

From the Desk of Organizing Secretaries

We feel profound pleasure to write few lines on grand occasion of "National Symposium on Innovation in TB Diagnostics, Drug Targets and Biomarkers".

Tuberculosis is major public health problem worldwide. Almost 20 years have been passed after declaration of tuberculosis as a global emergency by WHO. Even after passing a long duration, if when revised retrospectively, there is no drastic change in severity of problem. More over it is major area of concern as EPTB prevalence is increasing due to immunocompromised state of HIV. Though we progressed in discovering number of tests for its rapid detection in favour of early diagnosis, still challenges are there in diagnosis of tuberculosis particularly EPTB, childhood TB etc; due to their atypical presentations. This symposium and CME on TB immunodiagnostics has been organised in this context so that single platform may be utilized under the guidance of respected specialists in their field, may add new and better screening tests being developed, and may generate a new ray of hope amongst all.

Newly emerging threat of drug resistance and extensive drug resistant tuberculosis infection has synergistically increased the already existing problems in tuberculosis control and its eradication. Such situation highly demands a new anti tuberculosis drug targets for better improvement of chronically suffered ill patients. Here in this symposium all researchers and medical experts have a forum to share their views and ideas to improve situation in all aspects treating tuberculosis as a global problem.

We hope such national level integration may help and boost quick results by all means for TB. As this forum is utilized by both academic scientists and industrial expert personnel, it may help to fill gap between their knowledge (scientist) and demands (industries). We look forward for frank discussion, debate and guidance and hope for promotion of advanced technologies in favour of TB diagnostics as well as treatment.

We would like to thank KHS, AstraZeneca, DBT, DST, ICMR and MCI for their financial support. We also appreciate the active participation of GeNext Genomics in collaborating with TB translational research and support to Symposium in publication of proceedings, transport etc. We are also grateful to active and continuous support of our President, Secretary and Dean. A very special thanks to Dr. B.C. Harinath, organising chairman for having faith on us and his wide vision and valuable guidance make the symposium possible and successful.

From bottom of our heart we thank deeply the Dept. of Biochemistry & JBTDR, BIC and Arogyadham staff, organizing committee and faculty everybody who have guided and worked hard to make this event successful. We will like to convey thanks to all guest speakers, delegates. Attempts at all levels is being made by organizing committee to make your stay comfortable and pleasant. We also kindly request you to pardon us for any shortcomings.

Dr. Pranita Waghmare
Organising Secretary &
Asst. Professor, Biochemistry
MGIMS, Sevagram

Ms. Supriya Kashikar
Organising Secretary &
General Manager (R&D),
GeNext Genomics Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur