

Academy news

Warm greetings to all members of the Academy of Clinical Microbiologists (ACM)!!

This is the 22nd year of ACM since it was founded in 1996 under the strong leadership of Dr. Mabel Legori, the Founder President of ACM. ACM has grown from its initial strength of 18 members to the present status with 376 life members. ACM has a remarkable role in propagating the practice of clinical microbiology by linking the patient with the Clinical Microbiologist.

ACM Trivandrum and Calicut Chapters were formed and conducted their first meeting in July 2018. Important cases were discussed by the members and along with issues related to reporting. It was very informative and very well appreciated by the participants.

The CME on 'Recent Advances in Clinical Microbiology' held in Government Medical College (GMC), Ernakulam, Kerala, on 4th August, 2018, was the most important event that occurred in the last six months. It was a one-day programme of CME organised by Dr. J. Lancy, Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Ernakulam, Kerala, India.

The scientific program began with an informative talk by Dr. Anilkumar, Professor and Head of Microbiology, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi, on 'Recent Advances in Molecular Diagnostic Methods in Microbiology'. This was followed by another interesting session, 'Recent Advances in AMR-Practical Experiences' by Dr. Rajalakshmi Arjun, Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Kerala Institute of Medical Sciences, Trivandrum. The next speaker was Dr. Rajesh Kannanghail, Professor and Head, Department of Clinical Virology, CMC, Vellore, who highlighted the 'Recent Advances in HIV'. Dr. K. G. R Mallan, Professor and Head, Respiratory Medicine, GMC, Ernakulam, gave an enlightening talk on 'Recent Advances in Diagnosis of Tuberculosis'. This was followed by poster session and free paper presentation for post-graduates and junior faculties. The programme was a grand success.


ACM council meeting was held in the evening. The main agendas discussed were about conversion of MD microbiology practical examination from three days to two days. It was decided to conduct a workshop on training of post-graduates in one of the medical colleges. Dr. Prithi Nair has volunteered for the same. The next agenda discussed was about the problem with the appointment of MSc microbiologists in medical colleges. Regarding this matter, a letter which was signed by the office bearers of ACM has been sent to the Medical Council of India, All India Pre and Para Clinical Medicos Association, Travancore-Cochin Medical Councils and Indian Medical Association.

The next CME of 2018 is to be held at Tata Medical Center, Kolkata, India, on 10th and 11th December, 2018. The theme of CME and workshop is 'Bio-Safety and the Use of Technology and Knowledge Bank in Modern Medical Practice'. The program is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. I am glad to invite all members for attending the CME in Kolkata. Readers may please visit our website www.clinicalmicrobio.org for details of CME.

We, the team of ACM, expect wholehearted cooperation from all members to strengthen the ACM and take it to greater heights.

Manjusree Shanmughan

*Secretary, Academy of Clinical Microbiologists
E-mail: dr_manjusree@yahoo.co.in*

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