943 to Mr. Michael and Mrs. Susan (Kothapalli) Padakandla in Prodattur, Andhra Pradesh state, India. She was the youngest daughter of 7 siblings.

Dr. Suvarna was brilliant as a child and excelled in her education and got a scholarship to study in the Lawrence School, Lovedale, India, where she graduated at the top of her class and later joined Christian Medical College, Vellore, in the year 1963. Dr. Suvarna endeared herself to many of her class and collegemates as a fun-loving and affectionate and soft-spoken person. After MBBS, she proceeded to complete her M.D in Biochemistry. She, later worked as the head of the Chemical Pathology department at ABU university, Zaria, Nigeria.

Dr. Suvarna then immigrated to the United States in 1987 and completed residency in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Infectious diseases at University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey. She moved to Texas and worked at the Clay County Memorial Hospital in Henrietta for a few years before settling down in Wichita Falls. She ran a medical practice on 9th street and was on the staff at United Regional Hospital.

Dr. Suvarna, (known as Dr. Padakandla) was known to her colleagues as a well read, soft spoken, compassionate, and kind person. She was a brilliant infectious diseases doctor with a HUGE amount of love and compassion for her patients she served. She has always conducted herself with much elegance and grace.

She loved her children and was crazy about her grandchildren. She cared deeply for her patients, family, friends and colleagues. She made friends easily from all walks of life wherever she went. The Indian community in Wichita, buoyed her spirit with their generosity and love. She loved to read, was an avid bird watcher and there was not a flower she could not name. She had an adventurous spirit and was ever ready to go sightseeing, fossil collecting or travel to far off lands at the spur of a moment. She loved to play bridge (loved her bridge group) and scrabble which she of course, won easily. She succumbed to her ailment on the 19th January. She is greatly missed by the community she served and was a part of.

Dr. Catherine Suvarna Padakandla is survived by her husband, Dr. Pathuri Rajanna, daughter, Dr. Aruna Rao and her husband Suresh, grandsons, Roshan and Sachin, her son, Anand Pathuri, sister, Vicky Fischer and husband Lynn of Salinas, California and many nieces, nephews, and their families. Her batchmates of 1963 have many precious memories of their college days with Dr. Suvarna and specifically of the great time they had when Dr. Suvarna came for their 55th reunion in August of 2018. We will miss her cheerful smile and her warm and calm presence. We express our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to her family.

Her daughter Dr. Aruna Rao can be contacted at email ID: arao10@jhmi.edu or phone: 001 6462428709.

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

Sports News

Republic Day Run - 2023

The winners of the various events are as below:

Men 10 km : 1st - Mr. Sanjeev Ram

Men 10 km (above 50 yrs) : 1st - Dr. Henry

Women 10 km : 1st - Ms. Bianca Henry

Men 5 km : 1st - Mr. Jabez

Men 5 km (above 50 yrs) : 1st - Dr. Jacob Mathew Women 5 km : 1st - Ms. Kezia Liz Jacob

Children < 10 years : 1st - Shakthisha

The Division of Clinical Radiology (Department of Radiodiagnosis and Interventional Radiology) organized the event, with significant inputs from Dr. Balaganesan, Physical Director and College Maintenance. We thank all the staff in the Radiology Department who played a key role in organizing a wonderful marathon, bringing together the CMC community.

Situations Vacant

1. Jr. Lecturer with Ph.D. for the Department of Bioengineering

Qualification: Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering or Bioengineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering, Information Technology or other related disciplines with research focused on a biomedical problem.

Job Description: The chosen candidate will have research, teaching and administrative duties in the department.

- **Research duties:** The candidate will be required to: (a) Develop the research expertise in the department in one of the following areas: neurorehabilitation engineering, instrumentation, or machine learning / artificial intelligence in healthcare. (b) Bring in research funding through external grants. (c) Establish research links with other national and international institutes. (d) Mentor MS / M. Tech and Ph.D students in the department.
- **Teaching duties :** (a) Offer at least one graduate-level engineering course per semester and help with theory or the lab of the core courses. (b) Develop specialized courses related to his / her area of research. (c) Offer at least one course per year to other departments within CMC Vellore.
- Administrative duties: (a) Help conduct exams and interviews in MS and Ph.D student selection activities. (b) Coordinate one of the graduate programmes in the department.

For more details about the position, please email Prof. Sivakumar Balasubramanian at siva82kb@cmcvellore.ac.in.

Application Details:

You will need to send the following documents as part of your application for the position of **Jr. Lecturer** in Bioengineering at CMC Vellore.

- a. Up-to-date CV
- b. Research statement describing your past and current research, along with your plan for the next five years. You are also encouraged to briefly describe your plans for applying for external funds for specific research projects. (Not exceeding three pages).
- c. Teaching statement describing any past teaching experience, along with a list of courses you are comfortable teaching, and courses that you would like to develop and teach in the next 3-5 years. (Not exceeding two pages)
- d. Copies of two of the best publications from your past / present research.

Contacts details of three references.

Salary: As per institutional Rules.

Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

Situations Vacant

2. Senior Resident with MS (OG) for the CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus (Obst. Gynae)

Salary: As per institutional Rules. Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

3. Lecturer Gr. III (AHS) for the Department of PMR (Prosthetics & Orthotics)

Qualification: Master in Prosthetics & Orthotics (MPO).

Experience: Should have 5 years of experience in the field of P & O services from RCI recognized Institution with 3 publications.

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

Please log on to https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/JobVacancy.aspx?jtype=ALL Link: "Vacancies". *Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted.* Applications will close by March 04, 2023 for Items 1, 2 and March 11, 2023 for Item 3.

4. Senior Medical Officer (Two Posts) for the Department of Community Health

Job Code: 1453

Qualification: Postgraduate Medical Degree with 5 years' experience in research field.

Salary: As per institutional rules. Mode of Appointment: Project Mode. Accommodation not provided.

Applications to be done only through online application system.

Please log on to http://www.cmch-vellore.edu Link: "Vacancies".

Hard Copies and Emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by March 11, 2023 for Item 4.

5. Technician Trainee & Graduate Technician Trainee for the **Department of Urology (CMC Vellore, Ranipet Campus).**

5(a) Technician Trainee. Qualifications: H.Sc., with Biology.

5(b) Graduate Technician Trainee.

Qualifications: Graduate with biology stream and prior working experience in Urology.

Age Limit: 30 Years. Stipend: As per institutional rules.

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

6. Staff III Critical Care Therapist for the Paediatric ICU

Qualifications: B.Sc., Critical Care Technology degree from Recognized University or H.Sc., with 2 Year Diploma in Critical Care Therapy Course and those who have 4 years of experience as Jr. Critical Care Therapist (Project Mode) or equivalent only need to apply.

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

Salary Scale: As per institutional rules.

Job Description: To work under PICU. Age Limit: 35 Years.

7. Asst. Social Worker (Project Mode) for the Department of Community Health (Jawadhi Hills – Veerappanur Health Centre)

Qualifications: M.S.W/M.A., (Social Work/Sociology)/M.Sc., (Medical Sociology).

Consolidated: As per institutional rules. Age Limit: 35 Years.

Job Description: The area of work will be mainly in and around Jawadhi Hills under the Department of Community Health.

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

Applications to be done only through online application system.

Please log on to http://www.cmch-vellore.edu Link: General - "Vacancies".

Note: Only online applications will be accepted; Hard copies will not be accepted.

Applications will close on March 06, 2023 for Items 5(a), 5(b), 6 and March 13, 2023 for Item 7.

Situations Vacant

8. Junior Warden (Project Mode) under term appointment to work in Nursing Students' Hostel, College of Nursing, CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus.

Qualification: Graduate preferably with B.Sc. Home Science.

Candidate need to stay in the hostel. (Only female candidates need to apply).

Salary Scale: As per institutional rules. Preference will be given for single women.

Applications should be submitted online through the link https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/News.aspx (under "vacancies") on or before March 11, 2023 for Item 8.

Only online applications will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted.

9. Applications are invited for the following posts at College of Nursing, Christian Medical College Vellore. 9(a) M.Sc. (N) Tutor

Qualification: M.Sc Nursing in Medical Surgical Nursing speciality. (For College of Nursing, CMC Vellore Main Campus / Ranipet Campus). Accommodation and Salary: As per Institutional Policy.

9(b) Library Assistant (Project Mode)

Qualification: Graduate + BLIS. Salary Scale: As per institutional rules.

9(c) Applications are invited for the post of **M.Sc.** (**N**) **Tutor** for **College of Nursing, CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus.** Qualification: M.Sc. Nursing in Community Health Nursing speciality.

Accommodation and Salary: As per Institutional Policy.

9(d) Junior Warden (Project Mode)

Qualification: Graduate preferably with B.Sc. Home Science.

Candidate need to stay in the hostel. (Only female candidates need to apply)

Salary Scale: As per institutional rules. Preference will be given for single women.

 $Applications should be submitted online through the link {\it https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/News.aspx}$

(under "vacancies") on or before March 11, 2023 for Items 9(a), 9(b), 9(c) and 9(d).

Only online applications will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted.

10. Jr. Engineer (Project) for CHIPS Department

Qualifications: Diploma in Electronic and Communication Engineering,

Diploma in Information & Technology &

Diploma in IT & Communication.

Salary: As per Institutional Norms. Age Limit: 30 Years and below.

Experience: Networking and Hardware Maintenance.

Please log on to http://www.cmch-vellore.edu

Link: General - "Vacancies". Tab: "Jr. Engineer (Project)".

Applications should be made online. Applications through other Job Portals will not be considered.

Apply on or before March 11, 2023 for Item 10.

11. Schieffelin Institute of Health - Research & Leprosy Centre, Karigiri - 632 106 invites applications for the following post of Staff Nurse

Qualification : DGNM / B.Sc. Nursing. Age Limit : Below 35 Years.

Experience : 1-2 years in Obs. / Gynae or Medical / Surgical ICU experience

Candidate can apply using Job Application available at https://leprosyhealth.org, career section and send along with photocopies of the certificates to personnel@karigiri.org.

Last date for receipt of applications is March 04, 2023.