DCIETY FOR NEUROCHEMISTRY, INDIA





SEPTEMBER 2023 VOLUMES Email: snci@uohyd.ernet.in

http://snci.org.in

ANNOUNCEMENT



PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 2023

Advanced Techniques in Healthcare 8-13th September 2023

Followed by

37th Annual Meeting of Society for **Neurochemistry India (SNCI)**

and INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON **Neuroscience and Neurological Disorders**

14-16th September 2023

VENUE NORTH EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY, SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

Organizing Secretary Dr. Dinesh Bhatia Joint Organizing Secretary **Mr. Shyamal Mandal**

Department of Biomedical Engineering NEHU, Shillong

BHIM UPI Payments Accepted at Jt. Secretary, 37th SNCI Annual Meeting NEHU, Shillong



A/c no. : 00000041788930705 IESC Code · SBIN0004295



ABOUT SNCI

Society for Neurochemistry, India

SNC

Neurochemistry is one of the most rapidly advancing areas of sciences which is multidisciplinary by nature. Neurochemistry attempts to draw the functioning of the most complex "device" the human brain! Emerging neuro scientists of modern world, including developing countries like India face a high level of challenge in teaching and understanding due to lack of proper training and updates. With this background the Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI) started way back in 1979, as University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad as its Headquarters.

Society for Neurochemistry (SNCI) is a registered scientific body in Hyderabad. SNCI promotes neurochemistry by organizing conferences and workshops at many different Universities / institutes across India. These workshops / schools are directed to train young students in basic techniques in neurochemistry /neuroscience. The society inducts neuroscientists as life members and relevant information is sent to them from time to time.





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School of Life Sciences



SECRETARIAT SOCIETY FOR NEUROCHEMISTRY INDIA

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President's Desk : Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay

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Vice President's Desk : Dr. Rajpal Singh Kashyap



Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay

Greetings to all !

As many of you know, The Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI) was established in 1979, with the University of Hyderabad as its Headquarters and with a clear mandate to train young minds for emerging concepts and techniques in neurochemistry and neuroscience. Over the years, SNCI has organizedits annual meetings in different parts of the country, thereby encouraging young students and researchers in neurochemistry in a variety of ways. A unique aspect of these meetings is their relatively small size that allows friendly interaction among all participants, helping to build professional contacts and collaborations.

Since I have lived and worked in Hyderabad throughout my independent scientific career in the past three decades, I have had the privilege of experiencing the growth of SNCI closely. After a gap of a couple of years due to the pandemic, the36th Annual Meeting of SNCI and a pre-conference workshop at CIIMS, Nagpur, were organized by Dr.Rajpal Singh Kashyap, in November of last year. This meeting was a great success, particularly keeping in mind that this was one of the first fully offline meetings after the pandemic. Please join me in applauding the hard work and excellent organization of Dr. Kashyap and his team for this successful event.

I am delighted that the 37th Annual Meeting of SNCI will be organized by Dr. Dinesh Bhatia and his team at the beautiful campus of NEHU in Shillong (called Scotland of the east) in Meghalaya during 14-16 September this year, along with a pre-conference workshop. Dr. Bhatia and his team are developing an exciting scientific program while also working on associated logistics. On behalf of SNCI, I invite you all to actively participate in this meeting along with your colleagues and collaborators. Looking forward to meeting you all at Shillong!

Warm wishes,



Dr. Rajpal Singh Kashyap

It's always an honor of the Vice President of a very reputed society, but on the same side, it increases your responsibility to serve the society, whether it's a social community or general society. We all are trying our level best to impact advanced knowledge on neurological disorders with the help or in depth research of enormous scientists of the society and students of the society. As indicated above, it's our moral responsibility that basic studies which we are doing for many years should be discussed in which hospital's / or other places where this may apply. The basic research work does not provide a complete answer, but provides striking indications. The hints can be sent to the clinicians. I am sure they will understand these clues and then the clinical and basic research aspects will understand things in a better and complete way.My best wishes to society as they enter their 37th year and day after day, the level of conference and discussion and implementation of research is growing.

Secretary's Desk : Prof. P. Prakash Babu

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Secretary's (Outstation) Desk : Prof. Suhel Parvez



Prof. P. Prakash Babu

The society for neurochemistry, India, (SNCI) started way back in 1979, with University of Hyderabad as its Headquarters with clear mandate to train young minds for the neurochemistry / neuroscience. The SNCI organizes its annual meetings in different parts of the country. During annual meetings, young students are encouraged with awards for the best poster and best oral presenter. This will promote young students to take up neuroscience as their career. The society inducts neuroscientists as life members and relevant information is sent to members from time to time.

The society with the help of life members of the society, organise annual and small meetings at different places in the country. The society is very keen to organise workshops along with the annual meetings to provide hands on training to the young neuroscience researchers. Further, the society encourages members to organize local chapter meetings and workshops in their respective institutes on focused theme.

Apart from two awards, Suven Life Sciences Pharma Award and Dr. GM Taori memorial award, the society introduced few more awards to the middle and senior scientists to honour eminent members of the society. In the name of founder President of SNCI, Dr. B. Ramamurthy a memorial Oration award (by nomination) for the eminent Clinicians working in the neuro research and practice/ teaching. Dr. Ramamurthy was a renowned neurosurgeon, a teacher and researcher. Prof. K. Subba Rao memorial Oration award (by nomination) for the senior scientists working in the basic research in Neurochemistry/ neuroscience area. Prof. Rao was founder Secretary and served the society for long. Shri Akundi Narayana Murty Memorial medal (by application) for early career scientists. One more award on the life time achievement award.

I am happy to announce that this year's 37th annual meeting is being organized by Prof. Dinesh Bhatia, and Dr. Shyamal Mandal, Department of Biomedical Engineering, NEHU, Shillong from 14th to 16th September 2023, prior to the conference hands on workshop will be conducted for the selected limited participants 8th to13th September. This annual meeting is focussed on the Neuroscience and Neurological Disorders. I wish this international conference and workshop will be a great success.

Prof. Suhel Parvez

The scientific discipline of neurochemistry has come a long way, from medicine, chemistry, biochemistry, to its present-day state. Society for Neurochemistry, India is a platform to train young minds for the techniques in neuroscience.

I am honored to be part of this esteemed society. Through Local Chapters young students are motivated to pursue careers in neuroscience and neurochemistry. It's a proud privilege for us that now USA Local Chapter has been added to taken this to an International level. Our family is growing and we hope to reach the magic four digit number this year. In collaboration with SNCI, Jamia Hamdard organized three DST STUTI (Synergistic Training Utilizing Scientific and Technological Infrastructure) workshops in Delhi and one each through local chapters of Hyderabad, Nagpur and Shillong. This helped in garnering capacity building of close to 200 participants including PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and young faculty members. All the training programs were one week long focusing on utilization of high end instruments.

The upcoming SNCI annual meeting to be held in NEHU, Shillong and organized by a dynamic life member of SNCI, Dr. Dinesh Bhatia is an event for everyone interested in the discipline of neuroscience. The conference will be preceded by a training program and it will be an excellent opportunity for young PhD scholars and PG students get trained. I will be happy to see participants from all across the country to be part of this grand event and make it a success.

Best wishes

I wish good luck.





The 36th Annual Meeting of Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI CON 2022) and



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON **One health and Translational Research in Neurosciences**

10th-12th November 2022 at Nagpur, India



CIIMS and IIIT Jointly organized 36th Annual Meeting of Society for Neurochemistry India (SNCI), & International Conference on One Health and Translation Research in Neurosciences (SNCI-CON 2022) held at IIIT from 10th-12th November 2022. The main aim of the Conference was to develop Collaboration between Multidisciplinary researchers for the better health in Neurological Disorders. The emphasis was also to translate the already well established Neuroscience basic research into translational level so the society can be benefited from this. Organizers successful in achieving these objectives as Scientists from different part of country attended the same and presented what can be done in one health translation objective.

The 36th Annual SNCI-CON 2022 meeting was themed as "One Health and Translation Research In Neurosciences" in order to bring together Basic scientists and clinicians as well as Data scientists, Bioinformaticians, Environmentalists, Veterinarians under one roof to discuss Translational approach and missing links to understand the pathogenesis, diagnosis & amp; prognosis and, potential therapeutic intervention for neurological diseases. This three-day scientific fest included the participants from India and abroad, keynote talks, invited presentations, posters & amp; oral award sessions. The conference gave the opportunity to young budding scientists to be a part of exhilarating and informative talks by the experts from different parts of the world & amp; interact with them. There were 92 people from different academic and research institutions across India who registered for the event. A total of 45 scientists took part, including 8 senior scientists and 37 young scientists who graced the occasion and shared their research insights in lectures. Additionally, there were biomedical engineering sessions at the event led by researchers from NEHU Shillong and IIIT Nagpur and a special funding session to inform participants of the various funding programmes available for neurosciences at the ICMR.

A preconference workshop was also organized on "Clinical and Translational Research in Neurological disorders" from 5th-9th November 2022 held at CIIMS, Nagpur for the budding Scientists to get them technical knowledge in neurosciences field. The

inaugural of the workshop was presided over by Dr. Hemant Purohit {Vice President, R&D Himedia Microbiome Research Centre, Nagpur and Former Head, Environmental Biotechnology & Genomics Division, CSIR, NEERI, Nagpur} as the Chief Guest. A total of 19 participants from different academic and research institutes were enrolled for this workshop. The lecture series were conducted featuring faculty professionals from AIIMS, Nagpur, ICMR-NIRT, Chennai, IIITN, NEHU Shillong, and PGIMER Chandigarh emphasizing the fundamentals of translational research in Neuroscience with a special talk on development of Biomedical Devices. The technical sessions were arranged for the participants to learn about cutting-edge scientific techniques like RT-PCR, LAMP PCR, Peptide based Immunological assays, Animal Cell culture, in-depth technical session on NGS technology and statistical analysis in Medical Research.

Eminent Scientist and stakeholder attended the Inaugural program on 10th November including Dr. Amit Dinda Chief Coordinating Officer, CMIE, Emeritus Scientist (ICMR), Dept of Pathology, AIIMS, New Delhi; Dr. Amitabha Chattopadhyay, CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow; Dr. M. K. Thakur, Retired Professor, Ph.D. (BHU); Dr. Prakash Babu, Senior Professor, Dept of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, UOH, Hyderabad; Dr. Lokendra Singh, Director, CIIMS, Nagpur; Mr. Pravin Tapadia, Chairman, CIIMS, Nagpur; Shri Kailas Dakhale, Registrar, IIITN; Dr. Mayur Parate; Dr. Richa Makhijani and Dr. Rajpal Singh Kashyap, Organizing Secretary of the SNCI-CON22.

Around 40 Poster and 20 Oral presentations were given on the occasion. Ms. Prajwal Desai, Goa University received Dr. G.M. Taori young scientist award for best oral presentation, and first runner up was Mr. Aditya Undru, CCMB Hyderabad, second runner up was Mr. Harish Kawade, Dept. of Pharmacy, RTMNU, Nagpur. Moreover, Mr. Akash Mangal Waghade, Nagpur University received Suven Life Sciences Award for best poster presentation while first runnerup was Karthikeyan Selvarasu, and second runner-up was Mr. S. K. Venkate Manjar . The conference was funded from ICMR, DSIR, DST-SERB, CSIR and few companies involved in R & D.



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PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP ON Clinical and Translational Research in Neurological Disorders 5th- 9th November 2022

A preconference workshop was also organized on "Clinical and Translational Research in Neurological disorders" from 5th-9th November 2022 held at CIIMS, Nagpur for the budding Scientists to get them technical knowledge in neurosciences field. The inaugural of the workshop was presided over by Dr. Hemant Purohit {Vice President, R&D Himedia Microbiome Research Centre, Nagpur and Former Head, Environmental Biotechnology & Genomics Division, CSIR, NEERI, Nagpur} as the Chief Guest. A total of 19 participants from different academic and research institutes were enrolled for this workshop. The lecture series were conducted featuring faculty professionals from AIIMS, Nagpur, ICMR-NIRT, Chennai, IIITN, NEHU Shillong, and PGIMER Chandigarh emphasizing the fundamentals of translational research in Neuroscience with a special talk on development of Biomedical Devices. The technical sessions were arranged for the participants to learn about cutting-edge scientific techniques like RT-PCR, LAMP PCR, Peptide based Immunological assays, Animal Cell culture, in-depth technical session on NGS technology and statistical analysis in Medical Research.















Suven Life Sciences Pharma Award for best poster presentation by application

This award is for the research scholars below 30 years of age. Once received he/she will not be eligible for the same another time. The candidate / applicant must be the life member of SNCI or annual member of that year of award of application. The awardee will be given cash prize of Rs. 2000/-, a memento and a certificate.

Dr. G. M. Taori Memorial Award for best oral presentation by application

This award is for the research scholars below 30 years of age. Once received he/she will not be eligible for the same another time. The candidate/applicant must be the life member of SNCI or annual member of that year of award of application. The awardee will be given cash prize of Rs. 2000/-, a memento and a certificate.

Shri Akundi Narayana Murty **Memorial Medal**

for early career scientists by application

This award acknowledges persons who have made excellent contributions to neurochemistry / neuroscience research and training, often at the Postdoc level or a faculty. The candidate / applicant must be the life member of SNCI and below 40 years age. The awardee will be presented with a medal and citation.

Dr. B. Ramamurthy Oration Award by nomination (for Senior Medical practitioners)

Dr. B. Ramamurthi Oration Award honors medical professionals from various fields of neurochemistry / neuroscience / neurology / neurosurgery / neurophysician etc., who are medical practitioners and contributed significantly for the research and/or teaching. Both the nominee and the candidate must be the life members of SNCI.

Prof. K. Subba Rao Oration Award by nomination (for Senior scientists)

Prof. K. Subba Rao Oration Award honors SNCI life members who have made outstanding contributions to neurochemistry/neuroscience research and outreach at the University or at research institute level. Both the nominee and the candidate must be the life member of SNCI.

AWARDS

Life Time Achievement Award of SNC (nomination by the EC)

This award, our highest accolade, honours a Professor or scientist's innovative and pioneering discoveries in neurochemistry/ neuroscience across his or her career while mentoring good number of Ph.Ds/Post Docs and younger scientists. This award will be given to the SNCI life members who have made outstanding contributions to the field of neurochemistry/neuroscience research, outreach, and education about neuroscience through activities such as organizing conferences, workshops, knowledge translation activities like scientific outreach for the communities, etc typically at the university, or a research institute level.

All awards carry a citation and a memento. No travel support will be provided, however, the organizer of the annual conference will be requested to provide local hospitality for the awards listed in the serial numbers 4, 5 awardees.

CONDITIONS:

- The primary nominator must be an SNCI life member in good standing.
- The candidate must be an SNCI life member in good standing.
- Candidates are welcome from academia, research institutes, industry, government, or
- other organizational affiliations.
- No candidate may receive more than one award in any given year.
- The current President, Vice President, Secretaries, Treasurer and the (EC) Council are
- ineligible for the awards during their active tenure.

APPLICATION FORMAT

- Name of the Applicant ٠
- **SNCI** Life membership number
- Name of the proposer and membership number •
- Brief CV (2 pages) •
- Recent publications (maximum 3) •
- Brief summary of their contribution for the • Neurochemistry/neuroscience/fulfilling the
- criteria of the specific award •







Dr. G. M. Taori, a well known Neurophysician obtained his FRCP from Canada. Later he also worked in U.K in the **Neurology Department.** After he return to India, he joined Christian Medical College, Vellore where he was promoted as a professor of Neurology. In 1973, he returned to Nagpur to take up family responsibilities. He had keen desire to teach and undertake research in various Neurological disorders both infectious and non-infectious. He established Central India Institute of Medical **Sciences in Nagpur and had** great inclination to establish a research laboratory to have close collaborations with clinicians and research scientists. The institute is now actively involved in research work related to infections and noninfections Neurological and other metabolic diseases to fulfill the dream of late Dr. G. M. Taori.



Awardees of SNCI Conference

POSTER COMPETITION



PRIZE **Akash Mangal Waghade** Dept. of Anatomy, University of Madras





Karthikeyan Selvarasu Dept. of Animal Biology, University of Hyderabad





S. K. Venkate Manjari Dept. of Animal Biology, University of Hyderabad



ORAL COMPETITION



st PRIZE **Praiwal Desai** Goa University Goa





PRIZE Aditya Undru COMB Hyderabad





PRIZE Harish M. Kawade Dept. of Pharmacy, Nagpur University, Nagpur











North-Eastern Hill University NEHU Campus, Shilong -793022 (Meghalaya)



SOCIETY FOR NEUROCHEMISTRY, INDIA (SNCI) BRAINS AT WORK TO KNOW HOW BRAIN WORKS

DST STUTI Training Program on Innovations in Healthcare Technologies

6th to 12th February, 2023 at NEHU, Shillong



Interaction of participants with resource persons

The Department of Biomedical Engineering, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong organized a week long training program under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Delhi sponsored Synergistic Training program Utilizing the Scientific and Technological Infrastructure (STUTI) from 6th to 12th February, 2023. The event is organized in collaboration with the Jamia Hamdard University, Delhi, Sophisticated Analytical Instrument Facility (SAIF), NEHU and the Society for Neurochemistry India (SNCI), India. The theme of the event "Innovations in Healthcare Technologies".

The workshop was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor I/c, NEHU Prof. D.K. Nayak, Prof. B. Panda, Honorary Director, NERC-ICSSR, NEHU, Prof. Prakash Babu, Secretary General, SNCI from University of Hyderabad, Prof. Suhel Pervez, Coordinator DST PMU, Jamia Hamdard University, Delhi, Prof. Prasenjit Biswas, Director, Office of International Affairs, NEHU, Prof. Iftekhar Hussain, Dean, SoT, NEHU, Shillong and Dr. Dinesh Bhatia, SAIF Centre Demonstration

Coordinator, DST STUTI, NEHU, Shillong along with other faculty members and staff of the University.

Close to 50 participants from all parts of the country have attended the DST STUTI Workshop. The aim of the week long Workshop was to provide participants with extensive knowledge with regards to the recent advancements in the development of healthcare technologies and how to translate research from laboratory to market or bench to bedside to make it customized and affordable. The key features of the Workshop lay emphasis on open scientific discussion with experts from academia, research organizations and industry, providing hands on laboratory training session with presentation of participants through symposia and group meetings and direct interactions with experts from Industry.

In his opening remarks, Prof. Hussain apprised participants about the role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare. He emphasized how they are changing the landscape in development of smart low cost medical devices in



Speech by Prof. Suhel Pervez DST STUTI Coordinator

Resource person interactive talk 9

Resource person interactive talk







healthcare which could revolutionize the field of healthcare. Prof. Suhel Parvez, apprised the participants about the role of STUTI programme being funded by the Department of Science and Technology for capacity building and enhancing the available of manpower resources in the country. Prof. Prakash Babu, University of Hyderabad stressed on the activities of the SNCI since the early 1970s and how it has evolved to develop scientific temper in the field of neuroscience in the country. He informed the august gathering as to how they could seek benefits by joining the society and enhance their career objectives. Prof. B. Panda emphasized on the economic aspects which requires to be understood while carrying out development and design of healthcare technologies by evaluating cost versus benefits for the society at large. Prof. Prasenjit Biswas enlightened the participants about the role of Bioethics, neuroscience in understanding the varied types of neurological disorders affecting the society which are not properly reported. Prof. D.K. Nayak, Vice Chancellor I/c NEHU requested the participants to make full use of the opportunity presented and try to enhance their skills so that it could be transformed to societal outcome and benefit the end consumers. Dr. Dinesh Bhatia, Coordinator of the DST STUTI programme enlightened the participants about the objectives of the week long course and how it would be beneficial for the participants. The course involved visit to SAIF Centre, NEHU and demonstration with hands-on-sessions on employing modern analytical scientific equipments. The participants interacted with experts from academia, industry and trainers for enhancing their knowledge and skills. They were apprised with regards to innovations in healthcare, problems of industry and how to address them.









Activities of Jamia Hamdard, Delhi Chapter



A ONE DAY NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON "Neurochemical Legacy of Neurological Disorders : Brainstorming of Novel Approaches"

Date : 9th March, 2022



Venue : Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi

The SNCI Delhi Local Chapter organised a one day national symposium on "**Neurochemical Legacy of Neurological Disorders: Brainstorming of Novel Approaches**" on 9th March 2022. The inaugural function was attended by Chief Guest Prof. (Dr.) Subrata Sinha-AIIMS New Delhi, Guest of HonorProf. (Dr.) P. Prakash Babu – University of Hyderabad and was presided by Honorable Vice Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard Prof. (Dr.) M. Afshar Alam. About 46 participants from various Universities attended the workshop. Apart from that 56 participants were from the Jamia Hamdard Campus.

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The symposium emphasized the demand of escalating the assimilated findings to be particularly and effectively exploited in the battle of unconquered brain health issues including the themes as under.

- Neurological Disorders
- Neuro-oncology
- ComputationalNeurobiology
- Neurotoxicology
- Neuro Immunology
- Neurochemistry
- Learning and Memory

The registration for the conference was done through an online portal. On-spot registrations were also done at the time of the conference.. To ensure ease of registration, Google forms were used as the medium for online registration, along with the conventional registration form submission. Queries related to the registration and other conference details were promptly dealt with through fast email responses from the organizing team of the conference.

Eminent speakers were invited to deliver lectures in their areas of specialization including Dr. Suman Jain, AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr.



Sushil Jha, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Prof. (Dr.) Pravir Kumar Jha, Delhi Technological University, New Delhi, Dr. A.V. Bala, SERB, New Delhi, Dr.HeenaTabassum, ICMR Hqrs., New Delhi and Mr. Lalit Ambastha, Patentwire, New Delhi.

27 Posters were evaluated for the Poster Awards based on scientific content, presentation, poster organization and overall impression/quality. The results are as under:

1st Prize :	Medha Kaushik, Jamia Hamdard (Prize money - Rs. 3000)
2nd Prize :	Shahnawaz Ahmad, Jamia Hamdard (Prize money - Rs. 2500)
3rd Prize :	Md. Gulam Jilani, Aliah University (Prize money - Rs.2000)

Consolation Prizes

- 1. Nisha, SCLS, Jamia Hamdard (Prize money-Rs. 1000)
- 2. Farah Deeba, SPER, JamiaHamdard (Prize money-Rs. 1000)
- 3. Saurabh Mittal, SPER, Jamia Hamdard (Prize money-Rs. 1000)

ORAL PRESENTATION:

09 Oral presentations were evaluated for the Young Investigator Oral Awards on the basis of scientific content, presentation, organization and overall impression/quality.

Oral Presentation Results

- 1st Prize : **Dr. Pooja Kaushik** (Prize money Rs. 3000)
- 2nd Prize : **Ms. Archana** (Prize money Rs. 2500)
- 3rd Prize : (Prize money Rs. 2000)

Consolation Prize for Oral Presentation

1. Ms. Anwesha Das (Prize money - Rs. 1000)



Organizing Secretary : Prof. (Dr.) Suhel Parvez Department of Toxicology, School of Chemical and Life Sciences, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi - 62





DST - STUTI HANDS ON TRAINING PROGRAMME Organized by SNCI DELHI LOCAL CHAPTER AND JAMIA HAMDARD 10th to 16th March 2022















The Department of Science & Technology under the aegis of Synergistic Training Programme Utilizing the Scientific & Technological Infrastructure (DST-STUTI), sponsored one-week Hands on training programme on Synergistic Approach of Alternative Models in Toxicological Research, which was organized from 10th to 16th March-2022, by the Department of Toxicology, JamiaHamdard, New Delhi, project management unit (PMU). The DST-STUTI Scheme is intended to provide training to human resource and its capacity building through open access to science and technology infrastructure across the country in departments funded under various DST schemes like DST-FIST, PURSE, SATHI. This event was aimed at providing hands-on training and capacity building by training doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows. Young faculty members also benefitted from this program. Efforts were made to explore "Synergistic Approach of Alternative Models in Toxicological Research" in an elaborative manner. Moreover, it enabled the budding researchers and professionals to develop better understanding and familiarization with the available resources/scientific equipment supported by the Govt. of India. 30 participants were shortlisted based on their credentials which included graduate, post-graduate, research scholars and faculty members.

The workshop started with the inaugural function at convention centre of JamiaHmadard on 10th March, 2022. The inaugural function was attended by many distinguished dignitaries viz; Shri S.S Kohli, Head, R&D Division, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India as the chief guest and as keynote speaker.

The main goal of the workshop was to disseminate knowledge of various models utilised for solving research problems as well as their applications in toxicology, both theoretically and practically. The different alternative models that were highlighted were the chicken embryo, cell culture, Drosophila, and C.elegans. Additionally, a systematic approach was taken during the workshop to cover hands-on training on a variety of advanced instruments used in contemporary fundamental science research, including High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), Transmission electron microscopy (TEM), Nanoparcticle magnetic resonance (NMR), Live cell imaging, Fluorescence Microscopy, and BD-FACS (Fluroscence activated cell sorting).

The resource persons gave a series of basic lectures on Alternative models in Toxicology to get attendees prepared for the hands-on practical sessions. The lecture topics addressed the underlying ideas and practises necessary for usage of alternate models and were pertinent to the participants' needs. During these seven days, distinguished scientists from renowned institutions across the nation were invited to present talks on a wide range of topics. Speakers include Dr. Md Imtaiyaz Hasan, Jamia Millia Islamia, Dr. Yasir Hasan Siddiqui, Aligarh Muslim University, Dr. Aamir Nazir, CSIR-CDRI Lucknow, Prof. Nilanjan Saha, Jamia Hamdard, Dr. Sumit Aggarwal, ICMR Headquarter, New Delhi, Dr. Heena Tabassum, ICMR Headquarter, New Delhi, Dr. Deepti Aggarwal, Lady Harding, Prof. (Dr.) S. Raisuddin, Jamia Hamdard, Prof. (Dr.) Pravir Kumar, DTU, Dr. Somenath Gatak, Carl Zeiss India, Dr. Rizwanul Haque, CUSB, Bihar, Dr. Binu Ramachandran, Calicut University, Dr. Shruti Vishnoi, Toxminds India Consulting Pvt Ltd and Dr. Vinay Gupta, BD FACS, Jamia Hamdard.





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DST STUTI HANDS ON TRAINING PROGRAMME ON Understanding Neurological Disorders : Technical Approaches and Advancements



Organised by JAMIA HAMDARD IN COLLABORATION WITH SNCI Date : 20th to 26thDecember 2022 Venue : Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi



ABOUT DST STUTI TRAINING PROGRAM

Synergistic Training Program utilizing the Scientific and Technological infrastructure (STUTI) is a two-fold program and is designed to create awareness among school students by means of short training and popular science events and capacity building training program for Scientists, Professors, Ph.D. Scholars and Post Doc Fellows involved in research areas for maximal utilization of the existing facilities in the country. The department of Medical Elementology and Toxicology is one of the few departments in India having full – fledged academic programme at Undergraduate/ Postgraduate and Doctoral levels in Toxicology. The week long training programme on "Understanding Neurological Disorders: Technical Approaches and Advancements" was conducted from 20th to 26th December 2022. Participants benefited from the Expert Lectures and Hands On Training.

Elaborative Information was imparted to the participants on the following Domain:

- Development of Rodent Neuronal Injury Models
- Exploring Neurobehavioral Paradigms
- Learning and Memory
- Drug Discovery, Development & Neuroprotection in Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Application of Sophisticated Techniques used in Neurosciences

The workshop imparted both theoretical and practical knowledge of molecular techniques used for addressing research problems as well as their applications in molecular medicine. In addition to hands-on exposure to surgical models of neurodegenerative diseases on animals, the different techniques of molecular biology including Molecular docking, Electron Microscopy, Western Blotting, RT-PCR, and Flow Cytometry were covered during the workshop in a systematic manner. Moreover, the workshop aimed to enhance the knowledge on the most efficient use of materials, reagents and interpretation of the results

This programme gathered attendance from 26 states of PAN India and 30 participants were shortlisted based on their credentials.

The inaugural function was held at Convention Centre, Jamia Hamdard. The function was attended by **Dr. Prof. Rajpal Singh Kashyap** – Director, Research and Sr. Scientist, CIIMS Nagpur (Chief Guest), **Dr. Arindam Bhattacharyya** – Scientist 'F', DST, Govt. of India (Guest of Honor), **Prof. (Dr.) AfsharAlam** – Vice Chancellor (Jamia Hamdard), **Prof. (Dr.) S. Raisuddin** – Dean SCLS, **Prof. (Dr.) Suhel Parvez** – Coordinator DST-STUTI PMU, Jamia Hamdard.

Valedictory Programme : The valedictory of the 7 days training program was conducted on 26th December, 2022 at the Convention Centre, Jamia Hamdard. The program was presided over by the presence of Hon'ble Chief Guest Prof. D. K. Agarwal, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Malkapur, Maharashtra and Hon'ble Guest of Honour Dr. Pratishtha Pandey, Scientist F, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India. Participation certificates were awarded to the participants. In addition, few participants gave testimonials about their experience and learning during the training program. Apart from the technical and scientific sessions, a soulful Qawwali by Hussain Nizami brothers was organized in the evening after the valedictory session, which gave the cosmopolitan audience a taste of North Indian culture.

Organizing Secretary : **Prof. (Dr.) Suhel Parvez** Department of Toxicology, School of Chemical andLife Sciences, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi - 62



SESSIONS DELIVERED BY EMINENT SPEAKERS

- . Prof. Rajpal S. Kashyap, Central India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur Title : Blood-Brain Barrier: Please look at the door
- 2. Dr. Dinesh Bhatia, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong.
- Title : Study effects of neuro-modulatory techniques in the assessment and management of children with disability
- 3. **Prof. (Dr.) Pravir Kumar,** Delhi Technological University.
- Title : Ubiquitin proteasome system and PTMs in neuronal disorders

 4. Dr. Imtaiyaz Hasan, Jamia Millia Islamia
- Title: Targeting Microtubule affinity-regulating kinase 4 (MARK4) signaling in the development of effective therapeutics against neurodegenerative diseases
- 5. Prof. Sushil Jha, Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Title : Sleep, Memory, and Ageing
- 6. **Prof. (Dr.) Raisuddin,** Jamia Hamdard
- Title : Biomarkers of Neuroinflammation 7. Dr. Somenath Ghatak, Carl Zeiss India
- Title : Application of microscopy in neuroscience research
- 8. Dr. Vinay Gupta, BD FACS Title : BD-FACS
- 9. Dr. Ozair Alam, Jamia Hamdard Title : UPLC-MS: A powerful technology and its application in Neuroscience Research
- 10. Dr. Heena Tabassum, ICMR
- Title : Modulation of Neuronal injury induced Mitochondrial Alterations: A Drug Repurposing Perspective
- 11. Dr. Sumit Aggarwal, ICMR
- Title : Funding, Ethics, Research Grant Proposals 12. Dr. Shruti Vishnoi, ToxMinds India Consulting Pvt. Ltd.
- Title : Adverse Outcome Pathway Framework in Neurotoxicity
- 13. Dr. Yasir Hasan Siddiqui, Aligarh Muslim University Title: Importance of Drosophila as a research model to study the neurodegenerative disorders
- 14. Prof. D. K. Agarwal, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Malkapur, Maharashtra Title : Importance of IPR with Special Emphasis on Medical Domain
- 15. Dr. lype Cherian, Institute of Neurosciences, KIMS, Malkapur Title : Innovations in Neuro Surgery



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A One Day National Symposium on "Advances in Deciphering Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Modern Neuroscience" Date : 13th March, 2023 Venue : Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi





SNCI Delhi Chapter organised a One Day Symposium on 13th March 2023 on "Advances in Deciphering Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Modern Neuroscience". The symposium emphasized the demand of escalating the assimilated findings to be particularly and effectively exploited in the battle of unconquered brain health issues. It aimed at highlighting the issues and challenges faced by researchers in exploring brain disorders and their mechanisms through rigorous discussions and talks, and provide a compact platform for brainstorming dynamic approaches. Students were exposed to multidisciplinary approaches to understand the most complex organ of the human body. It was an enriching forum where students and leading scientists from neuroscience field will discussed and brainstormed in order to drive strategies for effective management of neurological disorders, which is the bane of modern society despite all our advances in basic research and applied therapeutics. The event would brought together leading scientists from academia across the country to deliberate upon new tools, new approaches and methods in the implementation of improved solutions relating to neurodegenerative disorders. The event brought awareness, capacity building and brainstorming of novel approaches in neurological disorders and innovation in the field of neuroscience. Abstracts from delegates were invited for themes such as Neurological Disorder, Neuro - oncology, Computational Neurobiology, Neurotoxicology, Neuro immunology, Neurochemistry, Learning and Memory.

The inaugural function was attended by Chief Guest Dr.

Nabendu Shekhar Chatterjee - Scientist 'G' & Head, BMS Division, ICMR, New Delhi, Guests of HonorProf. (Dr.) P. Prakash Babu – University of Hyderabad, Dr. Rajpal Singh Kashyap – Director Research CIIMS Nagpur and was presided by Honorable Vice Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard Prof.(Dr.) M. Afshar Alam. 12 Eminent speakers across the country were invited to deliver lectures in their areas of specialization.

Themes for Oral/Poster Presentations include:

- Neurological Disorders
- Neuro-oncology
- Computational Neurobiology
- Neurotoxicology
- Neuro Immunology
- Neurochemistry
- Learning and Memory

Invited Speakers of the Symposium include:Dr.Muzamil Ahmad, CSIR-IIM, Srinagar, Prof. C. SaravanaBabu, JSS-AHER, Mysuru, Dr.AnwitaMudiraj, University of Hyderabad, Telangana, Dr.AamirNazir, CSIR- CDRI Lucknow, Dr.Yasir Hasan Siddiqui, AMU, Aligarh, Dr.Binu Ramachandran, University of Calicut, Kerala, Prof.RajatSandhir, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Dr. Shanti N. Dessai, Goa University, Goa, Dr.RashmiAmbastha, Delhi Technological University, New Delhi, Dr. A.V. Balachandar, SERB, New Delhi, Dr. Manoj Sharma, WinMedicarePvt. Ltd, New Delhi and Mr.AkshayJawale, EvalueservePvt. Ltd.



Organizing Secretary : **Prof. (Dr.) Suhel Parvez** Department of Toxicology, School of Chemical and Life Sciences, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi - 62

Joint Organizing Secretary : **Prof. (Dr.) Mohammad Akram** Department of TahaffuziWaSamajiTibb, School of Unanni Medical Education and Research, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi - 62







Activities of Mysore Chapter

One Day Workshop on

"Animal models for Behavioural and Memory Research; Data Acquisition and Interpretation" 52nd Annual Conference of Indian Pharmacological Society

In association with Society for Neurochemistry India (SNCI)

Date : 22nd February, 2023

Venue : Centre for Experimental Pharmacology and Toxicology (CEPT), JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru

Time : 10.00 am to 4.30 pm



Prof. Prakash Babu delivering the talk



Prof. Prakash Babu presenting Prize to the winner

One of the pre conference workshops of 52ndAnnual Conference of Indian Pharmacological Society conducted in association with SNCI. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Prakash Babu, Secretary General, SNCI, & Senior Professor, University of Hyderabad and the Prof. Saravana Babu C, Joint Secretary, SNCI, & Professor, JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru.

The morning session of the workshop began with a lecture on "Introduction to animal models" by Prof. Saravana Babu C, followed by the visit to the Central Animal facility at JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru. After the tea break, the talk on the topic "Biobehavioural and Memory Research" by Prof. Prakash Babu and "Demonstration of Pain Assessment on animal models (Hot Immersionand Vonfrey test)" by Dr. Ashitosh Kumar, NIPER, Mohali, respectively.

Afternoon session covered the practical aspects of memory and behavioural assessment models using Morris water maze, Open-field test, Elevated plus maze, Novel Object Recognition Test and Vertical and horizontal grid test. Following this, data acquisition and interpretation using ANYMAZE software was demonstrated by Mr. Tousif A.H, Research Scholar, JSS College of Pharmacy, JSS AHER, Mysuru.

The learning experience of the delegates was assessed by conducting pre-workshop and post-workshop evaluation and the candidate with the highest score was identified as the best performer and appreciated with a certificate and memento. The speakers made the session



Activities of, HQ, University of Hyderabad

IBRO School at University of Hyderabad

The International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO) and Asia-Pacific Regional Committee (APRC) school was organised at School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad, T.S., India from 12th to 16th December, 2022 on "Understanding Pathophysiology of Pain and Cognition using Animal Experiments" was jointly organized by Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI) initiated by Prof. Prakash Babu Phanithi, chairperson of IBRO-APRC-SNCI school. The participants are selected from India, Nepal, Iran, Malaysia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Several lectures were arranged by the experts in the neuroscience field from India and neighbouring countries. In this

neuroscience field from India and neighbouring countries. In this programme, participants were exposed to many lectures and demonstrations by experts in the field, as well as hands-on training in various rodent behavioural tests, stereotaxic apparatus, patch clamp technique, and a demonstration on a surgical procedure to study neuropathic pain in rat peripheral nerve. Furthermore, the IBRO-APRC-SNCI organising committee organised a city local excursion for all participants to visit ICMR-National Institutes of Nutrition (NIN), CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) Hyderabad and the amenities they give through a few talks and demonstrations.

A bit about Pineal Gland, the tool for "Known to Unknown"

"There is no scientific study more vital to man than the study of his own brain, perhaps,by keeping the pineal gland operational, which is a receiver of core knowledge, strength and inspiration from Universe in terms of energy, frequency and vibration for exploring the secrets" (-Francis Crick, Nikola Tesla, Particia Churchland and Edgar Cayce)

SNCI newsletter-2023

Pineal gland also named as conarium, epiphysis cerebri, is a tiny structure which is localized in the geometric centre of our brain. The name is derived from its shape, which is similar to that of a pinecone (Latin:Pinea). In adult humans, it is about 0.8 cm (0.3 inch) long and weighs approximately 0.1 gram (100-150mg). In the history of scientific realm, intense research about this enigmatic structure was consciously avoided perhaps owing to its association with various "Spiritual Phenomena". Pineal gland (PG) bathed by CSF, which is located behind the habenular commissure and behind the third cerebral ventricle in the brain-midline near the corpora quadrigemina.PG originates from dorsal diencephalic neuroepithelium, and develops as an evagination of neuroepithelium of dorsal diencephalon. The gland can grow in size until 2 years of age since birth beyond which remains constant upto20 years of age. It was the first gland to develop around 3' week of intra uterine life (IUL), yet ironically, functionally attributed lastly. It was named by a French Philosopher as "seat of the soul" (René Descartes, 1662) and was once called the "third eye," which originated for many reasons, ranging from its location deep in the center of the brain to its connection not only to day light but its intimate association with the coronal light, spiritual consciousness, divine intelligence, which is of course not purely scientific, yet, an amazing matter of spiritual interest. Globally, irrespective of the geographical zones, across the various cultures from Buddhism to Jainism, from Chinese to Taoism, Western or Eastern, PG has been regarded as a tool for clairvoyance or intuition.

The gland has rich adrenergic innervation and the gland regulates every other endocrine gland of our body. Further, it is versatile in governing several features as well; be it thermoregulation, piezoelectricity and high/low emotions etc. It is worth knowing certain unique features of PG, as of now, it is the one and only unpaired endocrine gland unlike its counterparts. Another uniqueness of the PG is, unlike the other regions of brain, it is not encapsulated by the blood-brain barrier. Yet another unique feature, which, however needscorroboration, is that it is said to harbour mesenchymal-like stem cells, a rare feature of brain. Histologically, PG consists of cells called pinealocytes and supporting cells including glial cells, interstitial cells, perivascular phagocytes, pineal neurons, and peptidergic neuron-like cells.As everybody is aware of PG, it touches the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) anatomically and forms SCN-melatonin loop.Apart from well-known hormonal features including melatonin and serotonin, PG regulates the synthesis of neurosteroids and neuropeptide (Pituitary Adenylate Cyclase Activating Polypeptide, PACAP). The author of this article had investigated the PACAP, an emergency response peptide in stressed rodents and human subjects and surprisingly found significantly elevated levels of PACAP, in both of these models which was reported to potently activate catecholamine secretion and biosynthesis in the adrenal medulla and later to be present in neurons innervating the adrenal medullainfluencing the stress response.Some of EC members of our SNCI have also investigated about this interesting gland in context to their own area of specialization.

PG is merely a photosensory organ in fishes (lamprey, cartilaginous bony fishes), amphibians, turtles, lizards and birds, and is relatively autonomous by exhibiting direct photosensitivity towards light. However, the pineal organ of mammals is indirectly under the control of light-dark cycle & also impact upon higher mental faculties.

Pineal gland: kidney of brain?

Pineal gland has very rich supply of blood vessels that ensures blood flow at 4 mL/min/g, and it stands next to the kidney in blood supply. Similar to the kidney, the pineal gland participates in the blood filtration by sharing the similar vasculature structure to that of the renal glomerulus, the filtrating apparatus of the kidney. PG is rich in fenestrated capillaries that has large pericapillary spaces and numerous pineal canaliculi, which facilitates large molecules including peptides. and proteins to freely enter pineal canaliculi. The network with openings into the pineal recess favours the transport of molecules from the pineal gland to the CSF or vice versa.

Pineal gland: bone of brain?

The accumulation of calcium in pineal gland is similar to that found in bones and teeth as calcium carbonate (calcite). The main component of pineal gland calcification(PGC) is hydroxyapatite, which is the major structural element of vertebrate bone. The Ca/P molar ratio in pineal concretions is similar to the enamel and dentine and thus, it could be speculated that the nature and crystallinity of the inorganic tissue of the pineal concretions is a physiological process rather than pathological ossification type with characteristics between enamel and dentine.

It was reported that several physiological conditions could alter the structure of pineal gland. The composition of PGC which is also known as corpora arenacea, is calcium and phosphorus with a lower percentage of magnesium and strontium. In addition, the concentric laminated pineal concretions are frequent observed to be structurally similar to osteons, the major unit of compact bone. PGC increases with age and it is behind that there exists a relationship between PGC and various pathological states including mental illnesses and disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, primary brain tumors, ischemic stroke, migraine & sleep disorders. It is, however, difficult to agree with such a conviction and under normal physiological conditions. Generally, men exhibit higher degree of PGC than women. Though, there is no vivid explanations on PGC variations among males and females, studies suggest that there exists a link between gonadotropins and melatonin.

The wellness of this, still, mysterious gland of brain and hence the well-being of an individual irrespective of the age can be maintained by simple and day-to-day life practices. The maintenance of the pineal gland health is very crucial because it is linked with razor-sharpness of brain, especially beneficial for students, decision making power, graceful aging for adults, to gain abundance of manifestations of what we desire and also for discovering the true facts that are hidden in the universe. Apart from yoga (Balasana and Trikonasana*), meditation, which is very-well proven to increase theta waves as evidenced by fMRI, exercise, eating healthy, there are certain user-friendly tips for maintenance of health of PG.

- Rotation of eyes clockwise and anticlockwise for 12 times
- Focussing the eyeball towards the centre of eyebrows which is considered as ajna chakra (that consist of two petals representing two cerebral hemisphere) within the closed eyes.
- Bringing attention to the centre of the forehead after few tapping.
- Bhastrika pranayama and Bhramari pranayama*
- Last but not the least, minimization of modern-day exposure to blue light from mobile and every household electronic gadgets, at least one and a half an hour before bed time, if at all our goal is to maximize our potential by safeguarding the PG.

All these bulleted tips are meant for the normal functioning of PG. The article had not discussed any of the in-depth practices, as it is very dangerous to activate PG whose secretions can either the beneficial or extremely detrimental, if not properly performed. Thus, attainment of balanced state of PG is desirable before going ahead for the stimulated version of PG for appreciating known consciousness to unknown subconsciousness and unknown higher consciousness. Our ancient Indians, had meticulously mastered this skill full art of instigation that led to mind-blowing scientific discoveries without any external aids (laboratory, instruments), and also inventions from such discoveries in versatile domains ranging from astronomy, anatomy, metallurgy, embryogenesis, pathology, healing, Universe etc.,

Modern man could not even understand the infinite potential of PG, as during the course of evolution, it is conceived that the PG has become vestigial unlike the ancient scholar's PG, owing to life-style modifications (even fluoride content of paste is said to affect PG). Yet, it is strongly believed that modern neuroscientist would definitely 'open-up' the so-called "third eye" for knowing the unknown inscrutabilities of brain function, in future, for the benefit of human kind.

[#]Quotes slightly modified and summarized *Under guidance





SNCI Local Chapters





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Membership of SNCI



Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI)

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Proteomic facility



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- Carbapenem multiplex PCR

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- Listeria PCR/IgM/Culture
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- M.bovis PCR/IgM
- Scrub Typhus IgM test
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- Clostridium Difficile Culture
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- Covid IgG-IgM test (Sero-surveillance)
- Anti SARS Covid-2 IgG ELISA test (Sero-
- surveillance)

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peer reviewed journals: 136

Medical Biotechnology

DMIMS: 06 (03 ongoing)

Hospitals/Pathologies: 35

Training and Workshops:

10. Paper presented in conferences: 150

11. Policy Document: 3 (in process)

Granted: 06

In process: 02

RTMNU: 09

Linkages:

National: 52

International: 09

Companies: 15

Diagnostics: 07

Academics: 36

Conferences: 10

Dissertations:180

Outsourcing:60

Workshops:30

Trainings:70

Services: 13

Internship: 5

Filed: 03

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Anaerobic Culture Facility

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation project on Metagenomics for undiagnosed Meningoencephalitis cases
- DBT INSACOG Project on Genomic Surveillance for SARS-Cov2 in India 3. Patents:

Publications in national and international journals

Clinical Microbiology, Clinical Biochemistry and

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10-12th November 2022 at IIIT, Village Waranga, PO Dongargaon, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India Jointly Organized by Dr. G. M. Taori Central India Institute of Medical Sciences



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