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for Circulation
among Members

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Clinical Biochemists of India**

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All articles in this News Bulletin reflects
the views of the respective authors.



Editorial

Dear members,
Greetings.

Once again we bring you the new issue for the year 2011. Apart from the report of the highly successful ACBICON 2010 which was held at Mumbai, this issue is important because it gives members complete information about the different Orations & awards that are an integral part of our conferences and how to apply for them.

With the next ACBICON 2011 date being finalized from 3-6 December 2011 all of you should get their head down to compete for so many prestigious awards that are up for grab.

Dr Shyamli Pal has got together some interesting case presentations. I request our esteemed members, please make this News Bulletin a interactive forum. Please contribute your thoughts, problems, case that had you scratching your head to this magazine. Didn't you have a single problem in your QC ? Use the QC forum to help solve your problems.

It is indeed sad that out of more than 4000 members not one of you have any comments or a point of discussion to send to the editorial team of ACBI News Bulletin. Please don't treat it like a tea mat !! Wake up fellow members. Write in.

Do keep in touch!

Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha
GENERAL SECRETARY & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dr. K.R. Prasad
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| • Association of Clinical Biochemists of India : Executive Council 2011 | 2 |
| • State/Union Territory Representatives, 2011 | 3 |
| • Annual Report, 2010 | 5 |
| • ACBICON, 2010 : A Report | 8 |
| • Obituary : Dr. Reba Chatterjee | 11 |
| • Minutes of the 37th Pre-GB Executive Council Meeting | 12 |
| • Thought for the Day : General Body Meeting-Purpose and Scope | 14 |
| • Minutes of the 36th General Body Meeting | 14 |
| • Minutes of the 38th Post-GB Executive Council Meeting | 16 |
| • ACBI Travel Fellowship | 16 |
| • ACBI QC Forum | 17 |
| • ACBI QC Forum : Proceedings of 'Lunch with Experts' | 18 |
| • NOTICE : Nominations invited for Oration | 22 |
| • NOTICE : Oral Presentation of Award Papers | 23 |
| • Application for ACBI Best Paper / Poster Award / Quiz Award | 25 |
| • NOTICE : Fellowship of ACBI | 26 |
| • Clinical Case History | 27 |
| • Winners of ACBI Fellowships and Awards, 2010 | 28 |
| • ACBI Benevolent Fund : An Appeal | 29 |
| • Branch Reports | 30 |

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“The greatest mistake in the treatment of diseases is that there are physicians for the body and physicians for the soul, although the two cannot be separated.”~Plato

•••

“Body and soul cannot be separated for purposes of treatment, for they are one and indivisible. Sick minds must be healed as well as sick bodies.”~C. Jeff Miller

Annual Report, 2010

ACBICON 2009, the Annual Conference of ACBI at Kochhi

The first activity we had after the presentation of last years report was the 36th. Annual National conference of the association of clinical biochemists of India, held during November 6 -8 2009 amongst the lush green surroundings at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi, Kerala. You will be happy to learn that the Medical Council of India had allotted Credit hours for delegates attending the conference, which was, 2 hours for Professional Course, 2 hours for Workshop/CME and 5 hours for all 3 days of the conference. I must congratulate Dr Vasudevan for this.

Three Pre-conference events included a Professional course, CME and 6 workshops conducted on 3rd. & 4th. November 2009.

The Professional course was attended by 75 participants. Prof. D.M. Vasudevan, Prof. S. Srikumari, Dr V. Parmeshwaran, Dr Jayshree Bhattacharya, Dr Nibhriti Das, Dr Udayan Ray, Dr Shaymli Pal, Dr MVR Reddy, Dr B.K. Gupta, Dr C.V. Anand and Dr T. Malati were the resource persons in the course.

The Pre-conference Workshop that was attended by 200 delegates had 6 parallel sessions on different subjects was covered by Dr Kannan Vaidyanathan, Dr T. S. Ganesan, Dr K K Menon, Dr Claude Bernard, Dr Sujatha Bhaskaran, Dr S. Krishnan, Dr R Krishnaprasad, Dr A. S. Kanagasabapathy and others.

The Pre-conference CME had 60 delegates who listened to a wide variety of speakers who spoke on the latest development in clinical biochemistry.

Professor T. Venkatesh, Professor-Emeritus, St. John's Medical College, Bangalore & Principal Advisor, Quality Council of India delivered the **Awadesh Saran Memorial Oration** on "Lead poisoning : current status in developing countries & the global perspective".

Dr. T. S. Ganesan, Chairman, Cancer Institute & Institute of Molecular Medicine, AIMS, Kochi delivered **K.L. Gupta Memorial Oration** on "Tyrosine Kinase : from basics science to therapy."

Seth G. S. Medical College & KEM Hospital Oration was given by Dr Shanti Kumar Nair, Dean of Research & Head, DST Centre for Nano-technology, Amrita

University, Kochi. He spoke on "Regenerative Nanomedicine : Prospect for diagnostics & Therapy using nanomaterials".

Dr Jayshree Bhattacharya, Director-Professor, Deptt. of Biochemistry, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi delivered the **Mrs. & Dr G. P. Talwar Oration** on the Topic "Endothelial dysfunction with special reference to eNOS gene polymorphism: Another possible mechanism for CAD risk in post-menopausal women".

The **T. N. Pattabiraman Oration** was delivered by Prof. Brig. M.M. Arora, Prof. & Head, Dept of Biochemistry, AFMC, Pune on "Laboratory overload : How to optimize." Dr T. Vijayakumar, Director (retd) Centre for Health Sciences, University of Calicut, gave the **Taranath Memorial Popular Lecture Oration**.

Apart from the large number of eminent speakers from India, the Kochi conference also attracted many International speakers. Dr Samuel Vasikaran was the APFCB Traveling Lecturer and spoke on "The Role of bone turnover markers in clinical management of Osteoporosis". Dr Ghassan Shannan (Syria) was the IFCC-Abbot Visiting Lecturer and gave a talk on "Total Quality Management in Health Laboratories".

We also had amongst us the President of the World Association of Societies of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine (WASPalm), Prof. Michael Oellerich, Dr. Angelo Azzi, President, IUBMB (USA), Dr. Claude Bernard (Australia), Dr Ross Barnard (Australia), Dr. Paivi Laitinen (Finland), Dr Endang Hoyaranda, Dr Udayan Ray, Dr Lindsay Brown and Dr David Torres. Kochi also hosted an International symposia on High Altitude Disorders in which we had eminent speakers from Bolivia a truly high altitude country !! Dr Zubeita Castillo & Dr Gustavo Calleja from LaPaz, Bolivia.

On the evening of 5th. November, we all enjoyed a lively culture programme put together by students of AIMS, Kochi, as well as a mesmerizing Kathakali performance. On the 6th all delegates sat thru an enchanting evening of Bharatnatyam, Kalaripayattu show, Theyyam and also witnessed a spectacular fire-work show after which the delegates let their hair down and enjoyed a lively DJ performance.

The Industrial Exhibition saw a large number of Corporate Houses displaying their latest offerings.

Office Bearers of ACBI elected for 2010

- President: **Dr D. M. Vasudevan** (Kochi)
- Vice-Presidents: (1) **Dr Sucheta P. Dandekar** (Mumbai), and (2) **Dr C. V. Anand** (Coimbatore)
- Advisor: **Dr K. P. Sinha**
- General-Secretary: **Dr Rajiv Ranjan Sinha** (Patna)
- Joint Secretaries: (1) **Dr Harshvardhan Singh** (Delhi), and (2) **Dr T. Vijayakumar** (Mallappuram)
- Treasurer: **Dr K.R. Prasad** (Patna).

Regional Meetings

There were quite a large number of scientific meetings / workshops arranged by the State / Regional Chapter throughout 2010. The major ones were :

1. ACBI Working Group meeting for the Professional Course was held in Delhi on 21st & 22nd February 2010. The meeting was presided over by the President, ACBI, Dr D. M. Vasudevan. A final decision was taken to start the **Diplomate of Indian Board of Clinical Chemistry (DIBCC)** under ACBI. A board was constituted to be named as the **Indian Board of Clinical Biochemistry**, to manage this course. The following were named as members of the Board:

- Advisor Dr K. P. Sinha
- Director - Dr D M Vasudevan
- Joint Director - Dr Praveen Sharma
- Registrar Dr Jayshree Bhattacharya
- Members: (a) Dr Sucheta Dandekar, (b) Dr M.V.R. Reddy, (c) Dr V. Mallika, (d) Dr T. Venkatesh, (e) Dr S. Selvakumar, (f) Dr T. F. Ashavaid

The eligibility criteria and other details for this course has been put up on the ACBI website and also an abridged version has been printed in the ACBI News Bulletin, September issue.

2. Delhi Chapter of ACBI : Dr K. L. Ramesh & Dr Neera Sharma of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New delhi arranged a Symposia entitled "Recent Advances in clinical Diagnosis" on 9th. January 2010. Experts from different institutes of Delhi including scientific experts from corporate houses spoke on his occasion. Dr. K. K. Srivastav, Dr. K. K. Ajmani, Dr. K. Krishnan, Dr. L. M. Srivastava & Dr. Bhavani Singh. 90 delegates from most of the government & Private hospitals of Delhi attended the scientific programme.

3. ACBI Kerala Chapter and Amrita Institute conducted a National seminar cum workshop on Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine.

4. ACBI Tamil Nadu Chapter : Dr R. Arivazhagan, State

Representative of Tamil Nadu organized Two CME programmes at Cancer Institute, Adayar, Chennai during the year. The 1st CME on Clinical Biochemistry had talk on Molecular Diagnosis & Markers in cancer cervix, Monoclonal Gamopathies: Daignosis & Management And Quality control & Pre & Post analytical errors in Laboratory Practice. The 2nd CME was held on 30th January 2010 with two main topics of Beta-2 intergrin & Cardioprotective signaling AND Obesity & dyslipidemia.

5. ACBI West Bengal Branch : Dr Shyamli Pal, State Representative organized a Chapter meeting on 7th April 2010 to discuss various aspects of Quality Control, QC management & Quality planning. AGM of the West Bengal Branch was also held where members elected Dr Ila Bhattacharya as President & Dr Shyamli Pal as Secretary for the year 2010-2011.

6. ACBI Punjab State Branch : Dr Mridula Mahajan, Prof & Head at Govt Medical College, Amritsar organized a CME programme with the theme as "Recent Advances in Laboratory Medicine". The CME was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Punjab. Apart from a plethora of eminent experts from different medical colleges & institutes of Punjab & Chandigarh, ACBI was represented by Dr. D.M. Vasudevan, President, Dr Rajiv R Sinha, General Secretary, Dr T. Venkatesh, Past- President & Dr. Praveen Sharma, Past President & Editor-in-chief of IJCB. A wide variety of topics were taken up to cover the whole gamut of laboratory medicine. The CME was accredited with 8 hours by the Punjab Medical Council.

7. ACBI Karnataka Branch : A CME on "Recent trends in Clinical Biochemistry" was held on 18th July 2010 at Bangalore, in the memory of the Late Dr. K. Taranath Shetty. A wide array of topics from CK-MB, Mass spectrometry, Measure of Uncertainty, Nephelometry & Point-of-Care-Testing. Dr T. N. Raghunath, Clinical Biochemists & Director, Education, Narayana Hrudayalaya, Bangalore coordinated the programme.

8. ACBI Jharkand Branch : Clinical Biochemists from Jharkand came together on 30th January 2010 to form the Jharkand Branch of ACBI with Dr Laxman Lal of MGM Medical college, Jamshedpur as the interim President. Subsequently, the Jharkand branch hosted the 6th East Zone Regional Conference & the 1st. Jharkand Branch conference on 27th & 28th. November 2010. More than a 100 delegates from Jharkand, Bihar, Orissa & West Bengal this meet which was held at M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur. Dr D. M. Vasudevan, President ACBI inaugurated the conference. Amongst the many speakers were Dr Praveen Sharma, Editor-in-Chief, IJCB, Dr Sucheta

Dandekar, Vice-President ACBI & a senior member of ACBI from Delhi, Dr. K. K. Srivastava. A GB meeting was also held and Dr Abhay Pratap (Bokaro) was elected President and Dr Vanita Lal was elected Secretary.

9. 12th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry : The 12th APCCB was held in Seoul, South Korea from 3rd to 7th October 2010. A total of 2000 delegates & visitors from 52 countries participated in the conference. From India, 29 delegates attended the congress and presented papers & posters. ACBI also put together a symposia on "Metabolic Syndrome" in which Dr D. M. Vasudevan, Dr Praveen Sharma, Dr M.V.R. Reddy, Dr Rajiv R. Sinha & Dr T. Malati spoke on different aspects of Metabolic syndrome affecting our population. It was heartening to note that 3 young scientists received the "Young Scientist Scholarship" to attend & present their work. Also 9 young delegates were recipient of the APFCB Travel Award. And to add feather to our cap, Dr Jasvinder Kaur from Chandigarh was awarded the Best Poster Award. I on behalf of ACBI congratulate Dr Jasvinder Kaur & other young scientists for keeping the flag of our country and ACBI flying high.

Senior members from ACBI have played a vital role from the time that APFCB was formed and continuing in this strong tradition, I am very happy to convey to you that the following ACBI members were elected to the APFCB council:

1. **Dr Elizabeth Frank**, Treasurer
2. **Dr Praveen Sharma**, Chairperson, Communication Division & Also Chief Editor of APFCB newsletter.
3. **Dr. M.V.R. Reddy**, Secretary, Communication Division
4. **Dr. Sucheta Dandekar**, Secretary, APFCB Scientific Division
5. **Dr D.M. Vasudevan**, Member, APFCB Education Committee.

I congratulate all of them for their selection for this prestigious post.

Awards

1. Every year ACBI awards Fellowship to distinguished members of the association on the basis of their merit and achievement. In the last year the Fellowship of ACBI (i.e.FACBI) was awarded to (1) **Dr Arun Raizada**, Senior Consultant, Medicity, Gurgaon and (2) **Dr Jayshree Bhattacharya**, Director-Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry, LadyHardinge Medical College, New Delhi.

2. ACBI has instituted **K.P.Sinha-P.S. Krishnan Award**

for Best Paper published in the Indian Journal of Clinical Biochemistry (IJCB). In 2009 this award was presented to **Priya Gururajan, Prema Gurumurthy, Pradeep Nayar, Sai Babu, A. Sarasbharti, Dolcie Victor & K.M. Cherian** of the K.M. Cherian Heart Foundation, Chennai.

3. **A.J. Thakur Award for Distinguished Services** was instituted by the family of the Late Shri A.J. Thakur, founder of Accurex Biomedicals, and is given to honor a senior member of ACBI who has made immense contribution to the growth of Clinical Biochemistry & Laboratory Medicine in India. This award for the year 2009 was presented to **Dr. B.C. Harinath**, Director, Jamnalal Bajaj Tropical Disease Research Centre, MGIMS, Wardha, who was also one of our distinguished Past President.

ACBI CMCEQ Programme

The ACBI-CMC External Quality Assurance Programme is being run smoothly by **Dr R. Selvakumar** and his team at C.M.C. Vellore. The Freeze-dried samples have gained wide acceptance and Dr Selvakumar's team is adding more parameters one by one. Thanks to Dr Selvakumar & the management of CMC Vellore for keeping this flagship project of ACBI moving smoothly.

Indian Journal of Clinical Biochemistry

Four IJCB issues have been released in time with much improvement in Quality with the involvement of Springer India Pvt. Ltd. Apart from publication & distribution, Springer will now also be printing the IJCB. The Editor-in-Chief, Dr Praveen Sharma and his editorial team must be commended for keeping the quality of IJCB at the highest level.

ACBI News Bulletin

Two issues of the News Bulletin have been released from ACBI Head office. This year there has been a change with the General Secretary taking over as the Editor-in-Chief of the news bulletin. To make the news bulletin more interactive, a new column has been started, QC Forum with **Dr A.S. Kanagasabapathy** as its coordinator. This is for members to clear any doubts on various aspects of Quality Control. I thank Ms. Roopa Gonsalves of Accurex for submitting an article on Cystain C—a new diagnostic test launched by them. More such articles are solicited from corporate members.

It has been a active year for the Association & it is heartening to note that many state branches are organizing CME & workshops. But still much more needs to be done to motivate other branches to organize educational activities.



ACBICON, 2010 : A Report

37th ACBICON, 2010

The 37th Annual National Conference of Association of Clinical Biochemists of India was hosted by Seth G.S. Medical College and KEM Hospital from 13th December to 15th December 2010 at World Trade Center, Cuff Parade, Mumbai. It was a five days event, beautifully segregated into pre conference workshops, CME & Professional course, orations, key notes, oral and poster presentations, quiz and lunch with experts.

A pre conference Professional Course in Clinical Chemistry was conducted by **Dr. T.F. Ashavaid** and **Dr. S.P. Dandekar** in P.D. Hinduja Hospital & Medical Research Centre, Mahim on 11th December 2010. **Dr. G. B. Daver**, Director, P.D. Hinduja Hospital & Medical Research Centre hosted the event and was the Chief Guest. This was followed by the inaugural speech on "Clinicians Dilemma in interpreting lab results" by **Dr. V. R. Joshi**. This was continued with a very informative speech given by **Dr. Sucheta Dandekar** on Preanalytical variation.

Dr. V. Parameshwaran discussed about Obesity markers. Importance of Cardiovascular risk factors in Ischemia and congestive cardiac failure was explained by **Dr. T.F. Ashavaid**. This was followed by very elaborate lectures by **Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy** and **Dr. T. Malati** on *Point of care testing and tumor markers respectively*.

Dr. R. Selvakumar discussed about the pitfalls in immunoassay. **Dr. Padma Chavan** explained the correlation of Renal Function testing and eGFR. **Dr. Alpa Dherai** spoke on Laboratory evaluation of metabolic disorders. Later case studies were discussed by **Dr. Udayan Ray** on Anemia and iron metabolism.

The professional course concluded by the participants giving feedback and the valedictory function.

On 12th December 2010, a pre-conference workshop was held in both Seth G.S. Medical College and National Institute of Research in Reproductive Health, Parel, Mumbai. The Pre conference consists of morning and afternoon sessions. The morning session started with a common workshop organized by the IFCC Task

Force for Young Scientists (IFCC-TF YS) for all the delegates with the theme of "**Mapping Future of Laboratory Scientists**". This pre conference workshop was a collaborative effort of ACBI and IFCC to create awareness about emerging trend in Laboratory Medicine and the current and future developments in the field of Quality and Technology amongst young scientists.

The conclave was addressed by eminent speakers from the IFCC & ACBI fraternity; including **Dr. Ghassan Shannan**, Treasurer, IFCC; **Dr. Bernard Gouget**, Executive Member, IFCC; **Dr. Gabriel Ko**, Representative Europe, IFCC-TF YS; **Mr. Johnson Wijaya**, Asia Pacific Representative, IFCC-TF YS; **Mr. G. Galphy**, Marketing Manager-Cardiac Business Unit, Biorad; **Dr. D. M. Vasudevan**, President, ACBI; **Dr. K. P. Sinha**, Advisor, ACBI; **Dr. T. Malati**, National Representative, IFCC; **Dr. S. Dandekar**, Organising Secretary, ACBICON 2010 and **Dr. Pradeep K Dabla**, Member & National Representative, IFCC-TF YS and Convener of the workshop.

The welcome address was given by all senior members and continued with Task force introduction by **Mr. J. Wijaya**. He summarized the Task Force origin and its members in various countries stressing on educational activities conducted with motto to help young laboratorian. **Dr. Gouget** summarized networking of IFCC and Task Force introducing **Gruson Damien**, Chairperson, IFCC-TF YS and its various members. He also discussed objectives of TF to strengthen the knowledge and technical performance of YS. **Dr**



Conference Registration Counter

Ghassan has told that how IFCC being an International Organisation is working towards raising scholarship and other funds for the international exposure of YS.

Mr. Johnson Wijaya explained the career graph for scientists in academic institutions and qualities needed for career progression. **Speaking on the occasion, Convener workshop, Dr. Pradeep K. Dabla, said,** "India is emerging as a player with rising health awareness and its expanding \$35 billion healthcare delivery market which provides services to 1-1.25 millions patients/day. Globally we are putting more stress on technical performance instead of associated clinical information due to striking changes in automation and quality. But the true impact can be achieved only by improving patient's outcome and intervention. He briefed the guidelines for successful career progression with competency essentials." **Dr. Gabriel Ko** stressed on exchange of ideas at international level. He briefed the competition and requirements for participation.

Dr Bernard Gouget said "Quality is indispensable to a healthcare organization and it is our responsibility to continuously raise the bar for quality standards. He discussed the organization of Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation at International Level (ILAC, APLAC) and its National body (NABL) with importance of MRA. Due to APLAC and MRA status in India, NABL can exchange data amongst 52 accreditation bodies representing 45 countries."

Dr. D. M. Vasudevan and **Dr. S. Dandekar** discussed the ACBI vision towards the training and growth of YS. The Diplomat Course is started with an objective of professional training to young laboratory professional about the techniques and details of clinical biochemistry. They exchanged their views towards the young



Chief Guest Mr. Jagjit Singh being escorted to dias



Releasing the Conference Souvenir

scientist exchange programme which gives an experience to work in other laboratory and other potential online certification courses with the help of IFCC. This was followed by **Round table discussion** between speakers and young scientists. YS cleared doubts and queries related to subjects and their career opportunities to progress further.

To conclude, this workshop provided a unique forum to the healthcare professionals to exchange ideas and develop a new vision for the future of laboratory sciences in India and abroad. Lab medicine is expanding vast with area of concern as impact on clinical outcomes in terms of quality, satisfaction and cost. Young Scientists have bright future ahead but they need to have proactive approach.

In the afternoon session the delegates were segregated in three groups for attending workshop on (1) Research and Beyond, (2) Molecular Biology workshop and (3) Quality Assurance & Quality Control workshop. **Dr. Nithya Gogtay** and **Dr. S.P.Dandekar** were the convener for Research and Beyond / Methodology workshop organized in Seth G.S. Medical College which focused on formulating a research question, principles of medical writing, ethic of research and ethics committees and ending with statistical investigations.

The Molecular Biology workshop organized in National Institute of Research and Reproductive Health consisted of four lectures on different molecular biology techniques. **Dr. Geetanjali Sachdeva** explained about the expression of recombinant proteins. **Dr. Bandivadekar** described the procedure of extracting proteins from tissue, cells and biological fluids. Later **Dr. M.I. Khatkhatay** and **Dr. Smita Mahale** explained about different protein assays and Protein purification techniques respectively.



Session in progress

In parallel to these workshops, a workshop on Newer Frontiers in Clinical Laboratory practice was held in Seth G.S. Medical College and KEM Hospital. The workshop convener was **Dr. S.A.Rane**. The workshop started with the lecture on update of QA/QC by **Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy**. This was followed by an introductory lecture on Biochip array technology was given by **Dr. Joseph John** from Randox.

The pre conference workshop concluded with group discussion between the eminent speakers and the delegates and ended with vote of thanks given by the participants.

The 37th ACBICON commenced with the key note speech by **Dr. Jocelyn Hicks**, Past President, IFCC on *The Past, Present and Future of laboratory Medicine*. This was followed by K.L. Gupta Memorial Oration delivered by **Dr. R. Badwe**, Director, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, on *Drug Discovery: A Clinicians View*.

This was followed by Plenary Sessions by eminent speakers such as **Dr. Alan Remaley** who spoke on *HDL: Update from Diagnostics to Therapeutics*, **Dr. Jay Karla** on *Quality care & patients safety: Strategies to reduce and disclose Medical error*, **Dr. Udayan Ray** on *Insulin resistance in Malignancy*, **Dr. Dipak Das** on *Regeneration of Ischemic heart with chronogenic stem cells*, **Dr. Salil Das** on *Soy & Breast Cancer* and **Dr. Nelson Geraldino** on *Holistic living outside of the Laboratories*.

The next on the line were Industrial Workshops Parallel Sessions by Biosystems, Agappe, Accurex and CPC Diagnostics. Lunch with expert was coordinated by Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy and Dr. Sucheta Dandekar and the experts were **Dr. Micheal Oellerich**, **Dr. Ravinder Singh** and **Dr. V. Parameswaran** who deliberated on

Pharmacogenomics, TDM and Six Sigma. Following the lunch with expert was poster and oral presentations.

This was followed again by Industrial Workshops Parallel Sessions by Transasia, Lifetech, and Abbott. A Session on Medical Education was conducted with **Dr. Suresh Chari** as the moderator and the Panelists where **Dr. Avinash Supe**, **Dr. Jogen Pramanik**, **Dr. Rohini Bhadre** and **Dr. Sucheta Dandekar**. They discussed the changes that need to be made in the medical biochemistry curriculum.

Inauguration of the 37th ACBICON 2010 was done in presence of many eminent personalities. The chief guest was **Padmabhushan Dr. G. B. Parulkar** and the Guests of Honor was **Padmabhushan Shri Jagjit Singh**. They were all welcomed by **Dr. Sanjay Oak**, Dean, Seth G.S. Medical College and K.E.M Hospital. The inauguration lecture was given by **Dr. M. Oellerich** on *Future of clinical biochemistry, laboratory Medicine and Pathology*.

Concluding the 1st day of the conference was Taranath Shetty Popular Lecture given by **Dr. Narendra Nayak**. Later the delegates enjoyed the dinner sponsored by Abbott.

December 14th commenced with the Key note Speech given by **Dr. Donald Young** on *What physicians do not know about laboratory testing*. The much awaited Seth G. S. Medical College & KEM Oration was given by **Dr. Sanjay Oak** on *The bath water needs a change but don't throw the baby out*. This was followed by Awadesh Saran Memorial Oration by **Dr. MVR Reddy** on *Elimination of lymphatic filiriasis: the development of novel diagnostic, therapeutic and prophylactic tools to meet the future challenges*. Thereafter, the Plenary Sessions where conducted in parallel with one another. These lectures where delivered by **Dr. Hari Sharma** on



A view of industrial exhibition

Molecular Mechanisms of Angiogenesis in Cadiopulmonary Pathophysiology and by Dr. Wolter Jan Mooi on Oncogene induced cellular Scenescence: Halting on the road to cancer.

Lunch with experts on 14th December 2010 was arranged with **Dr. Jocelyn Hicks, Dr. Donald Young and Dr. Ghassan Shannan** who discussed on *Lab errors: Striving for none, POCT, Quality Assurance.*

The ever popular **AFMC Quiz** was arranged and chaired by **Dr. T. Malati**. About 50 students participated in the quiz. This was followed by Poster and oral presentation. The day concluded with a grand Banquet. sponsored Transasia.

The last day of the conference i.e. 15th December 2010 started with the key note speech by **Dr. Ghassan Shannan** on the *Total Quality Management in Health Facilities* followed by the G.P. Talwar Oration on *Estrogen receptor a journey from 1964-2010* by **Dr. P. D. Gupta**. This was continued with the lectures by invited speakers. Parallel to this oral presentations on recent trends were also made. **Dr. Jay Karla, Dr. Udayan Ray and Dr. Alan Remaley** were the experts called for lunch with experts on 15th December 2010 and the topic for deliberation was Angiogenesis, Endocrine Function tests.

In all there were 290 poster presented by the



Lunch with experts

delegates and 95 oral presentations held in the conference besides the invited lectures. A total 45 companies participated in the corporate exhibition. It was indeed a grand display and stood true to its theme of 'Frontiers of Diagnostics'. A total of nearly 800 delegates registered for the conference.

Just as every good thing comes to an end the conferences also concluded by the awards given to the prize winners at the poster, oral and quiz competitions and the valedictory function.

The conference indeed was very well attended and proved to be a huge success!



Obituary

Dr. Reba Chatterjee

Dr Reba Chatterjee who was an enthusiastic, soft spoken, smiling face, adustable ,jolly, caring, unmarried research worker passed away on 9th March 2011.

Born on 14th January 1936. She was the eldest sister among three sisters and three brothers. Reba passed M.Sc in Physiology from Calcutta University and completed her Ph.D in the year 1967 from Calcutta University. Her thesis was entitled on "Morphological, Cultural and Biochemical studies on Streptomycin resistance in Bacillus Subtilis under the supervision of Dr. S.K. Majumder, Dept of Food Technology and Biochemical Engineering, Jadavpur University. She then joined as a Research Officer and Biochemist in B.C. Roy Institute and Kiran Sankar Roy (K.S.Roy) T.B. Hospital ,Jadavpur. After retirement to last day she worked and associated as a Biochemist and incharge in Bengal Tuberculosis Association (BTA), Kolkata and other Clinical Centres.

She was the life member of ACBI (membership No 1213), Society of Biological Chemists, Physiological Society of India and Founder member of Central Calcutta Society for Advancement of Human Development and Research.

We pray May her soul rest in peace.



Dr Aditi Sen

Minutes of the 37th Pre-GB Executive Council Meeting

(Mumbai • December 12, 2010)

The Executive Council (EC) of ACBI met on December 12th, 2010 at 6:00 pm at Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai. The meeting was presided over by Dr. D. M. Vasudevan, the President of ACBI. Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, General Secretary of ACBI presented the minutes of the previous EC meeting and the same was accepted by the council. Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, Secretary, presented the Annual Report of the ACBI for the year 2010. Accounts of the ACBI for the year 2009-2010 was presented by the Secretary, Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, in the absence of the treasurer, Dr. K. R. Prasad and was accepted by the EC. The organizers of the 36th annual meeting held at Kochi, Dr. D. M. Vasudevan, submitted the audited statement of details of income and expenditure. The EC noted that this year also no money has been given to ACBI head office as no savings have been shown.

Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Praveen Sharma, presented the report on the IJCB and informed the members about the efforts being taken to keep the standard of IJCB high. EC members were also told about the difficulties being faced by the editorial board due to delayed response by referees. The EC members approved the efforts of Dr. Praveen Sharma and his editorial team and also Springer to improve the standard of the Journal.

The Convener of the ACBI/CMC-Vellore Extend Quality Assurance Programme, Dr. R. Selvakumar presented report on the ongoing EQA programme. Dr. Selvakumar informed EC about efforts being made to increase the number of Analytes being tested. The EC has put in records its appreciation of the efforts of Dr Selvakumar and the contribution of CMC, Vellore.

The General Secretary, Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha presented new applications received for individual and corporate memberships and the same were approved by the EC. Mr. Upender Singh, Convener of the ACBI-Corporate wing presented an update of the activities of the ACBI-CW in 2010.

The nominations and the review reports received for the fellowship of ACBI were placed before the EC by the Secretary. The EC approved the recommendations of the committee to award the fellowship to Dr. Krishnajyoti Goswami, the immediate past president of ACBI and Dr.

Uday Kumar, Prof and Head, Dept. of Clinical Biochemistry at Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna for the year 2010. Dr. Rajiv Sinha then placed before the EC the nominations received for different oration accounts of 2010 and the reports of the oration award selection Committee. The EC members ratified the recommendations of the committee for selecting Dr. T. Malati for the A.J. Thakur award for distinguished services in Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine for the year 2010.

The President, Dr. D. M. Vasudevan placed before the EC, the applications received in response to the notification given in the ACBI News bulletin to fill the post of one vice-President, two Joint secretaries, six EC members and State Representatives. After discussion the EC has validated all applications for presentation before GB meeting..

EC looked into the applications received from various members to host 2012, 2013, 2014 conference and decided to formally call for nominations during the GB meeting. Dr. Neelima Singh conveyed that she was ready to host the 2011 conference at Gwalior.

The general secretary briefed the EC about the need to raise the ACBI membership fees which had not been raised for some time. The new membership fees which would be applicable for January 2011 were decided as given below

1. Life Member : ₹ 5,000.00 for once or ₹ 1,800.00/ year × 3 annual installments
2. Associate Life Member : ₹ 5,000.00 annually
3. Annual Ordinary Member : ₹ 600.00
4. Sessional Member : ₹ 600.00

Corporate membership and overseas membership fees were left untouched at ₹ 25,000.00.

Dr. M.V.R. Reddy presented the report of the Internal Audit Committee setup to look into the ACBICON 2009 Kochi accounts. The other member was Dr. Praveen Sharma. Dr. Reddy reported that no savings have been reported by the organizing secretary of 2009 conference and also that no money has been earmarked for and given to ACBI Head Office or ACBI corporate wing.

Dr. D.M. Vasudevan, President, ACBI appraised the members on the development related to the “Diplomate of Indian Board of clinical Chemistry” and the comments and suggestions that he has received from members. After extensive discussions with the EC members, the following changes were put forward:

1. The degree that would be awarded will be called “Member of Indian College of Clinical Biochemistry” and would be governed by the Indian College Of Clinical Biochemistry.

The composition of the college would be:

Advisor: Dr. K. P. Sinha

Director: Dr. D. M. Vasudevan

Joint Director: Dr. Praveen Sharma

Registrar: Dr. Jayshree Bhattacharya

Members: 1. Dr. Sucheta Dandekar

2. Dr. M. V. R. Reddy

3. Dr. V. Mallika

4. Dr. T. Venkatesh

5. Dr. S. Selvakumar

6. Dr. T. F. Ashavaid

The eligibility criteria were slightly modified. Dr. Vasudevan was requested to make the changes and go ahead with the process of getting the course material ready.

The previous GB had appointed Dr. M.V.R.Reddy to look into as to how to make the “A.J. Thakur Award for Distinguished Service to clinical Biochemistry” a regular award. Dr Reddy reported to the EC that the award would now be known as “ACBI - A.J. Thakur Award for Distinguished Services to Clinical Biochemistry” and would carry with it a cash prize of ₹ 15,000.00, a silver plaque, a shawl and also to & fro air fare for the awardee to attend the award ceremony. The name of the awardee would have to be announced 3 months before the annual conference so as to avail of low-cost air fare. The selection committee was expanded and would consist of (1) President, ACBI (2) General Secretary, ACBI (3) Chairman ACBI Corporate Wing (4) Past President, ACBI & (5) Mr. Abhinav Thakur (Accurex)

The EC extensively debated the report presented by the Past-General Secretary, Dr. M.V.R. Reddy, on how much organizing committee of National conference would give from their savings to ACBI & ACBI- corporate wing. After discussion, the EC decided to put up the following recommendations before the General Body:

1. The Organizing Committee of ACBI National Conference would have to give a fixed percentage

of their Gross Total turnover of the conference.

2. The percentage recommended was 3.5% of total turnover to ACBI and 3.5 % to ACBI Corporate Wing by the organizers of ACBI National Conference.
3. Organizers of regional meetings would have to give 5% of the Total Turnover for the use of the ACBI Logo and Banner.
4. Organizers of regional meetings would have to give 5% of the Total Turnover for the use of the ACBI Logo and Banner.

To streamline the organization of ACBI Conferences, EC decided to form a separate “**Scientific and Conference Division**” under the aegis of ACBI and would have the following as members (1) General Secretary-ACBI (2) Chairman ACBI CW, (3) Convener ACBI CW, (4) immediate past- President (5) another Past-president. For this year, Dr Arun Raizada (New Delhi) & Dr P.P. Singh (Lucknow), both Past presidents, were nominated.

The Secretary, Dr. Rajiv Sinha, briefed the EC of the request by IFCC to increase the number of members for which we pay IFCC membership fees. After much deliberation, the EC decided to increase the number of members to 150, for which ACBI would have to pay @ 6 CHF per member. EC also decided to increase the number of members at the rate of 10% every 2 years.

The secretary, Dr Rajiv Sinha & Past-secretary, Dr. M.V.R. Reddy, briefed the EC on the APFCB move to charge 400 Singapore dollars per year from India (ACBI) as APFCB membership fees, which was fixed on the GDP of India.

The secretary briefed the EC about the savings generated from APFCB Delhi Conference and dues, if any to be given to APFCB as their share. From the records available, the total savings have been shown as ₹13,01,078.00, out of which Delhi APFCB Organizing committee has to give 10% of total savings to APFCB, i.e. ₹ 1,30,107.00. ₹ 1,00,000.00 has already been given to APFCB. Therefore we have to give another ₹ 30,107.00 more. After discussion, EC also decided that the Delhi State Chapter of ACBI would keep ₹ 2,00,000.00 which was earlier earmarked for the Y. Subbarao Oration and also that this oration would be conducted by the Delhi state chapter of ACBI.

The EC passed the resolution to condemn the following articles at Patna HQ and at Delhi Office. The articles are (1) franking machine (Patna HQ), (2) Typewriter (Patna HQ) 7 (3) Computer (Delhi).

The EC passed a resolution to allow present

Convener, Quality Assurance Programme, Dr. S. Selvakumar & Dr A. S. Kanagasabapathy for a new term of 3 years. Convener for the ACBI Education committee & Scientific committee was also reconstituted with Dr Sucheta P. Dandekar (Mumbai) being nominated as Convener, Education Committee and Dr. Jayshree Bhattacharya (Delhi) as Convener, Scientific Committee.

EC discussed the proposal that came for hosting the 2012 National conference. A committee consisting of Dr K. P. Sinha, Dr Praveen Sharma, Dr T. Malati, Dr MVR Reddy & Mr. Upendra Singh was constituted to study all the proposal and to present their findings to the G.B. for discussion and recommendation.

The EC deliberated on the money lying with Maharashtra State Branch, which had been collected in the past. The EC authorized the President-elect, Dr

Sucheta Dandekar to see that the money was returned to the rightful persons and also that 30% of the collected amount be given to ACBI Head office. The EC requested Dr Dandekar to see that this was done before the next EC meeting.

The EC was informed that family members of the late Sri K.L. Gupta have added Rs. 50,000/- to the corpus fund of the K.L. Gupta Oration. EC recorded its deep appreciation on this gesture on making this oration more viable.

The Executive Council recorded its appreciation on the excellent leadership provided by Dr. D.M. Vasudevan, the President during the year in carrying out the activities of ACBI.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks proposed by the secretary.



Thought for the Day : General Body Meeting-Purpose and Scope

Calling a meeting of members for taking decisions for the benefit of the members is a democratic process. We all attend such meetings to take part in discussion and for taking decisions by unanimity or by majority. In our ACBI General Body meeting (GB) I have seen that many a times proper discussion does not take place and decisions are taken emotionally without going in to detail of consequences. Unfortunately, inadequate time is scheduled for the meeting and that also is finished hurriedly in order to go to Entertainment and dinner. At least 2 hours should be given for GB meeting. If any member or Executives who wants to suggest some ideas to be discussed; he / she should send the proposal in the form of resolution to the General Secretary by September of the year so that the Secretary includes those in the coming News Bulletin. During discussion, such proposals which are likely to affect previous decisions or will have serious implication on the functioning of the Association, such issues should be referred to Select Committee for in depth consideration and recommendation. The members should actively take part in discussions. Then only the GB will be called democratic.

Dr. K. P. Sinha, Advisor, ACBI

Minutes of the 37th General Body Meeting (Mumbai • December 14, 2010)

The 37th General Body meeting of the ACBI was held on 14th. Dec. 2010 at World Trade Centre, Mumbai. The newly elected President, Dr Sucheta P. Dandekar chaired the proceeding of the meeting. The General Secretary, Dr Rajiv Ranjan Sinha, placed the minutes of the 36th. General Body meeting held at Kochi, which was earlier circulated through March 2010 issue of the News Bulletin of the Association. As there were no comments received, the minutes were approved. Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha presented the Annual report for the year 2010. The

report highlighted the various scientific meetings & other activities organized during the previous year by different state chapters and the 36th. National Annual meet held at AIMS, Kochi. In the absence of the Treasurer, Dr Rajiv R Sinha, presented the accounts for the year 2009-2010 and the same were ratified.

The matter related to the election of the office bearers Vice-president, Joint Secretary, EC members and state representative was taken up for discussion. The house elected Dr Sandhya Mishra and Dr Neelima Singh

as Vice-President, Dr. Harsh Vardhan Singh and Dr Vinay G. Patke as Joint-Secretaries. Dr K. K. Srivastava, Dr Jasvinder Gambhir, Dr Kanan Vaidyanathan, Dr Shyamli Pal and Dr. Dharamveer Yadav were elected as EC members. The house authorized the General Secretary to scrutinize the applications received for the post of State Representative and elect the applicant accordingly.

Dr Neelima Singh informed the house about the facilities for holding 38th ACBICON in Gwalior and invited all the members to attend the next conference at Gwalior.

Regarding the matter of hosting of 39th ACBICON in 2012, the GB was informed of the report of the 3 member committee who were asked by the EC to look into all the application. The house approved the decision to request all applicants to present their bid during the conference at Gwalior.

The GB was informed about the important decision taken at the EC meeting held two days previously. The GB ratified most of the decision taken during the Pre-GB EC meeting. The GB ratified the decision to raise the membership fees for Life members, Associate Life members & Annual/ordinary members, which would be raised from 1st January 2011.

The GB ratified the decision of EC to form a "Congress & Conference Committee" which would look into the preparation and smooth running of the conference. The GB also ratified that the members of the committee would be the General Secretary-ACBI, Chairman-ACBI

Corporate Wing, Convener, ACBI-Corporate Wing and 2 Past presidents. Dr Arun Raizada & Dr P.P. Singh's name was approved.

The GB ratified the decision of the EC to form a search committee for award of the ACBI-AJ Thakur Award. The members would be (1) General Secretary, ACBI (2) President, ACBI, (3) Past President (Immediate) (4) Chairman-Corporate wing (5) Mr. Abhinav Thakur (Accurex)

The GB ratified the decision of the EC regarding the amount to be paid by the organizers of ACBI National conferences to ACBI Head office & also to the ACBI Corporate wing. The General Body agreed that **3.5% of the Gross Total turnover should go to ACBI Head office & 3.5% to ACBI Corporate wing**. The GB turned down the EC's proposal to also ask organizers of Regional ACBI conferences/Meetings to give 5% of Total turnover to ACBI Head office for the use of ACBI logo & banner.

The GB asked the EC to write to the Medical Council of India regarding the problem being faced by Non-medical biochemists working in various medical colleges. It was decided that the President would prepare a draft letter and circulate it amongst EC members for their approval before sending it to MCI.

The GB recorded its appreciation to the family members of the Late Sri K. L. Gupta , to increase the corpus of the K. L. Gupta Oration Award by donating Rs. 50,000/- to the fund. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the secretary.



A view of the General Body Meeting

Minutes of the 38th Post-GB Executive Council Meeting (Mumbai • December 15, 2010)

The Executive council (EC) of ACBI met on December 15, 2010, 12:00 noon at World trade Centre, Mumbai. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Sucheta P. Dandekar, the President of ACBI. Dr Dandekar welcomed the members of the new executive council.

Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Sinha, the General Secretary presented the proceedings of the previous executive council meeting held on 12th December 2010, which was accepted.

Taking stock of the organization of ACBICON 2010 : All the members were very appreciative of the manner in which the organizing committee of the ACBICON 2010 had worked to host a very successful congress, both in terms of attendance as well as in academic content. The

organizing secretary opinie that each conference organizing secretary should have their conference website developed by themselves and not be tagged with a corporate house.

The EC decided to do away with the proposed 5% of total turnover that was to be charged from organizers of regional meetings/conferences for the use of the ACBI logo.

The EC members requested the Secretary, ACBI to keep all past-presidents & EC members updated with any news/letters that is received from IFCC/APFCB. The EC also decided to adopt the "One member-One committee" formula so that all members get a chance. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the President.



A.C.B.I. Travel Fellowship

The Travel Fellowship has been constituted by a donation of Rs. Twenty five Thousand (₹ 25,000.00) by Dr. A.S. Kanagsabapathy, Organising Secretary, ACBI conference, Vellore ; Rs. Twenty Five thousand (₹ 25,000.00) by Dr. Vijay Singh Thakur, Organising Secretary of Workshop in Quality Control held at AIIMS, New Delhi & Donation of Rs. Fifty Two Thousand (₹ 52,000.00) by Mr. S. K. Manhar, Director, Priman Instruments Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.

Applications are invited by the Organising Secretary of the Annual conference, for availing this fellowship through the conference brochure. **This award shall be awarded to Young Members of ACBI below the age of 35 whose paper has been accepted for presentation and has not availed any other assistance through any other source.** Total number of Travel Fellowship award will be Five (5). **The Application for Travel Fellowship should be addressed to the General Secretary, ACBI and submitted to the Organising Secretary along with registration for the conference.** He should enclose Proof of membership of ACBI, Proof of Age and certificate from the Head of the department of non-receipt of any other financial support. The award will be decided by a committee consisting of the Organising Secretary, President and General Secretary of ACBI. The awardees will be given To and Fro 3 tier sleeper class rail fare to the maximum of ₹ 1000/-. The awardees name will be announced during the valedictory function of the conference and the cheque will be presented.



"It is a good thing for a physician to have prematurely grey hair and itching piles. The first makes him appear to know more than he does, and the second gives him an expression of concern which the patient interprets as being on his behalf." ~A. Benson Cannon

ACBI QC Forum

Over the last 3 decades ACBI through its constant efforts in spreading the message of QC in medical laboratories in India has created significant awareness among lab personnel on QC. ACBI organises QC lectures in the scientific sessions in annual conferences, QC seminars, QC workshops, etc. During these events the ACBI members utilise the opportunity to get clarification on their queries in routine laboratory performance.

As an extension of these activities, ACBI is proud to announce a novel approach to address several issues on laboratory QC on a regular basis through "ACBI QC FORUM", a special column that will be published in ACBI Newsletter.

We appeal to all ACBI members to feel free to ask questions on various topics such as:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Internal Quality Control | External Quality Assessment |
| Interpretations | Corrective actions |
| Preanalytical errors | Analytical and post analytical errors |
| Statistical calculations | Six sigma and Sigma metric |
| Equipment validation | Method validation |
| Reference materials | Calibration |
| Traceability | Uncertainty of Measurements |
| Internal audit | Accreditation |

You are requested to send your questions through e-mail to Dr. A.S. Kanagasabapathy (askanag@gmail.com). The questions will be passed on to experts (both national and international) in the respective areas of specialisation, clarifications will be obtained from them and will be published in ACBI Newsletter under the "ACBI QC FORUM" column along with the names of members who ask the questions as well as the experts who offer clarifications.

Please note that as the space in our Newsletter is limited, only a specific number of questions and answers will be published within the allocated space in each issue of the Newsletter. However, please be assured that all questions and answers will be covered in the subsequent issues.

We appeal to our members to make the best use of this opportunity and make this academic exercise of ACBI a grand success.

Dr Rajiv R. Sinha

Editor-in-chief, ACBI New Bulletin & General Secretary, ACBI

IMPORTANT NOTICE

UPDATION OF YOUR ADDRESS

We want that all members should actively participate in ACBI activities and be kept informed about the programmes and activities. For this we require your correct addresses and email ID. Please check your details on the ACBI website www.acbindia.org and if any correction is needed please email at kpsacbi@yahoo.co.in or by post to Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna 800 001.

ACBI QC FORUM

PROCEEDINGS OF 'LUNCH WITH THE EXPERTS'

(A special event conducted during the 37th ACBICON, Mumbai, December 2010)

Dr. A.S.Kanagasabapathy (Email: askanag@gmail.com • Mob.: 09704335533)

Dr. Sucheta Dandekar (Email: sucheta.dandekar@gmail.com • Mob.: 09821076406)

During the 37th ACBICON at Mumbai in December 2010 Dr.Sucheta Dhandekar organized an exciting event Lunch with the Expert on all the three days of the conference with the objective of providing the opportunity to the delegates to freely and effectively interact with the invited specialists on specific subjects during the lunch time. About 25-35 delegates actively participated in the deliberations each day. We are pleased to provide a summary of these proceedings in ACBI Newsletter under ACBI QC FORUM starting with the first day event (December 13, 2010), covering the topics on Six Sigma and Lean management.

Names of invited Experts

- Dr. Michael Oellerich (Chemical Pathologist and chairman of the Dept. of Clinical Chemistry / Central Laboratory at the Medical Faculty of the Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany)
- Dr. Udayan Ray (Staff Specialist and Director of Chemical Pathology and Core Laboratory at The Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart, Australia)
- Dr. Jay Kalra (Dept. of Pathology & Lab Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan & Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada)

Moderators: **Dr. T. Ashavaid**

Dr. R. Selvakumar

Brief note from Dr. A.S. Knagasabapathy: Six Sigma is a rigorous quantitative approach to quality improvement and Six Sigma performance equals 3.4 defects per million opportunities (DPMO) as compared to 66807 DPMO in the case of 3 sigma performance.

Sigma metrics provides universal bench mark for process performance

Sigma metrics ranges from 2 to 6:

- ≤3 unreliable performance
- 6 world class quality
- 5 good

| Process Sigma | DPM |
|---------------|---------|
| 6 | 3.4 |
| 5 | 233 |
| 4 | 6,210 |
| 3 | 66,807 |
| 2 | 308,537 |

Calculation of sigma metric depends on: (a) Tolerance limits or quality requirement for the test - Total Error allowable (TEa), (b) Imprecision of the method (SD or CV) & Inaccuracy of the method (Bias).

Calculation of Sigma metric:

$(TEa - Bias)/CV$

(Eg) TEa = 12%, Bias = 0%, CV = 2%

Sigma metric = $(12 - 0) / 2 = 6$ Sigma

Maintaining either least imprecision (CV) or inaccuracy (bias) alone will not result in improved sigma metric. It is imperative to have **both** Bias and CV the least.

Lean: A relentless pursuit, identification and elimination of waste in all business process in order to produce value for customer. (**Waste:** unnecessary work, enforced idle time, unnecessary resource use and high inventory).

While Lean creates flow, increase process speed and eliminate waste, **Six Sigma** improves process capability and eliminates variation.

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Views expressed in this forum are individual views of the experts. ACBI does not assume any responsibility of the views expressed.

Dr. Ashavaid : Dr. Kanagasabapathy has received and compiled the questions on different topics (Questions received from Dr. Barnali Das, Dr. R. Selvakumar and Dr. K.P. Sinha).

QUESTION: *Why should labs follow six sigma and how does six sigma actually work in the laboratory? People have also asked about how to intervene the Lean and*

Six sigma? In the manufacturing units it is six sigma which is actually striven for, but in the medical laboratories one cannot attain six sigma but then generally it is 3-4 sigma levels that the laboratories try to attain. Can you highlight a few points on this?

ANSWER: Dr. Udayan Ray: In a medical laboratory it is more of a theoretical concept. Is it possible to achieve six sigma? First thing let people understand the concept of quality control and know that what you are doing is justifiable. We need to realize the hard reality, the burgeoning problem i.e. inter-laboratory variation. We need to effectively implement quality management, specifically through IQC and EQA. Let us understand how much feasible even the three sigma metric is in the Indian context. This is the main key issue here. Let us ask the question is it possible to achieve six sigma. But our effort must be there. *"I know that my son is not that intelligent but I must admit him to the best school"*. The same attitude we must try to achieve 100 out of 100 fool proof.

Dr Kalra: I hope we agree with you. Let's look at what we actually do. Along with our lab results we give a reference range. Our results have presented mean + or standard deviations. What does that mean? If you look at the Gaussian curve, and that is a normal Gaussian curve, you expect within 1 SD 68.2% of population, within 2 SD 95% and within 3 SD 99.7%. So you are absolutely right when you say that we have no choice but to improve because if we present our results \pm a few standard deviations, what are the chances, the chances are that 5% or 1 in 20 that our results are normal, but we are showing them abnormal. When you are supposed to send your results with the transcription to the emergency room you entered sugar as 11mmol/L and somebody misread it as 17mmol/L. Such "defects" need to be calculated as the defect per million (DPM). We as laboratorians are moving towards that we are not where we want to be i.e. 6 DPM but we are approaching between 3-4 sigma.

Dr. Michael Oellerich: I think process optimization is first very important. It is a part of the quality management and also the lean concept in particular in western countries where labor is very expensive and we have to think that our production process shall be lean.

QUESTION: Dr. Ashavaid : *I just want to ask you one more question since you brought in the point about lean. Lean obviously helps on saving the costs and it is one of the cost cutting measures. I believe that there are a couple of hospitals listed on US sites which have saved a lot of dollars. Do you have any experience in this direction and if you have the experience what would*

you suggest ...what are the things one would do to attain a lean sigma?

Dr. Michael Oellerich: I think one point is to have the multidisciplinary networks. In the past we had various different laboratories clinical bio-chemistry, endocrinology, and various others. Now in the medical centers all these laboratories will be unified under one roof but keeping the identity of the sub disciplines and this will save us millions of euros. This way we follow the lean concept.

QUESTION (from Audience): *How can we in India comply with criteria like green belt or black belt in six sigma?*

ANSWER: Dr. Kalra: The American society for quality also has international membership and India is included. They offer through their program green belt, black belt, brown belt and all these programs. We all have chapters, for instance we have a chapter 141 and I happen to be the chair and we provide regular programs to keep up (as we are speaking here today). We have the membership and we invite one person to take a lead and rest of the people we gather for supper or tea. So we do that every 2nd month, we have a whole year's programme. We also advise our junior colleagues to take these courses. Some may want to write the courses and we offer these courses 3 times a year (course + the examination). Thereby you can amplify your qualification and make yourself more capable of being the in-charge or director in that area.

Dr. Ashavaid: Basically for attaining a green belt, I think it is a single project that you take at the lowest rung, you do this successfully and then as you graduate you do more and more projects.

Dr. Kalra: I can explain this concept with the example of our daily household core. How can we reduce the time/avoid waste of time to prepare dinner/supper. Let's assume we have invited 10 people over for supper and this is a very good way of looking at 'lean' as to how you can save the time. The main thing is you have to plan what you are going to serve. And once that is done what we usually do is do one dish today, one dish tomorrow, then your wife is tired because we don't have services of a maid or servants. When I cook, I usually take 60 minutes. The supper has to be served eaten and cleaned. So what I actually do is, if I am going to have some meat product which will take 45 minutes then that goes into the oven first and then I have the 4 stoves ready, I am there chopping up the vegetables for the bhaji, I am going there for dhal, thadka is getting ready and within 45 minutes when the meat is ready all the preparations are done and children and wife have to come and take it from there and serve. So what I have done is cut down all the time I was

going to waste thinking oh I have to cut onions now, then the tomatoes and so on and I am tired. Now within 45 minutes you have saved all the time. Take the same process in the lab. From the time the sample has come in the lab we have the porter (ward aid) taking the samples may lose them on the way. Now we have the pneumatic tubing systems. Once the bar-coded samples are collected in a bunch and they have gone to the lab site and as soon as this is done you centrifuge them. The samples are then loaded into the system. The autoanalyser / modular system identifies the samples, proceeds with the analysis and delivers the results on-line. Rather than having 10 technologists you have only 2 technologists. You should make sure the results verification is done and the process flow is uninterrupted.

Dr. Selvakumar: I was just about to say this. When I joined the department of Biochemistry at CMC Vellore we used to get less than 200 samples a day and we had 24 technicians and today we crossed 4500 samples a day and still then the number of technicians remains the same-24 thanks to automation and transporting systems and so on. Basically the lean goes along with the sigma. You know you can't just have six sigma and say I don't follow lean principle.

Dr. Kalra: There are several popular models with regard to six sigma

POPULAR SIX SIGMA MODELS

| DMAIC | DMADV | IDOV | DCOV |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Define | Define | Identify | Design |
| Measure | Measure | Design | Characterise |
| Analyze | Analyze | Optimize | Optimize |
| Improve | Design | Verify | Verify |
| Control | Verify | | |

In the most popular DMAIC model, primarily you must **define** what is going and then you must **measure** what the problem is. Then **analyze** what is actually happening if analysis is continued to **improve**. Then improvement comes automatically and you can measure the improvement.

Dr. Udayan Ray: The same can be used as **Detect Define Design**. The moment you detect source of anomalies then you define it and you correct the design in one day and you are done. You analyze and assess and then you go to improve. So these are things you have to do. What the letter stands for is not important. It is how you address the issue that counts. Same way assess, evaluate and do the job then reevaluate and then see how much improvement you have made.

QUESTION: Dr. Ashavaid : *Could you comment on the analytical side. (How do we attain six sigma in analysis of routine analytes as we in biochemistry are dependant on chemistry analyzers?)*

ANSWER: Dr. Kalra: This is where you have to play a major role. A clinical chemist must play a major role. I think you are in a unique situation and position. You are only one group who talks about quality assurance program. So what you need to do is discuss with you physician colleagues as a medical biochemist what they require. I mean for an average GP does it make a difference that if you have a potassium of 4.2 or 4.25? NO! But if it is a cardiovascular surgeon, who is operating it may make a difference... So we have to setup standards and understand where we want to be. You see? That's where your clinician can help you because you as a clinical chemist are providing the best possible information to your colleague so that they can treat their patients in a quality fashion.

QUESTION: Dr. Ashavaid : *Maybe a related question would be then standardization and harmonization. Is it critical or not critical for lean and six sigma to have harmonization?*

ANSWER: Dr. Kalra: Unfortunately healthcare in the European economy is drifting and we are not allowed as in the past to spend so much money for various different systems and as you know all manufacturers have their strengths and weaknesses. Now with this concept we have to decide primarily for one manufacturer. So we are more bound to one manufacturer and to the strengths and weaknesses. Another critical point I would like to raise is that we as clinical biochemists have to be very careful that we are not viewed as a commodity you see and this is what many policy makers think. We have to remain an academic discipline with own research and own profile. So it is very important to optimize in an optimal way our routine work but we should not forget that we should work in the forefront introducing the new biomarkers If this goes to other units in our university or community hospitals then we have lost. We are down staged in terms of personnel, academic personnel and also our positions in the hospitals will be compromised. We will no longer be on the same level and this has to be avoided, and that is why we have to build bridges between societies across the world and also be stronger politically.

Comment from the audience: In USA six sigma may be stringently followed but the Indian healthcare system is not insurance driven. In the US healthcare is insurance driven and you have to be careful about what you are reporting.

Dr. Kalra: I certainly agree with you. But you see it is independent aspect whether there are insurances or health care systems like in England or Australia; this is for us irrelevant, we have to provide the best possible quality and I think we as a discipline should see to it that accreditation becomes mandatory. You see for instance in Germany if you don't comply with our quality management rules you will not be able to get any reimbursement for your testing, because without penalty people will not implement the quality.

QUESTION (from Audience): *60% of the population today goes to the laboratories which are not accredited and not the ones which are having 2000-3000 samples like big hospitals. So what about these small laboratories? Why don't you formulate something for these small laboratories something like 3-4 sigma, and they need to have some standardization. There are people who run from one lab to another and then land up in hospitals where they get some results.*

ANSWER: Dr. Ashavaid: I would like to mention here that basically right now NABL accreditation is not mandatory but the scenario will change soon. Government of India emphasized that all CGHS empanelled labs will have to be accredited. Now if that happens then the ground work is laid.

Comment from the audience: The expenses involved in these accreditations are too high which is not affordable for all laboratories which are medium sized.

Dr. Kalra: I think it is an excellent point. This is also the

problem in Europe that is why we see the mergers and all the small labs will disappear, they have already disappeared in Germany. In the US in university hospitals or community hospitals for the small laboratories there is no chance to survive and running the lab becomes too expensive. So for large sized laboratories there is no problem implementing all the accreditation.

Let me share some food for your thoughts. I see all the clinical biochemists of India are here, you have a board, a board of directors all the names I'm used to seeing all the times are here. You are responsible for creating that process I'll go this far with you, nobody from outside or the government is going to come to you. So you have to within your board, you have to start making committees across the country or across the province whatever the way you feel it and that's where people have no choice but to listen to you. If you are going to pass the buck and not going to do it and think that the government is going to do it, I'm sorry it's not going to happen. You have to have technical people, experts from within your own group and make a committee and start to move, and there is the process. You can take all accreditation standards that are already written by various organizations refer websites.

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In summary: This forum highlighted the essence of six sigma and lean management and the experts elaborated the same with their experience. Overall, it was emphasized that one having a desire to achieve six sigma should put in his/her own efforts and also move towards accreditation as well.



ADVERTISEMENT RATE IN ACBI NEWS BULLETIN

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| 4. Inside Page (BW) : Full Page | Rs. 8,000 | Rs. 12,000 |
| 5. Inside Page (BW) : Half Page | Rs. 4,000 | Rs. 6,000 |
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Note :

1. Corporate Members can avail 10% discount on advertisement in the News Bulletin.
2. For advertisement on Front inside, Back inside & Back cover, advertisers will also get added benefit of their advertisement being "hot-linked" to their company web-site.

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR ORATION

Nominations from members are invited for giving following orations during ACBI Conference in Gwaliori being held from 2 - 6 December 2011. Nomination should reach General Secretary **Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna 800 001. email: kpsacbi@yahoo.co.in** by **31st May 2011**. The nomination should be on letter head or plain paper giving information about proposed nominee regarding his/her achievement, qualification, position and some reference about the field of work.

Awadhesh Saran Memorial Oration Award

This oration was started in 1978 to commemorate the Founder President, Dr. Awadhesh Saran, who died prematurely in 1976. An eminent scientist is invited to deliver a lecture on a subject of interest to the clinical biochemists. The speaker may or may not be a biochemist or a member of ACBI or Indian national.

K.L. Gupta Memorial Oration Award

The Oration was started in 1993 by Dr T. Malati and her brothers by donating a sum of ₹ 40,000. The nominee should be an eminent scientist working in the field of Oncology. He/She may or may not be member of ACBI or an Indian National.

K.E.M. Hospital and Seth G.S. Medical College Oration

This oration was started in 1992 by the then Organising Secretary, Dr. A. V. Potnis, Prof. of Biochemistry of K.E.M. Hospital & Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay by donating a sum of ₹ 15,000.00 from savings of the conference. Dr. Sucheta Dandekar, Professor of Biochemistry, Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai has further added ₹ 15,000.00 from the savings of a Workshop on Quality Management held in Dec. 2005 at Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai. The nominee should be an eminent Biochemist/Pathologist/Clinician/Scientist to give a lecture on topic related to Clinical Biochemistry. He/She may or may not be member of ACBI or an Indian National.

Dr. T.N. Pattabhiraman Oration

This oration was created in year 2004 in the name Dr. T.N. Pattabhiraman, Ex-Professor of Biochemistry, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal and Past President of ACBI, by donation of Rs. One lakhs and one thousand by his admiring students. The oration will take place annually

during ACBI National Conference. The **Award** nominee should be an eminent Biochemist/Pathologist/Clinician/Scientist to give a lecture on topic related to Clinical Biochemistry. He/She **may or may not be member of ACBI or an Indian National.**

Mrs. & Dr. G. P. Talwar Oration

This Oration was created in 2005 by a donation by Dr. G.P. Talwar Foundation of ₹ One lac. Dr. G.P. Talwar was a renowned Biochemist who was Head of Biochemistry in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and later, Director of Indian Institute of Immunology, New Delhi. He was President of ACBI in the year 1982. The Award nominee should be an eminent Biochemist / Immunologist / Pathologist / Clinician / Scientist to give a lecture on topic related to his research done in India in the last 5 years which is of interest to clinical biochemists. He/ She may or may not be member of ACBI or an Indian National.

Taranath Shetty Memorial Oration

This oration was created by the Association in the executive council meeting held at Kolkata in December 2008 in the fond memory of a very dynamic and energetic member, Dr. K. Taranath Shetty. The Oration will be on topics to popularize science, particularly related to human health and to dispel myths from the minds of the people. It has been planned to organize this oration every year during Annual National Conferences. The Organizing secretary shall inform the public through newspaper and other announcement. The oration will be organized in a large space to accommodate general public and delegates. Orator shall be selected from nominations received from members, award committee members and the Organizing committee. The awardee shall be presented a memento, certificate and money to cover his/her travel. Nominations are invited through News Bulletin for this purpose and selection is made by an Award Committee.



ORAL PRESENTATION OF AWARD PAPERS

The Organizing Secretary shall be inviting papers for the below mentioned Awards from members of the Association including sessional members through the final brochure of the conference and the papers should reach the Organizing Secretary of the conference by the date fixed for receiving papers for the conference. These papers shall be evaluated by Scientific Committee of the conference. On the basis of evaluation done by members of the scientific committee, the organizing secretary shall select 2 best papers of each award and inform their authors to present them at a special session for award papers before 3 judges selected by the President from amongst senior delegates for this purpose. Each presentation shall not be of more than 8 minutes duration. After presentation of each paper, 2 minutes shall be devoted on discussion by the judges and the audience. The best paper author of each Award as decided by the judges shall be given certificate and money at the valedictory function. You can make yourself ready to submit your paper in time indicating the name of the award for which the paper is being submitted. Any member including Sessional Member, whose age on 31st December of the Year is below 35 years, is eligible to take part in the contest.

(NOTE : If not already a ACBI member, then one has to take a Sessional Membership by applying to ACBI Head office. Membership Form to be downloaded from www.acbindia.org.)

Pitabus-Jamuna Burma Memorial Papers

Dr. D.P. Burma, Professor of Biochemistry, Institute of Medical Sciences, of Banaras Hindu University instituted the award in memory of his father and mother by donating a sum of ₹ 5000.00 in 1982.

The applicants have to submit a write up (not more than 2000 words) on an original research work in medicine based on approaches in biochemistry or molecular biology, published by any other author/authors excluding himself and his group in any prestigious journal of the world in the preceding one year. Application along with (1) 4 typed/photo copies of the write up, (2) 4 photocopies of the original paper, (3) documentary evidence of age (4) proof of membership of ACBI should be submitted to the Organizing Secretary before the dead line.

The winner of the award shall be given a cash award and a certificate at the Valedictory function of the same conference.

Sita Devi Award Papers

This award was created by a donation of ₹ 5000.00 by the Organising Secretary of 6th. Annual Conference of ACBI, Dr. C. Sita Devi, in 1980 and later again ₹ 5000.00 from her own side. The cash award and a certificate are given to the person whose paper in oral presentation was considered best and worth. The applicant shall

submit (1) 4 typed/photo copies of the paper, (2) documentary evidence of age (3) proof of membership of ACBI (4) no objection certificate from co-authors, if any, to the Organizing Secretary before the deadline.

The winner of the award shall be given a cash award and a certificate at the Valedictory function of the same conference.

P.S. Murthy Award for Best Paper in the Field of (1) Infectious Diseases, & (2) Development of Drugs from Plant Sources

These awards were created by a donation of ₹ 10,000.00 by Prof. P.S. Murthy in 1993. Papers for the award are invited under 2 categories, i.e. (1) Infectious Diseases, and (2) Development of Drugs. One best paper in each category is awarded with certificate and cash. If no paper under one category is available or considered worth, then both awards shall go to two top papers of the other category. In case no paper in either category is considered worth, then similar papers in Poster Sessions should be considered for the award. The award shall be presented to winners during the Valedictory Function of the conference.

The applicant shall submit (1) 4 typed/photo copies of the paper, (2) documentary evidence of age (3) no objection certificate from co-authors, if any and (4) evidence of membership of ACBI, to the Organizing Secretary before the dead line.

MGIMS Award for Best Paper in the Field of Tropical Diseases

This award was created in the year 1994 by a donation of ₹ 10,000/ by Dr. B. C. Harinath, the Organising Secretary of XX ACBI conference, Sevagram.

The Award is open for original work in biochemical/ immunological/ molecular aspects of Tropical Diseases. The applicant shall submit (1) 4 typed/photo copies of the paper, (2) documentary evidence of age (3) no objection certificate from co-authors and (4) evidence of membership of ACBI, to the Organizing Secretary before the dead line. In case no paper is considered worth, then similar papers in Poster Sessions should be considered

K.P. Sinha-P.S. Krishnan Best Paper Award

The Award was instituted in the year 1990 jointly by Organising Committee of 13th and 15th. Annual Conferences held at Patna and Jammu by each donating Rs. 10,000/- out of the savings from their respective conferences with a view to encourage biochemists to publish their work in Indian Journal of Clinical Biochemistry (IJCB). The papers published each year in IJCB are adjudged by a set of 3 Judges appointed by the President in consultation with the Editor of the Journal. The author/authors of the best paper are awarded a certificate and a cheque of Rs. 2000/- to be shared equally between the authors during the inaugural function of the conference. (Note : No applications needed.)



for the award. The award shall be presented to winners during the Valedictory Function of the conference.

NIM Award for Best Poster

The award was instituted in 1994 by a donation of Rs. 10,000.00 by the Organising Secretary of XIX Annual Conference of ACBI, Dr. T. Malati, Professor and Head of the Dept. of Biochemistry, Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), Hyderabad.

There are 2 awards - One award is for the best poster in the field of Cancer and another in Non-Cancer field. There is no application required to win this award. All posters shall be evaluated by a panel of judges drawn from the delegates, who have been selected by the President in consultation with the Organising secretary. The award shall be presented during the Valedictory function of the conference.

Poster Awards from Organising Committee

Organizing Committee shall also announce 5 or more awards for excellent posters and the process of selection will be the same by the same judges of the NIMS Award.

Thus Poster awards fall in following categories:

- (1) Cancer 1
- (2) Non-cancer 1
- (3) In case no award is given for Oral presentation of
 - (a) P. S. Murthy Award for (i) Infectious diseases,
 - (ii) Development of drugs from plant sources, And
 - (b) MGIMS Award for papers on Tropical diseases.

Organizing committee award for visually excellent Posters.

AFMC QUIZ AWARD

This award was instituted by the Organizing Secretary of 33rd ACBICON 2006, Pune, Col. Parduman Singh by giving a sum of Rs. 2,00,000 from the savings of the conference. The money shall be deposited in Fixed Deposit by Head Office and out of annual interest accrued, 70% shall be used for giving award and 30% shall be reinvested in fixed deposit to take care of inflation and varying interest rates. There shall be **two awards** each year based on QUIZ contest held during conference. Col. Singh has further donated a sum of Rs. 5000.0 for preparation of a RUNNING TROPHY which shall be given to one who scores highest marks in the contest. He / she shall return the trophy to the next Organizing Secretary before next annual conference is held.

This quiz is open to all young Clinical Biochemists and Post-graduate students in Biochemistry/ Clinical Biochemistry in Medical institutions whose age on 31st December of the year shall be below 35 years. Those desirous of taking part in this competition should give their name to the Organizing Secretary.

Application for ACBI Best Paper / Poster Award / Quiz Award*

To
The Organizing Secretary
38th ACBICON 2011
Gwalior

Sir,

I am submitting a paper entitled
.....
..... et al, for the best paper/Poster/Quiz
award during the conference. I am aware of the terms and conditions of competing for the award and abide by the rules.

Preference for the award to be considered is indicated as below (only one choice): **Sita Devi Award** / **P.S. Murthy Award** / **MGIMS Award** / **AFMC Quiz Award** (Please tick the preference).

Enclosures:

1. Two sets of full text of the paper, along with abstract in a format as required for IJCB
2. Documentary evidence of age
3. No objection certificate from co-authors, if any
4. ACBI membership number
5. Photocopy of documentary evidence of membership.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of the same and inform me the date of presentation, if considered for presentation. (No separate entry is required for Poster presentation)

Name

Address

.....

.....

Contact Nos.....

E-mail ID

.....

DATE

.....

SIGNATURE

*This Application Form can be downloaded from ACBI website too.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF INDIA (FACBI)

Nominations for award of FACBI to suitable ACBI members are invited from Fellows and senior members of the Association so as to reach the General Secretary Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna 800 001. email: kpsacbi@yahoo.co.in) by **30th June 2011**.

Association of Clinical Biochemists of India awards Fellowship to distinguished members of the Association on the basis of their achievement.

Eligibility for the nominee: Nominee should be a Life member of ACBI of at least 10 years standing. He/She should have at least 15 years of teaching / research / analytical experience in the areas of clinical biochemistry or has done distinguished services to ACBI.

Nomination letter duly signed by proposer along with 4 copies of (a) Biodata of nominee in the prescribed format (**to be down loaded from ACBI website**), (b) list of publications by the nominee in IJCB or other indexed journals with 4 copies of reprints of 6 papers of which 3 are recent ones, (c) proof of various statements made in Biodata.

Format for Nomination of Fellow of ACBI*

To:

The Secretary
Association of Clinical Biochemists of India
Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha,
Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna - 800 001

Sir,

I.....
have the pleasure of nominating Dr.....
..... (name, address & ACBI membership number).

I also enclose (a) Biodata of nominee and (b) list of publications with reprints of 6 papers.

Name

Address

Contact Nos.....

.....
DATE

.....
PLACE

.....
SIGNATURE OF THE PROPOSER

*This Format for Nomination can be downloaded from ACBI website too.

clinical case History

INTERESTING LABORATORY REPORT

CASE 1

Patient description: Female, 70 years. H/O of general weakness, anemia. Was not being treated for anemia. Not taking Iron/Folate.

Laboratory investigations Hb 7.4%. Hb was never lower than 7.2 or higher than 7.8. Haemoglobin electrophoresis was advised and the patient found out to be a case beta thalassemia trait.

CASE 2

Fe 135ug/dl (50- 155ug.dl); TIBC 320 ug/dl (upto 450 ug/dl)

Ferritin - undetectable

Histopathological finding colonic carcinoma.

Hematological finding hypochromic microcytic anemia.

CORRELATION

The characteristic features of beta thalassemia trait is hypochromic microcytic cell type, low Fe, high TIBC, low/

undetectable ferritin. Controversial report was Fe and TIBC. But in colonic carcinoma intermittent hemorrhage in colonic cavity takes place which comes in the circulation resulting high normal value of Fe and normal TIBC. As colonic carcinoma is a current phenomenon so it is not expected that this intermittent hemorrhage would contribute much to ferritin, as the history of anemia is a prolonged one. So, colonic carcinoma justifies low ferritin with high normal Fe and normal TIBC. Hook effect of ferritin has been eliminated by testing ferritin using 5 and 10 times dilution.

Consultant Hematologist :

Dr. Santanu Basu

Kolkata

Consultant Biochemist :

Dr. Shyamali Pal

Scientific Coordinator, ACBI News Bulletin

Suraksha Diagnostic Pvt.Ltd., Kolkata

shy23_pal@yahoo.co.in

Grandma's Birth Control Pills

The doctor that had been seeing an 80-year-old woman for most of her life finally retired. At her next checkup, the new doctor told her to bring a list of all the medicines that had been prescribed for her. As the young doctor was looking through these, his eyes grew wide as he realized she had a prescription for birth control pills.

“Mrs. Smith, do you realize these are BIRTH CONTROL pills?”

“Yes, they help me sleep at night.”

“Mrs. Smith, I assure you there is absolutely NOTHING in these that could possibly help you sleep!”

She reached out and patted the young Doctor's knee. “Yes, dear, I know that. But every morning, I grind one up and mix it in the glass of orange juice that my 18-year-old granddaughter drinks. And, believe me, it helps me sleep at night.”

You ‘GOTTA’ love Grandmas!

INVITATION TO MEMBERS FOR CASE HISTORIES

Members are invited to send Case History with Biochemical Investigations of Interesting cases or cases with unusual presentations. Your experience will help others. Please share it with us on ACBI News Bulletin.

Please send your write up to Dr. Shyamali Pal at : shy23_pal@yahoo.co.in.

congratulations

Winners of ACBI Fellowships and Awards, 2010

ACBI FELLOWSHIP AWARDESS

1. **Dr. Krishnajyoti Goswami**, VIMS, Kolkata
2. **Dr. Uday Kumar**, Professor & Head, Department of Biochemistry, IGIMS, Patna

SRI A.J. THAKUR DISTINGUISHED CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS AWARD

1. **Dr. T. Malati**, Professor & Head (Retd), NIMS, Hyderabad

ACBI ORATION AWARDESS, 2008

1. AWADHESH SARAN MEMORIAL ORATION : **Dr. M.V.R. Reddy** (MGIMS, Sewagram, Wardha) : *"Elimination of lymphatic filariasis: the development of novel diagnostic, therapeutic and prophylactic tools to meet the future challenges."*
2. SETH G.S. MEDICAL COLLEGE & KEM HOSPITAL

ORATION : **Dr. Sanjay Oak** (Dean, Seth G.S. Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai) : *"The bath water needs a change but don't throw the baby out."*

3. DR T.N. PATTABIRAMAN ORATION AWARD : **Prof. Praveen Sharma**, Prof of Biochemistry, SMS Medical College, Jaipur : *"Oxidative Stress and its association with Metabolic syndrome and Diabetes"*
4. K.L. GUPTA MEMORIAL ORATION : **Dr. Rajan Badwe**, Director, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai : *"Drug Discovery: A Clinicians View"*
5. MRS. & DR G. P. TALWAR ORATION AWARD : **Dr. P.D. Gupta** (Professor Adjunct, Manipal University, Manipal) : *"Estrogen receptors : A journey from 1964 to 2010"*
6. TARANATH SHETTY MEMORIAL POPULAR LECTURE ON METABOLIC DISORDERS : **Dr. Narendra Nayak**, Mangalore, Karnataka



Other Awards, 2010

- K.P. SINHA - P.S. KRISHNAN AWARD FOR BEST PAPER PUBLISHED IN 'IJCB' (2010): **Ragini D. Singh, N. Haridas, Jayendra B. Patel, Frank D. Shah, Shilin N. Shukla, Pankaj M. Shah & Prabhudas S. Patel** (Biochemistry Research Division, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, Ahmedabad) : *"Matrix Metalloproteinases and their inhibitors : Correlations with invasion and Metastasis in oral Cancer"*
- DR. P.S. MURTHY AWARD (Infectious Disease) : **Dr. Surajeet Kumar Patra**, LHMC, New Delhi : *"Rapid Detection of Mutation in RRDR of rpo B Gene for Rifampicin Resistance in MDR-Pulmonary Tuberculosis by DNA Sequencing"*
- DR SITA DEVI AWARD : **Deepika Sharma**, LHMC, New Delhi : *"Endothelial aspects (Nitric Oxide and eNOS (GLU298ASP) gene polymorphism and endothelin) inflammatory aspects and hormonal aspects in pre-eclampsia A pilot study in North Indian Population"*
- NIMS BEST POSTER AWARD :
 - (i) **Mr. Sushant Chavan**, Mumbai : Cancer Topic
 - (ii) **Ms. Apurva Sawant** (Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai) : (Non-Cancer Topic) *"Correlation of genetic variations of genes involved in low High-density lipoprotein Cholesterol synthesis in Indians"*
- MGIMS (SEWAGRAM) AWARD : **Dr. Surendra Kumar Sharma** (PGI, Chandigarh)
- AFMC QUIZ :
 - (i) **Dr. S. Kavitha** (JIPMER, Puducherry)
 - (ii) **Dr. Sandeep Kumar** (PGIMS, Rohtak)
 - (iii) **Perla Sravan Kumar** (JIPMER, Puducherry)
- ACBI TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP AWARDEES :
 - (i) Kiran Pote
 - (ii) Kirtikar Shukla
 - (iii) Jaspreet Kaur

ACBI BENEVOLENT FUND : AN APPEAL

The Executive Council and General Body were concerned to know the fact that one of our very senior members is suffering due to lack of money for his treatment and upkeep. For such situation many organizations have created 'Benevolent' fund to assist their members in dire need. We should also have compassion when any of our members are in need of financial help. Therefore the G.B. has decided to create a Fund to help our needy members and has sanctioned ₹ 50,000 from ACBI account for this fund. The IJCB Board has also decided to contribute ₹ 25,000. Many members have agreed to send money for the fund. Dr. B.C. Harinath has contributed ₹ 17,000 which includes the money he got as recipient of ACBI-A.J. Thakur award for Distinguished Clinical Biochemist. Some members have sent ₹ 1,000 / 2,000 / 3,000 as their contribution.

I solicit your support and request you to send money for this noble work as much as you like. The money be sent to the TREASURER, ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF INDIA, BIOCHEM-LAB, EAST BORING CANAL ROAD, PATNA-800001 by bank draft in the name of "ACBI BENEVOLENT FUND" payable at Patna. It is proposed to publish the names of members who contribute to this fund in News Bulletin.

Dr. S.P. Dandekar, President



List of Donors to ACBI-Benevolent Fund : As on 15.03.2011

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1. ACBI | ₹ 50,000.00 | 6. Dr. B.N. Tiwary, Patna | ₹ 1,000.00 |
| 2. Dr. B.C. Harinath, Prof. & Director, JBTDRC Centre, Wardha | ₹ 16,000.00 | 7. Dr. Uday Kumar, Patna | ₹ 1,000.00 |
| 3. Dr. S.P. Dandekar, Prof. & Head, Department of Biochemistry, Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai | ₹ 1,000.00 | 8. Dr. Anand Saran, Patna | ₹ 1,000.00 |
| 4. Dr. Sujata W., Biochemistry Deptt., PGI, Chandigarh | ₹ 1,000.00 | 9. Anonymous Donor, Mumbai | ₹ 5,000.00 |
| 5. Dr. K. P. Sinha, Retd. Professor of Biochemistry, P.M.C.H. & Advisor | ₹ 1,000.00 | 10. Dr. Rajiv R Sinha, Patna | ₹ 1,000.00 |
| | | 11. Dr. Harbans Lal, Rohtak | ₹ 2,000.00 |
| | | 12. Dr. S.J. Makhija | ₹ 1,000.00 |
| | | 13. Dr. T.F. Ashavaid, Mumbai | ₹ 3,000.00 |
| | | 14. Dr. T. Malati, Hyderabad | ₹ 1,000.00 |

Mechanic v Doctor Story

Hamid, a mechanic, was removing a cylinder head from a Harley-Davidson motorbike, when he spotted a world-famous heart surgeon in his garage. The heart surgeon was waiting for the service manager to come and take a look at his bike.

Hamid shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc can I ask you a question?" The well-known surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to him. Hamid straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I also can open hearts, take valves out, fix'em, put in new parts and when I finish this will work just like a new one. So how come I work for a pittance and you get the really big money, when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The surgeon paused, smiled and leaned over and whispered in Hamid's ear, "Try doing it with the engine running."

INVITATION TO CORPORATE MEMBERS FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTICLES

The corporate members are invited to send articles on current and future trends in instrumentation and testing techniques in Laboratory Medicine for publication in News Bulletin. The articles can directly be sent to Executive Editor, ACBI News Bulletin, Dr. K. R. Prasad at : k_ranjan@msn.com, pat_krpd@dataone.in.

Branch Reports

Formation of Jharkhand Branch of Association of Clinical Biochemist of India

The Jharkhand branch of ACBI hosted the 6th. East Zone Regional Conference & the 1st. Jharkhand Branch conference on 27th & 28th. November 2010. More than a 100 delegates from Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa & West Bengal this meet which was held at M.G.M. Medical

College, Jamshedpur. Dr D. M. Vasudevan, President ACBI inaugurated the conference. Amongst the many speakers were Dr Praveen Sharma, Editor-in-Chief, IJCB, Dr Sucheta Dandekar, Vice-President ACBI & a senior member of ACBI from Delhi, Dr. K. K. Srivastava. A GB meeting of the state branch was also held and Dr Abhay Pratap (Bokaro) was elected President and Dr Vanita Lal was elected Secretary.

IDENTIFY CARDS FOR ACBI MEMBERS

Photo Identity card of ACBI is mandatory for members to attend the Annual Conferences, all meetings and also for exercising their voting rights. All Life, Associate Life and Corporate members are requested to fill up the above form and send it to the above-mentioned address along with a **Demand Draft of ₹ 100.00, in favour of "Association of Clinical Biochemists of India" payable at "PATNA"**. If you have already sent the same, please ignore this.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBER'S IDENTITY CARD

PROFORMA

(Please type or write in CAPITAL letters)

1. Name Dr/Mr./Mrs./Ms.:
2. Qualification :
3. ACBI Membership Number : (for example 3579/LM/JOUR)
4. Work Place (City) :
5. State :
6. Date of Joining the ACBI :

Please affix
a stamp size
recent
photograph.

**(Do not
staple or pin)**

Members are requested to fill-up the form to get their Identity Card. This is essential. Filled up form to be posted to :

Dr Rajiv R Sinha
Secretary, Association of Clinical Biochemists of India
Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna 800 001 (Bihar)



ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF INDIA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please affix
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(PLEASE WRITE IN CAPITAL OR TYPE)

1. Category of Membership Applied (tick the choice):

Life / Associate Life / Annual / Corporate / Seasonal

2. Name Dr/Mr./Mrs./Ms. :

FAMILY NAME

FIRST NAME

3. Sex: 4. Date of Birth: 5. Nationality:

6. Academic Qualifications with Year : **(Also Attach Photocopies please)**

7. Designation:

8. OFFICIAL ADDRESS

(i) Department:

(ii) Institution:

(iii) Address:

(iv) City: (v) Pin Code: (vi) State

(vii) Tel. (with area code): Mob.:

(viii) Fax (with area code): (ix) E-mail:

9. RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

(i) Address:

(ii) City: (iii) Pin Code: (iv) State

(v) Tel. (with area code): Mob.:

(vi) Fax (with area code): (vii) E-mail:

10. Address for Communication : Official **OR** Residential (please tick the choice)

11. Professional Experience (briefly) on separate page: Teaching / Research / Diagnostic : Years

12. Field of expertise/Areas of Interest: (1) (2)

13. Publications, if any : **Please attach a list giving details of publications.**

14. Membership of other professional bodies, if any:

15. Any other relevant information (brief) : **(on separate page)**

16. D.D. No.: Date: Bank:

Branch: Amount: Rs.:

(Enclose the crossed D.D. for an appropriate amount drawn in favour of 'Association of Clinical Biochemists of India' payable at Patna)

UNDERTAKING BY THE APPLICANT

I have gone through the bylaws of the Association of Clinical Biochemists of India. If admitted as a member, I shall abide by the rules and regulations of the association.

Place

Date

Signature of the Applicant

Recommendation by a Member of ACBI (This is essential)

I have verified the information given in this application that are true to the best of my knowledge. He/She fulfils eligibility requirement for becoming a member of ACBI. I recommend that be accorded the membership of the ACBI.

Name & Signature of the Member

Date:

ACBI Membership No.:

Place:

DISCLAIMER

I have no objection / I object* if my address and full details are put on the ACBI website at www.acbindia.org.

Name & Signature of the Member

Date:

* strike out whichever is not applicable

ADMISSIBILITY RULES

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA : Membership of the Association is open to teachers & research scientists in the discipline of Biochemistry, Clinical Biochemistry, Immunology, Pathology, Endocrinology, Nutrition, Medicine and other allied subjects in a medical institution and also to persons holding M.B.B.S., M.Sc.(Biochemistry or Clinical Biochemistry) and are engaged in research or practice of clinical Biochemistry in hospital or in private laboratory.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP : Those graduates who do not fit in the above criteria, but have an interest in Clinical Biochemistry are eligible to become Associate Members.

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP : A company dealing in biochemical and instruments for biochemistry laboratories can become corporate members.

SESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP : Those persons who are not members but want to attend ACBI National Conference and attend and/or present papers have to become Sessional Member. This membership will be valid for that conference only. If he/she fulfils all eligibility criteria for membership and again pays the next years Annual membership fees, they will be admitted as Annual Member of ACBI.

MEMBERSHIP FEE : (a) **Annual Member**: ₹ 600.00 annually, (b) **Life Member**: ₹ 5130.00 (₹ 5000.00- once + ₹ 30.00 for L.M. Certificate posting + ₹ 100.00 for Identity Card (or ₹ 1800.00 annually for 3 consecutive years.) (c) For persons residing in other countries: US \$200.00 (d) **Associate Life Members**: ₹ 5130.00 (₹ 5000.00 once + ₹ 30.00 for L.M. Certificate posting + ₹ 100.00 for Identity Card, (e) **Corporate Member**: ₹ 25,000.00 one time payment. (f) **Sessional Member**: ₹ 600.00 (g) **IFCC subscription** (optional): ₹ 1500.00 once. [LIFE MEMBERS please note : For Hard copy of Journal: ₹ 200.00 per year for postage (or ₹ 1,000.00 for 6 years). Money to be sent to Editor, IJCB (at Jaipur). **The Membership Application form can be downloaded from www.acbindia.org.**

For Web viewing, please send your email id to editor. For more information log on at www.ijcb.co.in

Prescribed fee should be paid by **Bank Draft** only payable to "Association of Clinical Biochemists of India" at Patna. **NO CHEQUE PLEASE**. The completed application (along with enclosures) & draft should be sent to **Dr. Rajiv R. Sinha, Secretary, ACBI, Biochem-Lab, East Boring Canal Road, Patna-800 001**, preferably by registered post.

Photograph: Please affix a passport-size photo on the form & enclose a stamp-size photo with the form. **DO NOT STAPLE OR PIN**.

ID Card Form: Please fill the Identity Card form and send along with duly filled Membership Application form.

38th ACBICON 2011

National Conference Association of Clinical Biochemists of India

2nd to 6th December, 2011



**Department of Biochemistry, Gajra Raja
Medical College & J.A. Group of Hospitals**
Gwalior (M.P.) India



Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to invite and welcome you all in this historical city of Gwalior for your participation in 38th ACBICON 2011 (December 2nd to 6th) which is being hosted by Department of Biochemistry, G.R. Medical College & J.A. Group of Hospitals, Gwalior (M.P.). This year will indeed witness a landmark event for all the clinical biochemists gathering from all over India as well as abroad, during which young scientists can present their work and interact with the other colleagues and experts of the field.

A land of magnificent sights, tales of valour and fierce battles, the echoes of Gwalior's dramatic history, linger on in its rugged forts, glittering crystal chandeliers the exquisitely carved temples and the melodies of Tansen ragas.

On behalf of all members of organizing committee, we invite you all to participate in ACBICON 2011 at Gwalior with your colleagues to make this conference a great success.

We are looking forward to welcome you in our classical & glorious city Gwalior

Thank you,

Dr. (Mrs.) Neelima Singh
ORGANIZING SECRETARY

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 2nd Dec., 2011:** Professional Course
3rd Dec., 2011: CME/ Workshop • Venue: Gajra Raja Medical College, Gwalior (M.P.)
4-6 Dec., 2011: Academic Session (Conference) • Venue: ITM Universe, Sitholi, Gwalior (M.P.)

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

PATRON

Dean, G.R. Medical College, Gwalior
Executive Director, ITM Universe, Gwalior

ORGANIZING SECRETARY

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Prof. & Head, Department of Biochemistry
G.R. Medical College, Gwalior
09425339973 (M), 0751-2442800 (R), 0751-2372872 (Fax)
E-mail: acbicon2011@gmail.com

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Dr. Vishal Bharagava
Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry
G.R. Medical College, Gwalior
09329782759 (M), 0751-2239293 (R)



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