

Academy news

Warm greetings to all members of ACM.

It is the nineteenth year after inception of ACM and it is progressing in all its activities beyond doubt. It has kindled a responsibility in many of its members towards better reporting, research and publications. The most important milestone of the past 3 years is the online publication of the Journal of the Academy of Clinical Microbiologists (JACM), published by M/s Wolters Kluwer - Medknow. The journal is well known now due to its presence on the internet. I sincerely congratulate all the editorial committee members who have contributed towards this achievement. You can read the journal at www.jacmjournal.org and submit your articles online at <http://www.journalonline.com/jacm/>.

Let me place on record my deep appreciation and gratitude to all our members who have conducted CMEs, supported the office bearers to carry out their functions, contributed articles and written reviews for the journal.

Clinical Microbiologists must be well aware of emerging antibiotic resistance. The Chennai declaration is one such venture which outlines a practical step-by-step strategy for containment of antibiotic resistance. Clinical microbiologists can implement the strategies outlined by the Chennai declaration in their hospitals by playing a proactive role and participating in hospital antibiotic monitoring, surgical antibiotic prophylaxis and hospital infection control practices. The document also recommends active participation in National antibiotic network to provide country wide data on antibiotic resistance and research on molecular epidemiology of multidrug-resistant bacteria. As an organisation that gives importance to appropriate use of antibiotics we reiterate our support to the Chennai Declaration.

ACM is conducting the Sixth Triennial Conference on 17th August 2014 in Thrissur. It is being organised by the

team from Government Medical College Thrissur, Jubilee Mission Medical College & Research Institute and Amala Institute of Medical Sciences at Thrissur, the cultural capital of Kerala. This time we have extended it by 1 day having a series of workshops on the first day (15th) and a CME on the second (16th) day. Oration award and paper presentations of ACM members will be held on the Conference day (17th). My sincere good wishes to all the team members for a successful conduct of the workshop and conference. I am sure there will be a great scientific feast awaiting all the participants during the conference. Let us make it a grand success by actively participating in all the sessions.

We deeply regret the demise of one of the pioneers of Microbiology in Kerala, Dr. Jayaram Panicker who had blessed us with his presence at all the CMEs conducted in Calicut. His contributions towards the medical field especially virology in the 70s and his text books on Bacteriology and Parasitology, are priceless.

As the outgoing President, I would like to wish all the new office bearers the very best to carry forward ACM to greater heights in the coming years. I specially remember and thank all the pioneers at this juncture. I also request everyone to participate in the elections and the conference.

Once again thanking all the members, 260 as on 31st March 2013, for their co-operation during the past 3 years and may God almighty bless us in all our future endeavors.

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