



MSF Asia Scientific Days & International Conference on Medical Sciences

2022

INNOVATION. EXPERIENCES. RESEARCH.

Book of Proceedings





MSF Asia Scientific Days & International Conference on Medical Sciences

2022

INNOVATION. EXPERIENCES. RESEARCH.

Jointly organized by Médecins Sans Frontières/ Doctors Without Borders and Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

3rd and 4th August 2022
Faculty of Medical Sciences
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Sri Lanka

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Sitting from Left to Right

*Prof Shamini Prathapan, Dr Varuni Tennakoon (Chairperson), Snr Prof Aloka Pathirana (Dean),
Dr Nilanka Perera (Secretary), Prof Guwani Liyanage*

Standing from Left to Right

*Dr Prasangika Seneviratne (Assistant Treasurer), Dr Aruni de Silva (Assistant Secretary), Dr Sithara Dissanayake,
Dr Shehan Silva (Treasurer), Dr Saraji Wijesekera, Dr Thushari Dissanayake (Conference Secretary),
Dr Sanath Mahawithanage*

Absent

*Prof Shalindra Ranasinghe, Prof Manori Gamage, Dr Madura Jayawardena, Dr Thushara Matthias,
Dr Shyamini Adikaram*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT Médecins Sans Frontières South Asia Board

This conference is a unique opportunity for public health professionals to share academic research and evidence generated at the field level on a common platform.

Over the years, the confluence of research and innovation at such a conference of public health advocates has helped highlight important emerging topics in the global healthcare scenario, including an increasing prevalence of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), communicable and non-communicable diseases in Asia, innovations in improving quality and access to care in resource-limited settings, and COVID-19's impact on the existing healthcare structures of low and middle-income countries. Underpinning these trends is a growing conversation around decolonising public health research.



It is significant to note that the stigma attached to many diseases continues to remain, even though we continue to try to give patients their right. We hope that all attendees of this conference will continue to work on a patient-centric model.

I also appreciate on behalf of the MSF South Asia Board that attendees of conferences like ours are honest to discuss and brainstorm on things that have not worked, and not only talk about the things that have. It is important to recognise the multiple challenges that we face.

I take the opportunity to thank the moderators, presenters, speakers, editorial committee, communication teams and the university for having organised this conference and for talking about all aspects of disease management.

Dr Monique Kamat

President, MSF South Asia Board

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Médecins Sans Frontières South Asia

MSF Asia Scientific Days & International Conference on Medical Sciences (ICM) 2022 is bringing together researchers, practitioners, academics and patient representatives to catalyse improvements in the quality of care provided to patients and populations at risk.

Our collective vision is to create a space where we can exchange ideas and cross pollinate information from the field to humanitarian actors and academia around the world. We envision a future where we are sharing evidence on methods and ways to improve the quality of care provided to patients. This conference is designed in a manner where we learn from each other.

We aim to keep building communities of practice and provide equitable access to research and medical innovation through these days. We want to bring people together, who not only share the success stories, but also highlight challenges in field that they face on a daily basis especially related to access to quality healthcare. We want to bring science to life.

I sincerely thank the Faculty of Medical Sciences at University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ) for collaborating with us, and sharing our vision towards building meaningful partnerships in the public health and humanitarian aid space in South Asia. As participants, I hope that you make the most of this experience.

MSF and USJ are committed to ensuring research shared during this conference is taken forward by our academic partners for broader engagement amongst researchers, scholars and students. We urge you to keep the value chain going and ignite the change we advocate for in public health.

Dr Farhat Mantoo,
Executive Director, MSF South Asia



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

University of Sri Jayewardenepura



It is with immense pleasure that I write this message for the MSF Scientific Days Asia and International Conference on Medical Sciences 2022, the Annual Conference organized by the Research Committee of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. This Conference has strived to bring researchers, academics and undergraduates together while enhancing dissemination of knowledge. This year marks a milestone in the history of this much awaited event as it will be conducted in collaboration with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF or Doctors without Borders) for the first time. This unique partnership with MSF in 2022 will help the sessions to reach a diverse and wider audience. In addition, it will provide a platform for participants to network and join the discussions physically after a gap of two-years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I highly commend the enthusiasm and the dedication of the organizing committee in organizing this program at a time of austerity. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all speakers, delegates, participants and organizers from the Faculty of Medical Sciences and MSF for their contribution to this exciting academic event.

I am sure that the “MSF Scientific Days Asia and International Conference on Medical Sciences 2022” will be a great success.

Senior Professor Sudantha Liyanage

BSc (Hons) (USJ), PhD (Cardiff), C Chem, FRSC, FIChem C, FPRISL

Vice-Chancellor

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Faculty of Medical Sciences

University of Sri Jayewardenepura



The ICM is an event, looked forward to by all academics of our faculty. This is an event where we showcase our research to the world. The students too are encouraged to participate to present the research activities conducted during their academic programme.

This year the event is a collaborative event with MSF, making the event a truly global one. Many academics and professionals from overseas have indicated their willingness to participate.

The situation in the country is not conducive to a full-fledged programme to be done physically. The situation is changing so much locally and globally. However, one thing is clear. The enthusiasm of the organizers from both sides is high, and the intention is to conduct the programme effectively, as a hybrid event allowing participants to join

from anywhere in the world. I am glad that we decided to partner with MSF and hoping that this partnership will continue to prosper in the years to come.

I like to wish the organizers and the participants a fruitful event, to build on the knowledge and partnerships which we would cherish.

Senior Professor Aloka Pathirana
MBBS, MS, FRCS(Eng), FRCS(Edin)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Research Committee, Faculty of Medical Sciences University of Sri Jayewardenepura



I am delighted and honored to welcome you all, to the MSF Asia Scientific Days and International Conference on Health Sciences 2022! This year's conference is significant in several ways as we are meeting in-person after two years and for the first time, we are collaborating with an esteemed international organization - Médecins Sans Frontières to hold this annual conference of Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ.

The focal drive of this joint conference is to bring professionals together across the globe to exchange ideas and approaches, to showcase innovations with state-of-art technologies and to bridge gaps in research and medicine towards best practices. The theme of MSF Asia Sci Days & ICM 2022 'Innovation. Experiences. Research' remains more relevant than ever in the current environment. The vibrant scientific program of our conference with wide range of interesting topics is stimulative. I hope, all of us will make the most of it! I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all prolific international and national experts who contribute to the Keynote, Symposia and Panel discussion.

As the conference chair, I am thankful to the MSF Asia, Senior Prof. Sudantha Liyanage, Vice chancellor of USJ, and Senior Prof. Aloka Pathirana, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ for their advice, networks, and relentless support. I am grateful to the conference organizing committee, session chairs and moderators, judges, reviewers and the volunteers, without whose generous contributions this conference would not have set a milestone in our history, with record number of presentations and participation from around the world.

I extend my sincere gratitude to each one of you for attending the conference and making it a remarkable gathering.

Dr Varuni Tennakoon
MBBS, MPhil, PhD

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Research Committee, Faculty of Medical Sciences

University of Sri Jayewardenepura



We are faced with many challenges since the COVID-19 pandemic. To overcome the difficulties in conducting a conference with a large in-person audience, the Research Committee of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and Médecins Sans Frontières have partnered to bring forth a hybrid experience encompassing an interesting academic program with thought-provoking discussions to your doorstep. The “MSF Scientific Days Asia and International Conference on Medical Sciences 2022” reflects that sharing one’s experience in innovation and research is the key to improving health care delivery.

A conference of this magnitude would not have seen the light of day without many individuals. We are happy to have joined hands with the energetic team of MSF South Asia. We are grateful to MSF for continuing the collaboration in these unprecedented times. The constant encouragement and unstinted support received from Senior Professor Sudantha Liyanage, Vice Chancellor and Senior Professor Aloka Pathirana, Dean of Faculty of Medical Sciences is warmly acknowledged. We appreciate the help extended by the Bursar of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Assistant Bursar of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the finance team.

Such a vibrant program would not have been possible without the contribution of our speakers and panelists from South Asia. I would like to thank Dr Maria Guevara from Geneva, Switzerland for delivering the keynote address on the timely theme of climate change and Prof Chandanie Wanigatunge for delivering the FMS Oration 2022. We are extremely grateful for all the speakers who joined physically or virtually to share their knowledge. Let me also thank the chairpersons of the sessions, judges of the oral and poster presentations for their valuable time and effort. We would also like to extend our appreciation to all the reviewers who kindly contributed to improving the submitted abstracts.

This hybrid conference would not have been possible without our event manager, all academic and non-academic staff of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ. We are thankful for the students who joined hands with the committee in organizing the event. Last but not least, I would like to thank the Conference Secretary, Assistant Secretary and all the members of the research committee of the Faculty of Medical Sciences who contributed in many aspects to make this conference a success.

I hope that all participants will have an opportunity to network and share experience in this conference platform!

Dr Nilanka Perera

MBBS, MD, MRCP (UK), DPhil (Oxon)

PROGRAMME

Inauguration Ceremony Wednesday, 03rd August 2022

5:30 pm	Invitees take their seats
6:00 pm	Ceremonial procession
6:05 pm	University anthem
6:10 pm	Lighting of the ceremonial oil lamp
6:15 pm	Welcome address <i>Dr Varuni Tennakoon</i> <i>Chairperson, Research Committee</i>
6:25 pm	Address by the Dean <i>Senior Professor Aloka Pathirana</i> <i>Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura</i>
6:35 pm	Address by the Chief Guest <i>Senior Professor Sudantha Liyanage</i> <i>Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura</i>
6:45pm	Address by the Guest of Honor <i>Dr Farhat Mantoo</i> <i>Executive Director, Médecins Sans Frontières- South Asia</i>
6:55 pm	Faculty of Medical Sciences Oration 2022 "Exploring medicines use in older adults: A personal odyssey" <i>Professor Chandanie Wanigatunge</i> <i>Professor of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Sciences,</i> <i>University of Sri Jayewardenepura</i>
7:40 pm	Vote of thanks <i>Dr Nilanka Perera</i> <i>Secretary, Research Committee</i>
7:50 pm	Cultural performance
8:10 pm	National anthem
8:15 pm	Procession leaves the hall
8:20 pm	Fellowship

PROGRAMME

Scientific Sessions Thursday, 4th August 2022

7:30 am onwards	Registration
8:00 - 8:20 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Dr Farhat Mantoo</i> <i>Executive Director</i> <i>Médecins Sans Frontières- South Asia</i>
8:20 - 8:40 am	Oral communications (Session 1) Community health volunteer engagement during COVID-19 to reduce noncommunicable disease risk in low-resource urban settings in Malaysia <i>Ishu Kataria</i> <i>Senior Public Health Researcher, Research Triangle Institute International, India</i>
8:40 - 9:55 am	Panel discussion on "Non-communicable diseases – Burden and management for Asia" Moderator: <i>Dr Amulya Reddy, Senior NCD, MSF-Holland</i> Panelists <i>Dr Khaleda Islam</i> <i>Strategic and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) of NCD,</i> <i>World Health Organisation, Bangladesh</i> <i>Dr Saif-ur-Rahman</i> <i>Senior Research Methodologist; National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland</i> <i>Dr Nalika Gunawardena</i> <i>Technical Officer (NCD) at Regional office for South East Asia, World Health Organisation-Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka</i> <i>Dr Robed Amin</i> <i>Director Non-Communicable Disease Control (NCDC),</i> <i>Govt. of Bangladesh, Bangladesh</i>
9:55 - 10:30 am	Tea/coffee break

10:30 - 11:30am

Symposium

"Advances in clinical medicine and healthcare"

Chairpersons:

Prof Bimalka Seneviratne

Prof Ramya Pathiraja

Ischaemic heart disease: What is new?

Dr Chandrike Ponnampereuma

Consultant Cardiologist

Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Sri Lanka

Cellular therapy for haematological disorders

Prof Lalindra Gooneratne

Professor in Haematology

Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Meeting endometriosis head on: "The one in ten silent terror"

Prof Dhammike Silva

Professor in Gynaecology & Obstetrics

Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

11:30 - 1:00 pm

Oral communications (Session 2)

Identical parasitic sequences within index human cases of Brugian filariasis and animals in neighboring areas in Sri Lanka suggest zoonosis

S. Nirmalrathna, PHD Scholar, Centre for Biotechnology,

Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of

Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

Kadamjay Area Biomonitoring (KAB) Study; assessing human exposure to environmental contamination in Kadamjay, Kyrgyzstan.

A cross-sectional study

S. Aiylichiev, Project Medical Referent, MSF-Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan

Climate Afflictions

Wameq A. Raza, Health and Nutrition Specialist-World Bank's Health, Nutrition, and Population Global Practice, Bangladesh

Iffat Mahmud, Senior Operations Officer-World Bank's Health, Nutrition, and Population Global Practice, Bangladesh

Persistence of *Poecilia reticulata* at different chlorine levels in Mannar and Jaffna, Sri Lanka; A challenge in *Anopheles stephensi* control

P.J. Jude, Senior Lecturer, Department of Zoology, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

1:00 - 1:45 pm

Lunch break & poster viewing

1:45 - 3:00 pm

Oral communications (Session 3)

Chairperson:

Prof Manori Gamage

Dr Chamil Marasinghe

Health related quality of life in patients on maintenance hemodialysis; a descriptive study in two in-center dialysis units at a major tertiary care medical institution in Sri Lanka

Barriers and facilitators for weight reduction in obese young adults in an urban setting: A qualitative study

Postpartum weight retention and factors associated with postpartum weight retention in mothers attending child welfare clinics in a selected medical officer of health area, Colombo district

Taxonomic identification key to scrub typhus vector chigger mites in Sri Lanka

The effect of Sri Lankan Apis cerana (bee) honey on selected wound pathogens

Prevalence of toxoplasmosis among a selected group of cancer patients at Apeksha hospital, Maharagama, Sri Lanka

Experts' agreement on usability and features of a web-based tool in promoting flipped classroom pedagogy

3:00 - 4:00 pm

Symposium

"Keeping children safe, together"

Chairpersons:

Prof Guwani Liyanage

Prof Sanjaya Hulathduwa

Provision of services for children who have faced violence

Dr Asvini D Fernando

Consultant Paediatrician

Medico-legal aspects of management of child abuse and neglect

Prof Muditha Vidanapathirana

*Professor of Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

Child abuse in Sri Lanka: Gaps in the legal framework and social implications

Ms Lasanthi Daskon

Attorney-At-Law, Deputy Country Director, IFES

4:00 - 4:15 pm

Keynote address

" Climate crisis, health and humanitarian action: Why it matters to MSF?"

Dr Maria Guevara

4:15 - 5:15 pm

Panel discussion

"Climate crisis and Disease burden"

Moderator

Dr Farhat Mantoo, Executive Director, MSF-South Asia

Panelists

Prof Neelika Malavige

Professor and Head of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

Dr Poornima Prabhakaran

Deputy Director, Centre for Environmental Health- Public Health Foundation of India, India

Dr Adil Najam

Professor and Dean Emeritus Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies Boston University, USA

5:15 - 5:30 pm

Award ceremony and concluding remarks

5:30 pm onwards

Tea/Coffee

FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES ORATION

03rd August 2022

Exploring medicines use in older adults: A personal odyssey



Professor Chandanie Wanigatunge

MBBS Hons. (NMC), MD(Col), FCCP, FRCP Edin, FRCP

*Professor of Pharmacology
Faculty of Medical Sciences
University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

Professor Chandanie Wanigatunge is the Chair Professor of the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, USJ. She also serves as the Deputy Director for the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine University of Colombo currently.

She is the Chairperson of the Ethics Review Committee, Sri Lanka Medical Association, and of the Forum for Ethics Review Committees in

Sri Lanka. Prof. Wanigatunge has contributed largely to uplift the research ethics practice and evaluation, at national and international level.

Her research interests expand in the field of Pharmacology mainly in drug prescribing in elderly, rational use of antibiotics and Warfarin management in anticoagulation. She has authored 12 books/book chapters, 36 journal articles and more than 80 published abstracts. She has supervised number of postgraduate degrees and has been a resource person in education (pharmacotherapy) of General Practitioners, Pharmacists and other paramedics, Medical Officers and patients.

Oration Abstract

Sri Lanka's population is aging, and elderly patients seeking health care from both public and private sectors have increased over the last decade. The changing pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics associated with aging and the presence of multiple comorbidities present significant challenges to medicines use in these patients. Knowledge about the diseases for which the elderly seek treatment and the appropriateness of medicines prescribed to them is important to optimize medicines management in this patient population.

Our work related to medicines use in elderly began in 2012. We identified the common diseases for which treatment is sought from medical clinics in different regions of the country. Using internationally validated criteria such as Beer's and STOPP-START, we analyzed the appropriateness of the medicines prescribed to community dwelling elderly and those admitted to hospital with an acute illness. Comparing Beer's and STOPP-START led to the realization that STOPP-START was more appropriate to identify potentially inappropriate prescription in elderly.

However, applying tools that are developed for different health care systems is problematic as the medicines availability and prescribing habits may vary. We therefore modified the STOPP-START criteria to one that was appropriate for the Sri Lankan health care system using the Delphi consensus. These modified criteria are now being validated.

The availability and affordability of medicines is important in optimizing medicines management. This is especially so in the elderly as their earning capacity and financial resources are limited. We therefore identified medicines needed to manage NCDs from the Essential Medicines list for Sri Lanka and conducted an island wide survey, involving both public and private sectors, to determine the availability and affordability of these medicines.

The work presented in this oration will be related to the above-mentioned aspects of medicines use in elderly. Collectively, this work will also highlight the issues faced when researching into important but less popular research areas.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

04th August 2022

Climate Crisis, Health and Humanitarian action: Why it matters to MSF ?

Organizations working in the climate change space have been successful in developing adaptation policies around climate change – not taking this as only adaptation but combining adaptation and mitigation for better implementation and stakeholder engagement. A ‘climate smart’ health system is one that incorporates both of these components. In this session, our keynote speaker-Dr Maria Guevara (International Medical Secretary- MSF) will highlight the investment that MSF has made in taking a decentralized approach towards introducing climate-smart initiatives for MSF projects that not only improve quality of care but also introduce climate change as a mainstream topic of advocacy for developing sustainable health delivery systems.



Dr Maria Guevara

MSF International Medical Secretary

Dr Maria Guevara is the MSF International Medical Secretary since February 2021, working in a trio with the International President and the Secretary General. She is a multilingual medical humanitarian specialist with a medical doctor profile, trained in pulmonary, critical care and tropical medicine, and a strong background in complex humanitarian settings, global health policy, and advocacy.

She has over 18 years of humanitarian experience and over 10 years management practice through her work with Medecins Sans Frontieres/ Doctors Without Borders. Her extensive humanitarian field work has spanned across countries in Africa, Americas, and Asia in both emergency and stable settings as well as being the organization’s Regional Representative in Asia from 2012 to 2017.

Dr Guevara was a member of the Advisory Group on Reform of WHO’s Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies with Health and Humanitarian Consequences from July 2015 to January 2016 and has also been a SAFE STEPS First Aid Ambassador for a collaborative pan-Asia program to promote awareness and increase knowledge of first aid skills across the region.

She currently serves as a nominal member of the Independent Vaccine Allocation Group associated with the COVAX facility as well as being part of the Advisory Group to the Sunway Center on Planetary Health. She has played an instrumental role and continues to drive concerns regarding Global Health Challenges, Planetary Health, climate change and environmental degradation in MSF and in the health and humanitarian sectors at large.

PANEL DISCUSSION

04th August 2022

Non-communicable diseases – Burden and management for Asia

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light the major flaws in primary healthcare infrastructure and organization systems worldwide, placing a huge burden on health systems. The pandemic has also greatly accelerated innovation in, and adoption of, digital and artificial intelligence-driven solutions with the potential to improve the quality of care and its accessibility. During this session, we aim to highlight certain best practice models combating this emerging public health challenge and innovative approaches from countries that have implemented successful digital programs in their health systems for the surveillance, prevention, and control of NCDs.



Dr Khaleda Islam

Director, Primary Health Care (Retired)

Dr Khaleda Islam, Director, Primary Health Care (Retired), is currently involved with the ministry of health and family welfare (MOH&FW), Bangladesh for health sector program operation plan review, situation analysis, policy recommendations etc.

She is experienced in primary health care (PHC) system strengthening to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) at the national and international level and also supported strengthening PHC for Rohingya refugees. Dr Islam is also contributing to the Medical Education of the country through need assessment and policy recommendations for

medical graduates and the allied health workforce.

Besides working with the government of Bangladesh, she conducted several international assignments in different countries (Sri Lanka, AJK Pakistan, Afghanistan, Liberia and South Punjab Pakistan), worked with WHO, and other INGOs (GIZ, MERLIN, World Vision, Save the Children, CARE, JICA, Fleming Fund Country Grant, DAI LLC Int etc.) to support the government to strengthen PHC. She worked as an implementation research facilitator of WHO/TDR, in Ghana, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. Her passion is PHC system strengthening to achieve UHC, conducted research and published papers in the area.



Dr KM Saif-Ur-Rahman

Senior Research Methodologist of Evidence Synthesis Ireland at NUI Galway and Systematic Reviewer of Cochrane Ireland

Dr K.M. Saif-Ur-Rahman is working on health systems research and evidence synthesis. Saif is the Senior Research Methodologist of Evidence Synthesis Ireland at NUI Galway and Systematic Reviewer of Cochrane Ireland. He trained as a physician before training in epidemiology. He has completed his PhD with a focus on NCDs and geriatric epidemiology at the Department of Public Health and Health Systems, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University. He has experience in both infectious diseases and chronic disease research in resource-poor settings using quantitative and qualitative methods. He is a founding member of the Primary Health Care Research Consortium (PHCRC).



Dr Nalika Gunawardena

Technical Officer of Noncommunicable diseases in the WHO South-East Asia Region

Dr Nalika Gunawardena obtained MBBS from the University of Colombo in 1992. In 2002, she was conferred the MD in Community Medicine. She served the Department of Community Medicine of the University of Colombo for 18 years and worked her way up to become a merit professor in Community Medicine in 2012.

In 2017, she joined the World Health Organization and now serves as the Technical Officer of Noncommunicable diseases in the WHO South-East Asia Region. Dr Nalika has diverse research interests and has over 100 scientific publications in refereed journals.



Dr Md Robed Amin

Professor of Medicine, Line Director of Non-Communicable Disease Control Program (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS) of Bangladesh

Dr Md. Robed Amin, M.B.B.S, FCPS is presently the Professor of Medicine, Line Director of Non-Communicable Disease Control Program (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS) of Bangladesh. He

earlier served as Assistant Prof, Associate Prof and Professor of Medicine in Dhaka Medical College between 2008-2021. He has more than 140 publications in peer-reviewed international and national journals and has been awarded several honours including the best speaker in the medical debate at the International conference by the Society of Medicine in Bangladesh. He is the reviewer of many reputed national and international journals including Lancet and Bangladesh Journal of Medicine (BJM).

He is currently General Secretary of the Toxicology Society of Bangladesh and also the Member Secretary of Tropical Disease Research Cell in Dhaka Medical College (2008-onwards). He is the Secretary of Research of the Bangladesh Society of Medicine (BSM). He is the Executive Editor of Bangladesh Journal of Medicine (BJM), Assistant editor of the Journal of Medicine, Journal of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons and former assistant editor of Journal of Dhaka Medical College and member editorial board of several journals. He was the member Secretary of Core committee of Clinical Protocol Development for toxicology and also a member of the Undergraduate Curriculum revised committee of the Bangladesh Medical Council. He has been a member of BSM/APB/ACP/SACTRC/ISTM etc.

He was also a member secretary of the committee preparing the national guideline of kala azar, nipah and rabies. He is an active member in preparing national guidelines for malaria, snake bite, filariasis, influenza including avian and swine influenza, noncommunicable diseases, national COVID-19 guidelines, COVID-19 hospital protocol, how to run a COVID hospital etc. He was the member secretary of the committee of antimicrobial policy in Dhaka Medical College.

Dr Amin is also in charge of many national and international training programs including poisoning, malaria, kala azar, snake bite, asthma, nipah, rabies, filariasis, dengue, influenza, COVID-19, NCD etc. He is one of the national resources person for Evidence-Based Medicine and practice in Bangladesh. He is actively participating in many research activities including a clinical trial on malaria, kala azar, typhoid, COVID-19, and OPC poisoning in Bangladesh including educational research. Dr Amin is a committed person to look into the matters of implementation of the government's commitment to provide quality medicine to the poor people of Bangladesh.

SYMPOSIUM 1

04th August 2022

“Advances in clinical medicine and healthcare”

Ischaemic heart disease: what is new?



Dr. Chandrike Ponnampereuma

MBBS, MD, MRCP(UK)

*Consultant Cardiologist
Colombo South Teaching Hospital
Sri Lanka*

Dr. Chandrike Ponnampereuma is a Senior Consultant Cardiologist attached to the Colombo South Teaching Hospital. He has served as an Interventional Cardiologist in the National Hospital of Sri Lanka and Colombo South Teaching Hospital over the last years.

The evolving nomenclature ‘stable angina’ to ‘chronic coronary syndrome’ exemplifies the change in how we look at ischaemic heart disease (IHD) - nothing is stable. Determining the significance of a coronary stenosis is shifting from visual assessment to more objective haemodynamic assessment by invasive and non-invasive means. Coronary interventions are shifting towards implanting less metal inside coronaries by using bio-degradable stents, drug eluting balloons and preplanning with virtual PCI. Better thrombolytics, antiplatelets and lipid lowering agents have improved the outcome of acute and chronic coronary syndromes. Still IHD remains a leading cause of death. Hence the emphasis on prevention.

Cellular therapy for haematological disorders



Prof. Lalindra Gooneratne
MD, FRCPATH(UK), FCCP

*Professor in Haematology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Colombo
Sri Lanka*

Lallindra Gooneratne MBBS, MD (Haematology), FRCPATH(UK), FCCP is a professor in the department of pathology, and a honorary consultant

haematologist in the faculty of medicine, university of Colombo. He is also the Director of the clinical haematology and bone marrow transplant programme at Asiri Central hospital, Colombo, which pioneered allogeneic bone marrow transplantation in Sri Lanka. Dr Gooneratne has a special interest in haematological malignancies and haematopoietic stem cell transplantation and acquired coagulopathies. He was a former president of the Sri Lanka College of Haematologists and currently is Chair of the specialty board in haematology and transfusion medicine, postgraduate institute of medicine, Colombo. He is a member of the scientific committee of the asia-pacific blood and marrow transplant group.

Cell therapy is the transfer of cellular material to a patient for medical purposes. This cellular material could either be autologous or allogeneic and includes stem cell and non-stem cell based, unicellular and multicellular therapeutic modalities. Cell therapy continues to evolve with an estimated global market size of USD 9.5 billion in 2021, envisaged to expand to about USD 23 billion in 2028. It spans many therapeutic areas such as regenerative medicine, cancer therapy and immunotherapy, although, most cell therapies are in early stages of development. There are several exceptions, which are considered best practice in certain clinical settings (eg. Bone marrow/stem cell transplant) or novel therapies for specific indications recently approved by regulatory authorities for medicinal products such as the FDA (eg. CAR T-cells), many if not most are for haematological disorders. This talk is a brief overview of cell therapies currently in use for haematological disorders with a glimpse of what is in store for the future.

Meeting Endometriosis head on : "The one in ten silent terror"



Prof. Dhammike Silva

MD, FRCPath(UK), FCCP

*MD (USSR), MD in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (Colombo),
MRCOG (UK), Diploma Gynaecological Endoscopy (France)*

Professor in Gynaecology & Obstetrics

Faculty of Medical Sciences

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Professor Silva is currently working as a Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. One of his main interests are minimal access Gynaecology. The professorial unit at Colombo South Teaching hospital is the premier tertiary care referral centre in Sri Lanka for Endometriosis and complex Gynaecological endoscopy. His other main interests include teaching and dissemination of minimal access gynaecology to postgraduate trainees for which he conducts regular workshops, outreach clinics and online teaching.

One in ten women of reproductive age suffer from Endometriosis. Sadly, there is a significant delay in diagnosing this debilitating disease, often averaging 6 to 7 years. Many women suffer in silence until a diagnosis is made and even after, if proper treatment is not initiated. It's a progressive disease and early diagnosis and treatment can delay progression, mitigate pain and improve fertility. To date, there is no cure and treatment is aimed at controlling the disease to achieve the best possible outcome for the patient. This lecture will focus mainly on the recent advances in the surgical management of endometriosis and its impact on the lives of these women who suffer from this condition.

SYMPOSIUM 2

04th August 2022

“Keeping children safe, together”

Provision of services for children who have faced violence



Dr Asvini D Fernando

*MBBS (Colombo), MD (Colombo), FRCP (London), FSLCPaed
Consultant Paediatrician*

Dr Asvini D Fernando is a Paediatrician with clinical and research interest in violence against children and child protection. She was instrumental for the development of the National Guideline for the Management of Child Abuse and Neglect and for the establishment of a child protection unit (Lama Piyasa) at the Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Ragama. She served on the Board of the National Child

Protection Authority and as a member of the Sectoral Oversight Committee of Parliament on Women & Gender. She is the chairperson of the Child Protection Committee of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians and advocates for rights of children.

Sri Lanka has taken great strides in the provision of child protection services for children who have faced violence. Ratification of UN Conventions, establishment of the National Child Protection Authority and joining the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children (VAC) are some examples. The legal system has amended laws and laid down procedures. Although much more needs to be done, did the strides already taken reach all children in the country? A genuine effort had to be made by all stakeholders to address this issue. In view of this a project titled Creating Safe Communities for Children was conceptualized by the Child Protection Committee of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians.

Significant achievements of this project, done with involvement of all national level stakeholders, were the development of a National Guideline for The Management of Child Abuse & Neglect and the establishment of child protection units in 2 health institution. Experience gained from the child protection unit (Lama Piyasa) at the Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Ragama, will be shared to highlight the successes that can be achieved with of multi-sectoral approach to management. Existing challenges will be discussed. Changing patterns of violence observed and new challenges with unsafe use of information communication technology and cybercrimes will be explored. With the lessons learnt, dissemination of this project to the rest of the country has been proposed. Then the major challenge of the child protection response reaching all children could at least be attempted to be overcome.

Medico-legal aspects of the management of child abuse and neglect



Prof. Muditha Vidanapathirana

MBBS (Col), DLM (Col), MD (Col), MA (SJP), FFFLM (UK)

*Professor of Forensic Medicine
Faculty of Medical Sciences
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Sri Lanka*

Prof. Muditha Vidanapathirana is the Chair Professor of Forensic Medicine at University of Sri Jayewardenepura. He has authored 6

books and an Editors-in-chief of the "Medico-legal Journal of Sri Lanka". He has more than 200 Scientific publications and has won several awards including presidential awards. Prof. Vidanapathirana has supervised more than 25 successful postgraduate trainees at PGIM and several research students and elective students. He was a UN consultant in 2014 and 2015 and conducted TOT on GBV in the Maldives. He was the 11th President of the College of Forensic Pathologists of Sri Lanka. A Council member of Indo-pacific association of law, medicine, and science (INPALMS) and the University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Currently holds the Vice president post of INPALMS and Medico-Legal Society of Sri Lanka. He was the Chairman of National Child Protection authority from 2020 January to 2021 October.

The conventional approach to the identification of child abuse and neglect is done by the assessment of history, examinations, investigations, and referrals. Now, the early detection is done through teamwork and a multidisciplinary approach! This multi-disciplinary approach includes the organization of a Clinical case conference (CCC), an Institutional case conference (ICC), and adherence to the ethical and legal aspects of the child.

The Clinical case conference (CCC) is organized within 24 hours of the presentation. The Objectives of CCC include preventing re-victimization, etc. Though JMO, Psychiatrist, Paediatrician, etc. share their views in writing, they hardly meet physically. If admission is not needed, still, a similar CCC should be arranged. In case of sexual abuse, the first contact medical officer should introduce services such as emergency contraceptive pills (ECP), STI prophylaxis, Mental health referral, and referred for medico-legal examination at the earliest. If the above services have not been provided, the JMO should arrange such services.

The Institutional Case conference (ICC) is usually arranged before the child is discharged. ICC highlights the importance of Single discipline Vs. Multidisciplinary and Hospital-based Vs Community-based management. The objectives of the ICC include arranging psycho-social management and follow-up. The participants of the social group include Probation officers (PO), Child Protection officers (CPO), etc. The recommendations of ICC are executed through the Magistrate courts. If the abuser is at home, the child is handed over to a trusted relative (foster parents) or childcare institute. However, medical management, school/vocational training, psychosocial rehabilitation, and reintegration back into society are done through follow-up and multi-sectoral management of the child protection and childcare officers.

However, in all steps of the management, we need to ensure adherence to the basic guiding ethical principles of child protection such as safety, consent, confidentiality, compassion, etc. Further, ensure to adhere to Legal aspects such as the best interest of the child

Child Abuse in Sri Lanka: Gaps in the Legal Framework and Social Implications



Ms. Lasanthi Daskon
Attorney-At-Law

Deputy Country Director
IFES

Lasanthi Daskon is a lawyer with a background in Human Rights. She is the deputy country director for the International Foundation for

Electoral Systems (IFES) in Sri Lanka. With 20 years of experience working to promote inclusion of groups and communities who face marginalizing barriers, she focuses mainly on the rights of persons with disabilities. Daskon supports diverse stakeholders in their efforts to further promote inclusion. She is also a visiting lecturer at the Department of Disability Studies at the University of Kelaniya and the Centre for Disability Research, Education and Practice (CEDREP), Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo.

The prevalence rates of reported child abuse and harassment cases in Sri Lanka is alarmingly high, while the number of unreported cases could be higher, given the lack of agency, awareness and effective and efficient means of reporting in the country. Rohanachandra et.al (2021) state that the prevalence of child sexual abuse ranges between 14%-44% in Sri Lanka. The National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) has recorded over 32,000 child abuse cases between 2011-2014 while the number of recorded cases in 2019 alone was 8558. Children with disabilities are more likely to be victims of child abuse due to their amplified vulnerabilities and the lack of agency. Abuse and harassment of children, in addition to being harmful to the child also has harmful impact on families, communities and society in general.

Sri Lanka ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990 and is party to a range of conventions that promote and protect the rights of children including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The establishment of the NCPA in 1998 was a progressive move towards establishing a mechanism to provide protection and treatment of children who are victims of such abuse and the co-ordination and monitoring of action against all forms of child abuse.

Panel discussion

04th August 2022

“Climate crisis and disease burden”

Climate change is already impacting health in a myriad of ways, including by leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, the disruption of food systems. It has also been noted that vector borne diseases such as Dengue, Malaria etc. are found to be highly sensitive to changes in temperature patterns and thereby put the global progress against these diseases at risk. In addition, current research also indicates that other emerging challenges such as mental health and non-communicable diseases are also found to show correlation with global warming. Through this session, we aim to highlight some of the recent evidence indicating rising burden of diseases resulting from climate change.

Prof Neelika Malavige

Professor and Head of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

Prof Neelika Malavige is a Professor and Head of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka and also an academic visitor at the University of Oxford since 2008 after completing her doctoral studies at the MRC Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, University of Oxford. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Society of Infectious Diseases since 2020 and a member of the technical advisory group to the WHO-COVID-19 technology access pool. She is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London the Royal College of Pathologists in 2015. She serves as an expert member of several government's COVID-19 related technical advisory groups.



Dr Poornima Prabhakaran

Deputy Director, Centre for Environmental Health- Public Health Foundation of India, India

Dr Poornima is an epidemiologist and public health researcher, with 18 years of experience, with current areas of work spanning environmental health and noncommunicable diseases, research, technical consultation, teaching, community engagement and health sector leadership for environmental issues. She is currently Additional Professor, Head, Environmental Health and Deputy Director of the

Centre for Environmental Health at the Public Health Foundation of India where she leads a team of researchers and consultants on research, training, advocacy, capacity building & remediation for environmental health issues spanning air pollution, climate change, water, sanitation and hygiene, chemical & heavy metal exposures and children's environmental health.

Dr Adil Najam

Professor and Dean Emeritus Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies Boston University, USA

Mr Adil Najam is Dean Emeritus and Professor at the Pardee School of Global Affairs at Boston University and former Vice Chancellor of the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). He was the lead author for the third and fourth reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), work for which the IPCC was awarded the 2002 Nobel Award.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

04th August 2022

Session 1

Community health volunteer engagement during COVID-19 to reduce noncommunicable disease risk in low-resource urban settings in Malaysia



Ishu Kataria

Senior Public Health Researcher, Research Triangle Institute International, India

Dr Ishu Kataria is a Senior Public Health Researcher with the Center for Noncommunicable Diseases at RTI International. She works on NCD prevention and control both in India as well as globally. Dr Kataria has experience in conceptualising and developing training interventions, and designing and implementing programs on cancer prevention, maternal and child health, adolescent NCDs, and behavior change communication. She serves as the NCD focal point for the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, is the steering group member for the recently launched NCD Labs initiative for the WHO on NCDs and the next generation and a commissioner for the Lancet commission on women and cancer.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

04th August 2022

Session 2

Identical parasitic sequences within index human cases of Brugian filariasis and animals in neighboring areas in Sri Lanka suggest zoonosis

S. Nirmalrathna

PHD Scholar, Centre for Biotechnology, Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

S. Nimalrathna¹, N. Chandrasena², H. Mallawarachchi³, N. de Silva¹, M. Kimber⁴, N. de Silva², H. Harischandra⁵

¹Centre for Biotechnology, Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka, ²Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, ³Norwich Medical School, University of East Anglia, UK, Anglia, United Kingdom, ⁴Department of Parasitology, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Iowa State University, USA, Iowa State, United States, ⁵Genetics and Molecular Biology Unit, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

Kadamjay Area Biomonitoring (KAB) Study; assessing human exposure to environmental contamination in Kadamjay, Kyrgyzstan. A cross-sectional study

S. Aiylichiev

Project Medical Referent, MSF-Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan

S. Aiylichiev¹, A. Sharshenova², M. Nascarella³, E. Sulaimanov⁴, D. Inagbe⁵, M. Omorov⁵, R. Gilmanov¹, I. Abduraupov¹, K. Coppock⁵, C. Deglise⁶, C. Samer⁷, M. Albel Miranda⁶

¹MSF, Kadamjay, Kyrgyzstan, ²International Higher School of Medicine, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, ³Terragraphics International Foundation, Idaho, United States, ⁴Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, Aidarken, Kyrgyzstan, ⁵MSF, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, ⁶MSF, Geneva, Switzerland, ⁷Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland

Climate Afflictions

Wameq A. Raza

*Health and Nutrition Specialist-World Bank's Health, Nutrition, and Population
Global Practice, Bangladesh*

Iffat Mahmud

*Senior Operations Officer-World Bank's Health, Nutrition, and Population
Global Practice, Bangladesh*

Mahmud¹, W. Raza¹, M.R. Hossain¹

¹World Bank Group, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Persistence of *Poecilia reticulata* at different chlorine levels in Mannar and Jaffna, Sri Lanka; A challenge in *Anopheles stephensi* control

P.J. Jude

Senior Lecturer, Department of Zoology, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

**P.J. Jude^{1,2}, N Gunathilaka¹, L Udayanaga³, D Fernando⁴, P Premarathne⁵, A. Wickremasinghe¹,
W Abeyewickreme^{1,5}**

¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Ragama, Sri Lanka, ²Department of Zoology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Open University of Sri Lanka, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, ³Department of Biosystems Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture & Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Makadura, Sri Lanka, ⁴Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka, ⁵Department of Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Kotelawala Defence University, Rathmalana, Sri Lanka

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

04th August 2022

Session 3

OP 1

Health related quality of life in patients on maintenance haemodialysis; a descriptive study in two in-center dialysis units at a major tertiary care medical institution in Sri Lanka

Atapattu AMMP¹, Dassanayake HDWTD¹, Dharmarathne SD², Nanayakkara N³

¹Department of Nursing, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ³Nephrology and transplant unit, National Hospital-Kandy, Sri Lanka

OP 2

Barriers and facilitators for weight reduction in obese young adults in an urban setting: A qualitative study

Gamage GP¹, Hettiarachchi P², Jayawardena R³, Wasalathanthri S³

¹Department of Nursing and midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

OP 3

Postpartum weight retention and factors associated with postpartum weight retention in mothers attending child welfare clinics in a selected Medical Officer of Health area, Colombo district

Weerakoon AY¹, Sirisena KKS¹, Kalupahana MCE¹, Uthpala PGP¹, Chamod DAS¹, Athiththan LV², Hettiaratchi UPK², Goonewardena CSE³

¹Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

OP 4

Taxonomic identification key to scrub typhus vector chigger mites in Sri Lanka

Ashani MLS¹, Gunathilaka N², Premarathne R¹, Chandrasena N², Jacinavicius FC,³ Bassini-Silva R⁴

¹Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya; ²Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya; ³Laboratório de Coleções Zoológicas, Instituto Butantan, São Paulo, SP; Brazil; ⁴Departamento de Patologia, Reprodução e Saúde Única, Faculdade de Ciências Agrárias e Veterinárias-UNESP, Jaboticabal, SP, Brazil

OP 5

The effect of Sri Lankan Apis cerana (bee) honey on selected wound pathogens

Jayamanne HC¹, Liyanaarachchi MV¹, Bogahawatta AE², Wijesekara I³, Jayasinghe MA³, Wijesinghe GK⁴, Widanagamage RD¹, Weerasekera MM²

¹Department of Medical Laboratory Science, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Microbiology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ⁴Department of Medical Laboratory Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

OP 6

Prevalence of toxoplasmosis among a selected group of cancer patients at Apeksha hospital, Maharagama, Sri Lanka

Weerasooriya PC¹, Banneheke HA¹, Manamperi AP², Danansuriya MN³

¹Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka; ²Molecular Medicine Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Ragama, Sri Lanka; ³Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka

OP 7

Experts' agreement on usability and features of a web-based tool in promoting flipped classroom pedagogy

Youhasan P¹, Henning MA², Chen Y², Lyndon M²

¹Department of Medical Education and Research, Eastern University, Sri Lanka; ²The Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education, The University of Auckland, New Zealand

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

04th August 2022

Infectious Diseases (PP 1 – PP 4)

PP 1

Patient perspectives of having cutaneous leishmaniasis and treatment with intralesional sodium stibogluconate

Senaratne S¹, Layton AM², Somaratne V³, Paul M Kaye², Kahawita I⁴, Wickremasinghe R¹, Ranasinghe S¹

¹Department of Parasitology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²York Biomedical Research Institute, University of York, United Kingdom; ³District General Hospital, Embilipitiya, Sri Lanka; ⁴Anti Leprosy Campaign, Sri Lanka

PP 2

In-vitro antimicrobial effect of Gliricidia sepium inner bark extractions against skin pathogens – a preliminary study

Dissanayake DMBT, Kumarasiri PDTS, Dissanayake GS

Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

PP 3

Characterization of East-Asian Helicobacter pylori encoding Western EPIYA-ABC CagA

Tissera PKS^{1,2}, Kim MA³, Lai J³, Angulmaduwa S³, Su H², Cha JH^{2,3}

¹Department of Medical Laboratory Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Affiliated Stomatology Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University, Guangzhou Key Laboratory of Basic and Applied Research of Oral Regenerative Medicine, China; ³Department of Oral Biology Yonsei University College of Dentistry, Republic of Korea

PP 4

Serum cytokines and its association with cervical intervertebral disc degeneration (CIDD) in patients with chronic neck pain

Weerakoon TCS¹, Dissanayake PH², Nisansala GGT³, Jayakody S⁴, Weerasekera MM⁵, Yasawardene SG²

¹Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University Sri Lanka; ²Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University Malaysia Kelantan; ⁴Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ⁵Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

Clinical Medicine, Quality & Patient safety (PP 5 – PP 14)

PP 5

Causes for per rectal bleeding among people older than 50 years presenting to a tertiary care center in central province Sri Lanka

Jayamaha JHPWB, Jayathilaka AB, Galketiya KB, Rathnayake RMJBS

Department of surgery, Faculty of medicine, University of Peradeniya

PP 6

Subclinical hypothyroidism related insulin resistance among females living in Sri Lankan suburb; a preliminary study

Hewage NI¹, Wijesekara GUS², Perera PPR¹

¹Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Medical Laboratory Science, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

PP 7

Perceptions of quality of life among hospitalized head and neck cancer patients on tube feeding at Apeksha Hospital, Sri Lanka

Weerawardhana SDPL¹, Meegoda MKDL², Goonewardena CSE³

¹Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

PP 8

Quality of life and its predictors among patients with chronic kidney disease of Unknown Etiology; Patients in North Central region, Sri Lanka

Suresh S¹, Fernando PSU¹, Galgamuwa LS², Kumarasinghe N³, Perera K⁴, Aslam F⁵, Hakmanage NM⁵, Lankeshwari A⁵, Madushani R⁵, Karunarathne C⁶, Udara YMS⁷

¹Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka; ³Department of Preclinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University, Sri Lanka; ⁴Department of Ayurvedic Pharmacology, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka; ⁵Institute of Indigenous and Alternative Medicine, Sri Lanka; ⁶Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University, Sri Lanka; ⁷Management and Science Institute, Colpetty, Sri Lanka

PP 9

Socio-demographic, physical and biochemical characteristics of patients with chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology in North Central province, Sri Lanka

Suresh S¹, Fernando PSU¹, Galgamuwa LS², Kumarasinghe N³, Perera K⁴, Aslam F⁵, Hakmanage NM⁵, Lankeshwari A⁵, Madushani R⁵, Karunarathne C⁶, Udara YMS⁷

¹Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Preclinical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University, Sri Lanka; ⁴Department of Ayurvedic Pharmacology, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka; ⁵Institute of Indigenous and Alternative Medicine, Sri Lanka; ⁶Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University, Sri Lanka; ⁷Management and Science Institute, Colpetty, Sri Lanka

PP 10

Clinical Audit: Awareness, confidence and CME participation of theatre staff on difficult airway management

Madugalle PSK¹, Rajapakshe RKA¹, Jayasinghe A²

¹Department of Anaesthesiology, Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

PP 11

Spectrum and distribution of paediatric epilepsy, prescription profile, compliance and adverse events associated with patients treated for epilepsy in paediatric neurology clinic: Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Colombo

Indrapali UKCI¹, Rathnayake P²

¹Base Hospital, Walasmulla; ²Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Sri Lanka

PP 12

Evaluation of low back pain using Oswestry disability index, visual analog scale and electromyography

Hettiarachchi SM¹, Gunawardhana TASM¹, Gopyprasath R¹, Gunarathna HWVK¹, Gunawardana ADCG¹, Hamsaryini M¹, Hasna HF¹, Herath ETRN¹, Herath HMLC¹, Weerasinghe VS²

¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

PP 13

Assessment of periodontal disease patterns and the non-surgical periodontal outcomes in a group of patients attending a periodontology clinic

Karthik S, Dhananjani T, Bandara DL

Department of Oral Medicine and Periodontology, Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

PP 14

Impact of healthcare quality on patient safety in UK hospitals

Nadarajah N, Gnanakunalan PR, Sivagnanasuntharam S, Seralathan T,

Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Preventive Medicine & Public Health (PP 15 – PP 21)

PP 15

Awareness on oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders among rice mill workers in Polonnaruwa district

Kariyawasam HML¹, Amarasinghe AAHK²

¹Ministry of Health, Colombo ¹⁰, Sri Lanka; ²Training Unit, Institute of Oral Health, Maharagama, Sri Lanka

PP 16

Adherence to age-appropriate immunization among children presented to Base Hospital, Valachchenei

Thamby SSP

Base Hospital, Valachchenei

PP 17

Maternal awareness, attitudes, and practices regarding childhood immunization among children presented to the immunization clinic - SBSCH Peradeniya

**Hettiarachchi EDRS¹, Hettiarachchi L², Jayarathna WHTS³, Wanigasinghe WMSP³,
Karunarathna AMWSHB³**

¹Base Hospital, Diyathalawa; ²Sirimavo Bandaranayake Specialized Childrens' Hospital, Peradeniya; ³Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka

PP 18***Airborne particulate matter concentration trends and their impact on human health in South Asia countries: A review with new data*****Jayasundara JMPDLB¹, Shehan DAM²**¹Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka**PP 19*****Heroin addiction status and associated factors; A study in a community-based treatment center*****Walpola DN¹, Samaranayaka TSP²**¹Divisional Hospital, Athurugiriya, Sri Lanka, ²Department of Family Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka**PP 20*****Sleep hygiene and characteristics associated with sleeping among primary school children in Gampaha district, Sri Lanka*****Wickremasinghe WAND¹, Wickremasinghe WADE², Liyanarachchi ND³**¹Base Hospital, Wellawaya; ²Base Hospital Gampaha; ³Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Ruhuna, Sri Lanka**PP 21*****Cytotoxic effect of Fluoride and hardness on Vero monkey kidney cell line: an in-vitro study*****Dilrukshi KT^{1,2}, Abey Siri, HASN^{1,2}, Amarasekara, BMYDE³, Beneragama, DH⁴, Wanigasuriya K⁵ and Manage PM^{1,2}**¹Centre for Water Quality and Algae Research, Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, ³Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Science, NSBM Green University, Homagama, Sri Lanka, ⁴Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, ⁵Centre for Kidney Research, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka**Pharmacology & Toxicology (PP 22 – PP 26)****PP 22*****The effect of mucoadhesives hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC) and carbopol 934 on doxycyclin-Nigella sativa-eugenol (DNE) formulation*****Shafri MAM¹, Zolkiffly SZI¹, Mohamed F²**¹Biomedical Science Department, Kulliyah of Allied Health Sciences, International Islamic University, Malaysia; ²Pharmaceutical Science Technology Department, Kulliyah of Pharmacy, International Islamic University Malaysia

PP 23

Determination of in-vitro antidiabetic and antioxidant activities of dietary supplement Coccinia grandis (L.) Voigt

Wasana KGP^{1*}, Attanayake AP¹, Arawwawala LDAM², Weeraratna TP³, Jayatilaka KAPW¹

¹Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Galle, Sri Lanka; ²Industrial Technology Institute, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Galle, Sri Lanka

PP 24

Cytogenotoxicity of Luffariella herdmani sponge extract on Allium cepa model: In vivo study

Kuruppuarachchi KASU¹, Jayawardena UA², Gunathilake KVK¹

¹Department of Zoology, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Zoology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

PP 25

Physicochemical properties of ultra-sonicated starch obtained from Manihot esculanta (MU-51) to use as a potential pharmaceutical excipient

Chasna MRP¹, Jayathilake C¹, Gunawardhana KVT²

¹Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Food Technology Section, Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), Sri Lanka

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Studies on the anticancer potential of plants belonging to the genus Caesalpinia and Oenanthe

Rezmer Jakub¹, Wasilewska Inga¹, Świątek Łukasz², Sieniawska Elwira³, Zengin Gokhan⁴, Rajtar Barbara²

¹Department of Virology with SARS Laboratory, Medical University of Lublin, Poland; ²Department of Virology with SARS Laboratory, Medical University of Lublin, Poland; ³Department of Natural Products Chemistry, Medical University of Lublin, Poland; ⁴Department of Biology, Science Faculty, Selcuk University, Turkey

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Post Graduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo

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Shafri MAM¹, Zainal IZ¹, Rahman NA²

¹Biomedical Science Department, Kulliyah of Allied Health Sciences, International Islamic University, Malaysia; ²Physical Rehabilitation Sciences Department, Kulliyah of Allied Health Sciences, International Islamic University, Malaysia

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Gunasekara HS¹, De Silva S²

¹District General Hospital, Gampah; ²Postgraduate Institute of Medicine

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Nuclear Medicine Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya

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Thaye L¹, Ratnatunga CN²**

¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

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¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

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Nuclear Medicine Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya

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Wickramasinghe NMPM¹, Tudugala R², Wickramasinghe M³, Peiris MMK²

¹Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom; ²Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka; ³University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom

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Weerakkody DSI¹, Elvitigala KN¹, Wettasinghe I², Sandakumari GVN³

¹Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Kalubowila, Sri Lanka; ²Hambanthota District General Hospital, Hambanthota, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Pharmacology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Kodikara KG¹, Seneviratne HMTW², Premarathna R³

¹Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Ragama, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Ragama, Sri Lanka

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Kodikara KG¹, Wickramasekara MHM¹, Seneviratne HMTW², Premarathna R³

¹Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka

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Abeyasinghe AAC¹, Allana ARF¹, Anuththara GS¹, Atapattu DMVV¹, Dodangoda AIS¹, De Silva AHW², Goonewardena CSE³

¹Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

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Patabendi NK¹, Amarasekara TD²

¹Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Kalubowila, Dehiwala, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Nursing & Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Youhasan P¹, Chen Y², Lyndon M², Henning MA²

¹Department of Medical Education & Research, Eastern University, Sri Lanka; ²Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education, University of Auckland, New Zealand

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Chamil K¹, Yasawardena S², Gamage M³

¹Dean's Office, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura; ²Department of Anatomy, University of Sri Jayewardenepura; ³Department of Paediatrics, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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Department of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, KIU, Sri Lanka

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Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Department of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, KIU, Sri Lanka

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Department of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, KIU, Sri Lanka

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Rodrigo N¹, Tennakoon V¹, Jayawardane M²

¹Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Alahakoon AP¹, Dasanayaka SJ¹, Jayasinghe YB¹, Jayawardane KGW¹, Wimalanath GO¹, Wimalasekera SW², Goonewardena CSE³

¹Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Jayathilaka PALM¹, Bandara WVRTDG²

¹Department of Nursing, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Medical Laboratory Science, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka

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Senaratne AC¹, Senaratne WASA¹, Dissanayake BWDME¹, Weerasekara HSV¹, Abeyasinghe AADC¹, Waas DA², Goonewardena CSE³

¹Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ³Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka

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Department of Physiotherapy, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

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Alwis G¹, Lenora J²

¹Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka

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Akuressage KA¹, Fernando TAN², Silva NY¹, Fernando DMS¹

Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Department of Psychology, KAATSU International University, Sri Lanka

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Gunawardhena CY, Buddhini DGH

Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health Sciences, KIU, Sri Lanka

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Ashan Wijekoon¹, Dilanthi Gamage Dona², Subashini Jayawardana¹

¹Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

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Senarath NSASN¹, Maduwansha NANJ²

¹Department of Social Statistics, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura; ²Department of Social Statistics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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Department of Pathology, faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka

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Department of Pathology, faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka

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Department of Surgery, District General Hospital, Nawalapitiya, Sri Lanka

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Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya

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¹Respiratory Investigation Unit, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka; ²Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

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¹Epicentre, Paris; ²Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) OCP, Paris

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¹Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Tajikistan; ²Dushanbe City TB Center; ³National TB Program, Tajikistan; ⁴MSF Holland; ⁵MSF UK

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¹Médecins Sans Frontières, Mumbai, India; ²National TB Elimination Programme, Mumbai, India

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Jamilya Utegenova¹, Dr. N.N. Parpieva², Antony Oraegbu¹, Theint Thida Soe¹, Zamir Bakbaev³, Zamira Davletmuratova³, Gabriella Bidwell¹.

¹Medecins sans Frontieres, Uzbekistan, ²Republican Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical Center of Tuberculosis and Pulmonology, Tashkent, Uzbekistan. ³Republican Center of Tuberculosis and Pulmonology, Nukus, Uzbekistan.

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¹Departments of Pediatrics and Environmental and Global Health, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA,; ²Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA,; ³Department of Health Outcomes and Biomedical Informatics, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA,; ⁴Université d'État d'Haiti-Faculté de Médecine et de Pharmacie, Port-au-Prince, Haiti,; ⁵Trek Medics International, Washington, DC, USA, ⁶Department of Health Services Research, Management and Policy, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA

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Benjamin Guesdon, PhD¹, Manisha Katwal², Amod Kumar Poudel, PhD³, Tuls Ram Bhandari, PhD⁴, Emilie Counil, PhD⁵, Sujay Nepali²

¹Action Against Hunger | Action Contre la Faim (ACF) -France, 14-16 Boulevard Douaumont, 75854 Paris, France.; ²Action Against Hunger | Action Contre la Faim (ACF)-Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.; ³Central Department of Public Health, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Tribhuvan University (TU), Maharajgunj, Nepal.; ⁴Department of Public Health, School of Health and Allied Sciences, Pokhara University (PoU), Pokhara, Nepal.; ⁵Institut national d'études démographiques (INED), F-93322 Aubervilliers, France.

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