



MICROCON 2026

49th Annual Congress of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

Organised by

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, NAGPUR

Theme: Microbial Threats: Trace-Target-Treat

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM



**28th October to 01st
November 2026**



**All India Institute of Medical
Sciences (AIIMS), Nagpur**



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS			DATE – 28.10.2026 (Wednesday)
SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
1	DIAGNOSTIC APPROACHES IN CLINICAL PARASITOLOGY: FROM MICROSCOPY TO SEQUENCING	Dr. Harshvardhan Sheorey Consultant Medical Microbiologist St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne & Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia	Dr. Abhishek Mewara Additional Professor, Department of Medical Parasitology, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh Dr. Sitara Swarna Rao Professor, Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore Dr. Rimjhim Kanojia Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh Dr. Malathi Manuel Senior Demonstrator, Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College, Vellore Dr. Taruna Kaura Scientist B, Department of Medical Parasitology, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India Ms. Urvashi Rahi PhD student, Department of Medical Parasitology, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India Ms. Selvi Laxmanan Laboratory Supervisor, The Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College, Vellore, India Ms. Renita Ruth Quality Manager, The Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Christian Medical College, Vellore, India
2	TRANSFORMING CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY WITH NEXT-GENERATION SEQUENCING	Dr. Bharti Malhotra Professor, Department of Microbiology, Sawai Mansingh Medical College, Jaipur	Dr. Ankit Jain Executive Segment Specialist, Illumina Dr. Swati Gautam SMS Medical College, Jaipur Dr. Manjunath B Senior Field Application Scientist, Illumina

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

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			Dr. Swapnil Kadamb Field Application Scientist, Premas Life Sciences Dr. T.S Gugapriya Professor, Department of Anatomy AIIMS Nagpur
3	EVALUATING DIAGNOSTIC TESTS PERFORMANCE: CONCEPTS, METHODS AND APPLICATION	Dr. Sujiv Akkilagunta Additional Professor, Department of Community Medicine, AIIMS Nagpur	Dr. Pradeep Deshmukh Professor & Head, Department. Community Medicine, AIIMS, Nagpur Dr. Yogesh Bahurupi Additional Professor, Department of Community Medicine, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Jaya Prasad Tripathy Additional Professor, Department of Community Medicine, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Rahul Narang Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Bibinagar
4	INTEGRATED MYCOPATHOLOGY AND NANOPORE SEQUENCING	Dr. T Karuna Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Bhopal	Dr. Rahul Garg Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Bibinagar Dr. Gajendra Singh Scientist, Department of Microbiology AIIMS Bhopal Ms. Madhu Panthi Laboratory Technician, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Bhopal
5	ONE HEALTH APPROACH TO VIRAL THREATS	Dr. Anoop Velayudhan Scientist F & Nodal Officer for One Health, ICMR, New Delhi	Dr. Rima R Sahay Scientist D (Medical) and Biosafety Officer Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medical Research- AcSIR, Maximum Containment Facility, ICMR, Pune, India Dr. Neha Nityadarshini Senior Scientific Consultant, National One Health Mission – PMU Team, (ICMR), Headquarters, New Delhi Dr. Manickam Ponnaiah Scientist F (Epidemiology) Professor, Faculty of Medical Research- AcSIR ICMR National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu Dr. Arun T. R. Scientist C, National Institute One Health, Nagpur

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

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6	OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION: A MICROBIOLOGIST'S TOOLKIT	Dr. Aruna Poojary Laboratory Director & IPC In-charge, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai	Dr. J. Jayalakshmi Professor & HOD, Dept of Microbiology Kovai Medical College, Coimbatore Dr. Rajni Gaind Consultant & Professor VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi Dr. Sweta Shah Lead Consultant Microbiology & Infection Control, Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital and Research Institute, Mumbai Dr. Ranganathan Iyer Senior Consultant, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad Dr. Ashwini Tayade Consultant Infectious Diseases & Director Ishra Health-Infectious Diseases Clinic, Visiting Consultant Wockhardt Hospital & KIMS Hospital, Nagpur Dr. Madhavi Deshmukh Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Dhruv Diagnostics, Nagpur Dr. Nitin Shinde Senior Consultant, Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine, KIMS Kingsway Hospital, Nagpur
7	HANDS-ON WORKSHOP ON ANAEROBIC CULTURE TECHNIQUE & IDENTIFICATION 'BEYOND OXYGEN: CULTURING THE INVISIBLE'	Dr. Shashwati Nema Additional Professor, Department of Microbiology AIIMS Bhopal	Dr. Beena Antony Professor, Department of Microbiology, Father Muller Medical College, Mangalore Dr. Bhawna Sharma Professor, Department of Microbiology, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi Dr. Tanu Sagar Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

DATE – 28.10.2026 (Wednesday)

SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
8	INTEGRATED APPROACH TO UTI	Dr. Sarita Mohapatra Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	Dr. Manish Soneja Professor, Department of Medicine, AIIMS, New Delhi Dr. Meher Rizvi Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology Sultan Qaboos University Muscat, Oman Dr. Shwetha J. V. Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Bengaluru Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru Dr. Sneha K. Chunchanur Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, Bengaluru Medical College and Research Institute, Bengaluru Dr. Arunkumar Subbiah Associate Professor, Department of Nephrology, AIIMS, New Delhi
9	FROM RESEARCH TO PUBLICATION: MASTERING SCIENTIFIC WRITING	Dr. Sangeeta Joshi Editor- in-Chief, IJMM, Consultant Microbiologist, Infection control officer, Sahyadri Hospital, Pune	Dr. Ranganathan Iyer D Sr Consultant, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi Sr Consultant, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi Surg Vice Admiral Shankar Subramanian Deputy Chief of Integrated Defense Staff (Medical) Dr. Shilpi Khanna Managing Editor IJMM Past: Senior Consultant and Head Clinical Microbiology and Molecular, Deputy Head Laboratories, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
10	MYCOLOGY WORKSHOP: "CLINICAL MYCOLOGY: DIAGNOSTICS FROM BASICS, BIOMARKERS TO MOLECULAR APPROACHES"	Dr. Malini R Capoor Professor, Department of Microbiology, VMMC & SJH, New Delhi	Dr. Deepak Thamke Professor, Department of Microbiology MGIMS, Sevagram Dr. Abhijit Bal Consultant Microbiologist, National Health Service, UK Dr. Anup Gosh Professor, Department of Microbiology PGIMER, Chandigarh

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS			DATE – 28.10.2026 (Wednesday)
SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
			Dr. Sheetal Sharma Senior Resident, VMMC & SJH, New Delhi Dr. Vanalruati Resident, VMMC & SJH, New Delhi Dr. Moumita Chakraborti Senior Resident, VMMC & SJH, New Delhi
11	A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO VIRAL CELL CULTURE ISOLATION TECHNIQUES	Dr. Ishani Bora Additional Professor, Virology, PGIMER, Chandigarh	Dr. Subhabrata Sarkar Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh Dr. Vishal Shete Associate Professor, Microbiology AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Bharatendu Singh Scientist B, RVRDL Mrs. Nisha Thakur Phd Scholar, Virology
12	CSSD - TRACELESS TASKFORCE TARGETING MICROBIAL THREATS	Dr. Soumyabrata Nag Member Secretary, CSSD Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Nagpur	Dr. Akshat Vij Consultant Microbiologist and Infection Control Officer Medicover Hospital, Hyderabad Dr. Safaa Muneer Ahmed Head of Department, Clinical Microbiology and Hospital Infection Control, Renova Group of Hospitals & Tenet Diagnostics, Hyderabad Dr. Vijendra Kawle Consultant Microbiologist, Rainbow Children's Hospitals, Hyderabad, Telangana Secretary, IAMM TAPC State Chapter Ms. Neeta Amit Ghugare Assistant Manager, HOD, CSSD, Wockhardt Hospital Limited, Mumbai Central Mr. Shailesh Mehta Director, Medovation Inc.
13	FROM PROTOCOL TO PRACTICE: CASE BASED DISCUSSIONS WITH MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM IN NEUTROPENIC PATIENTS	Dr. Sonali Mangesh Choudhari Senior Consultant Clinical Microbiologist & Infection Control Officer, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur	Dr. Pradeep Mishra Head of Department, Internal Medicine and Critical Care, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS			DATE – 28.10.2026(Wednesday)
SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
			Dr. Pankaj Dwivedi Head, Paediatric Oncology, National Cancer Institute, Nagpur Dr. Aruna Poojary Laboratory Director & IPC In-charge, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai Dr. Anusha Karunasgar Speciality Doctor- Microbiology The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust Hamstel Road, Harlow, Essex, CM20 1QX Dr. Jerestin Watchmaker Consultant Microbiologist, NCI, Nagpur
14	NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING FOR HOSPITAL WASTE WATER SURVEILLANCE: FROM PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS TO AMR DETECTION (2 DAYS WORKSHOP- 28TH AND 29TH OCTOBER 2026)	Dr. Rajesh Karyakarte Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Government Medical College, Pune Dr. Varsha potdar Scientist 'E' National Institute of Virology, Pune	Dr. Mahesh S. Dharne Chief Scientist, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune Dr. Rashmita Das Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, BJ Government Medical College, Pune Dr. Sushma Yanamandra Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, BJ Government Medical College, Pune Ms. Sai Prashant Joshi Project Associate II, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune Mr. Rinka Sanatan Pramanik Senior Project Associate, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune Ms. Akshada Jagdale Project Associate I, CSIR - National Chemical Laboratory, Pune Mr. Raunak Kumar Project Associate I, CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune Mrs. Veena Vipat Sr Technical officer NIV, Pune

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS			DATE – 28.10.2026 (Wednesday)
SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
			Mr. Santoshkumar Jadhav Sr Technical Officer NIV, Pune
15	UNMASKING THE GREAT MIMIC: MELIOIDOSIS FOR SURVEILLANCE, DIAGNOSIS, AND RESEARCH: A NATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR MICROBIOLOGISTS	Dr. Bijayini Behera Professor, Department of Microbiology AIIMS, Bhubhaneshwar In co-ordination with KMC MANIPAL	Dr. Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay Professor, Department of Microbiology, KMC, Manipal Dr. Vandana K.E. Professor, Department of Microbiology, KMC, Manipal Dr. Ayush Gupta Additional Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Bhopal Dr. Mohammed Ashiq Research Scientist, Department of Microbiology, KMC, Manipal
16	THE RIGHT TEST. THE RIGHT TIME. THE RIGHT THERAPY. (HARNESSING SYNDROMIC DIAGNOSTICS FOR RATIONAL ANTIMICROBIAL USE)	Dr. Devjani De Lead - Medical Affairs, Biomerieux India	Dr. Shahzad Mirza Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical college and Research Centre, Pune Dr. Ashwini Tayade ID Specialist, Nagpur
17	MICROBIOLOGY AUTOMATION & AMR/AMS	Dr. Yagnesh Thakar Director, Vishakha Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Nagpur	Dr. Veenu Gupta Professor and Head, Microbiology, DMCH Ludhiana Dr. Anuradha Deshmukh Senior Consultant Microbiologist, Kingsway Hospital, Nagpur Dr. Pooja Shendre Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur
18	SMART - AMS: STEWARDSHIP THROUGH MICROBIOLOGY, AST, RAPID DIAGNOSTICS AND TARGETED THERAPY	Dr. Sumit Rai Professor & Head Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, AIIMS, Mangalagiri	Dr. Debabrata Dash Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Microbiology, AIIMS, Mangalagiri

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS			DATE – 28.10.2026 (Wednesday)
SN	TOPIC	WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	FACULTY TEAM
19	TINY LIVES, TIMELY CARE: INFECTION PREVENTION IN THE NICU	Dr. Nizam Damani Consultant & Advisor, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK	Dr. Meena Mishra Professor and Head Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Neeta Gade Additional Professor. Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Nishant Banait Associate Professor, Department of Neonatology, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Prachala Rathod Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur Dr. Arya Lakshmi Rajan SR, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur
20	HEALTHCARE- ASSOCIATED INFECTION SURVEILLANCE	Dr. Apurba Sastry Professor, Department of Microbiology Hospital Infection Control Incharge JIPMER, Puducherry	Dr. Benedict Vinothini HIC Fellow and SR, JIPMER, Puducherry Dr. Sarumathi D Assistant Professor (Microbiology) AIIMS, Madurai Dr. Poulami Biswas HIC Fellow & Senior Resident JIPMER

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

29.10.2026 (THURSDAY)

PRE-CONFERENCE CME I	NEW AGE RAPID AST SOLUTIONS AND THEIR PIVOTAL ROLE IN TRANSFORMING DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP	
Topic	CO-ORDINATORS	Speaker
FAST-TRACK SEPSIS: THE POWER OF RAPID AST	Dr. Debkishore Gupta Director & Head, Medical Affairs, South Asia, Biomerieux	Dr. Devjani De Medical Affairs Lead-India Biomerieux Critical Care Physian, India
		Dr. Pradeep Sharma Senior Consultant in Critical Care, NH Hospital, Raipur
		Dr. Cecillia Carvalhaes Director, Medical Microbiology, bioMerieux India
		Dr. Anup Warriar Group Cheif of Medical Services at BMH Care Hospital Ltd. Kochi
		Dr. Shrikala Baliga Associate Dean, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Mangalore
		Dr. Stefan Weber Director Medical Operations, Union 71, (UAE)

PRE-CONFERENCE CME II	LEARNING CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY BY CASES: PEARLS & PITFALLS IN RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS	
Topic	Coordinator	Speakers
Approach to Management of Respiratory Infections and Bloodstream Infections- Learning by Clinical Cases	Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer Director, Clinical Microbiology, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad	Dr. Sangeeta Joshi Editor- in-Chief, IJMM, Consultant Microbiologist, Infection control officer, Sahyadri Hospital, Pune
		Dr. Sumit Rai Professor & Head Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, AIIMS, Mangalagiri
		Dr. Soumyabrata Nag Associate Professor, Microbiology, AIIMS Nagpur
		Dr. Aruna Poojary Lab.Director & IPC Incharge , Breach Candy Hospital

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PRE-CONFERENCE CME III	THE GOLD STANDARD CIRCUIT: FROM LAB VALIDATION TO FRONTLINE DISINFECTION	
Topic	Coordinator	Speakers
The Gold Standard Circuit: From Lab Validation to Frontline Disinfection	Dr. Purva Mathur Head, Microbiology unit, JPNATC, AIIMS Delhi	Dr. Rajesh Karyakarte Professor and Head, Microbiology, B. J. Government Medical College and Sassoon General Hospitals, Pune
		Dr. Nizamuddin Noordin Damani Consultant & Advisor, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK
		Dr. Apurba Sastry Professor, Department of Microbiology, Hospital Infection Control Incharge, JIPMER, Puducherry
		Dr. Ujjwala Ghoshal Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Kalyani
		Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi Chairperson, Department of Microbiology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi
		Dr. Rungmei S K Marak Professor and Head, Department of Infectious Disease, SGPGI, Lucknow
		Dr. J. Jayalakshmi Professor and Head of Microbiology, KMCH Institute of Health Sciences & Research, Coimbatore
		Dr. Manisha Biswal Professor, PGIMER, Chandigarh
		Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharya Consultant in Microbiology Tata Medical Center, Kolkata, West Bengal

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

The Gold Standard Circuit: From Lab Validation to Frontline Disinfection	Dr. Purva Mathur Head, Microbiology unit, JPNATC, AIIMS Delhi	Dr. Malini R Capoor Professor, Dept of Microbiology, Kayakalp Unit and BMWM unit Incharge, VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi
		Dr. Vineeta Khare Professor and Head of Microbiology, Era Medical College, Lucknow
		Dr. Manodeep Sen Professor Microbiology, RML, Lucknow
		Dr. Prashant Gupta Professor Microbiology, KGMU, Lucknow

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

INAUGURATION – 29th October 2026 (Thursday)

Time	Convention Hall
8 : 00 AM	Registration and Breakfast starts followed by Pre-Conference CMEs
05 : 45 PM Onwards	Commencement of Inaugural Function
7 : 00 – 7 : 30 PM	Presidential Oration – Prof. (Dr.) Chand Wattal Chairman, Clinical Microbiology & Immunology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi
7 : 30 onwards	Cultural Program folowed by Inaugural Dinner

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 1		30-10-26 (Friday)
CONVENTION HALL		
TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
		Hidden World of Transplant Infections (Session Theme)
8 : 00– 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 1	Invasive infections including Blood Sream Infections in the Liver TX Recipient Dr. Ranganathan Iyer Director, Clinical Microbiology, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Hyderabad
		The Deteriorating Kidney Transplant Recipient: Recurrent Infection, Cytopenias and a Diagnostic Dilemma Dr. Amol Bhawane Associate Professor, Department of Nephrology, AIIMS Nagpur
	Convention Hall 2	Helicobacter pylori: From Detection to Drug Resistance (Session Theme)
		Beyond Detection: Unmasking Drug-Resistant <i>H. pylori</i> Dr. Shalinie Perera Clinical Microbiologist, Western Diagnostic Pathology, Western Australia
	Convention Hall 3	Role of <i>H. pylori</i> in formation of Gastric Cancer Dr. Neelesh Shrivastava Assistant Professor, Department of surgical oncology, AIIMS Nagpur
		Pitfalls in Reading Antibiograms (Session Theme)
		Nuances of AST Reports Dr. Sumit Rai Professor and Head, Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, AIIMS Mangalagiri
		Interpreting blood culture reports in the clinical scenario: Case-based Challenges Dr. Parikshit Prayag Consultant, Transplant Infectious Disease, Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune
		CHAIRPERSONS : Dr. Bhaskar Thakuria Professor & Head, Microbiology, AIIMS Patna

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 1		30-10-26 (Friday)
CONVENTION HALL		
TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
8 : 00- 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 4	Relevance of Bioinformatics in Clinical Microbiology (Session Theme)
		Leveraging Multiomics and Machine- learning in Virology Research : Biomarker and Antiviral Drug Delivery Dr. Sarah Cherian Scientist G, Bioinformatics & Data Management Division, NIV, Pune Application of AI and Omics in Microbiology/ Virology Dr. Amit Arora Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh
8 : 00 - 9 : 00 AM	FREE CATEGORY POSTER PRESENTATION	

9 : 00 - 10 : 00 AM	DR. K.B SHARMA MEMORIAL JUNIOR BEST PAPER AWARD
10 : 00 - 10 : 30 AM	DR. S.C. AGARWAL ORATION AWARD TITLE - TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF VIRAL HEPATITIS FROM INDIA Dr. Ekta Gupta Professor & Head, Department of Clinical Virology, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi
10 : 30 - 11 : 00 AM	IAMM ENDOWMENT ORATION AWARD TITLE - Intestinal Opportunistic and Other Parasitic Infections in India: Navigating an Uncharted Path Dr. Ujjala Ghoshal Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Kalyani
11 : 00 - 11 : 15 AM	TEA

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 1

30-10-26 (Friday)

CONVENTION HALL

PLENARY SESSIONS

MODERATOR : Dr. Jayanthi Shastri

Director, Center of Excellence in Research & Training in Infectious Diseases,
Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS) Regional Centre, Mumbai

Theme : Immune Landscape in Infection

TOPIC

SPEAKER

CHAIRPERSON

11 : 15 – 12 : 30
PM

**FIGHTING THE PATHOGENIC FIRE WITH FLOW
CELLS : FRONTLINE IMMUNE MONITORING IN
OUTBREAKS.**

Dr. Vainav Patel
Scientist 'D', Head, Department of
Biochemistry & Virology, National
Institute for Research in Reproductive
Health, Parel, Mumbai

**INTEGRATED MICROBIOME IMMUNE
SIGNATURES IN HIV- TB**

Dr. Vikrant Bhor
Scientist F & Head
Department of Molecular Immunology &
Microbiology
ICMR-National Institute for Research on
Women's Health

Dr. Shashikala Nair
Professor & Head of
Department of
Microbiology , Pondicherry
Institute of Medical
Sciences, Pondicherry

**IMMUNOLOGY OF MATERNAL HCMV
INFECTION : IMPLICATIONS FOR ADVERSE
PREGNANCY OUTCOMES**

Dr. Rungmei S K Marak
Professor & Head, Department of
Microbiology & Infectious Diseases,
SGPGIMS, Lucknow

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

12 : 30 – 01 : 00
PM

TOPIC : EATING THE ELEPHANT: A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO HAI REDUCTION

SPEAKER : Dr. Nizamuddin Damani

Consultant & Advisor, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland, UK

1 : 00 – 2 : 00
PM

LUNCH

(IAMM QUIZ SCREENING ROUND - 1:00 - 1:30 PM)

2 : 00 - 4 : 00 PM

IAMM Award Sessions

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DEBATE (Parallel Session)		
2 : 00 - 3 : 00 PM	TOPIC : SYNDROMIC PANELS ARE HELPING CLINICAL DECISION MAKING MODERATOR : Dr. Camilla Rodrigues Head of Department of Lab Medicine, Consultant Microbiologist, P. D. Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai DEBATERS : FOR : 1. Dr. Preeti Ajapuje Infectious diseases consultant at Apollo Hospital, Pune Transplant ID consultant at DY Patil Hospital, Pune 2. Dr. Bansidhar Tarai Director & Head, Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics & Infection Control, MAX Hospital, Delhi AGAINST : 1. Dr. Chhaya Chande Professor, Microbiology, B.J.G.M.C, Pune 2. Dr. Nirmal Jaiswal Chief Intensivist & Head, Department of Medicine & Critical Care, Suretech Group of Hospitals, Nagpur	2 : 00 - 5 : 00 PM Free Category Oral Papers and Poster presentation
	3 : 00 - 3 : 30 PM	TEA

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 1 (30.10.2026) 3 : 30 - 5 : 00 PM HALL 1 THEME : MICROBIOME MATTERS : GUT HEALTH CHATTERS		
SN	Topic	Speaker
1	GUT MICROBIOME, CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION & FAECAL TRANSPLANTATION	Dr. Shrikant Ambalkar Consultant & Head of Service, Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infection, Sherwood Forest Hospital, NHS, UK
2	PROBIOTICS, PREBIOTICS & SYMBIOTICS : SAFE OPTIONS FOR NEW THERAPEUTICS	Dr. Dimple Kasana Professor, Additional Director & Head of the Department, Dept. of BBTR, RV & TB and BSL3, Directorate General of Health Sciences, Government of India, New Delhi
3	SUPER DONORS AND MICROBIOME IN NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND HEART FAILURE	Dr. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly Chairman, Department of Biotechnology and Research, Sir Gangaram Hospital. President, Probiotic and Gut Microbiota Science Foundation Past President IAMM
Chairperson: Lt. Gen. D. Raghunath (Retired)		

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA – Day 1 (30.10.2026) 3 : 30- 5 : 00 PM - HALL 2 THEME : RARE EMERGING AGENTS (RICKETTSIA, EMERGOMYCES, EMERGING PARASITES)		
SN	Topic	Speaker
1	RICKETTSIA AND RARE EMERGING BACTERIA	Dr. Manisha Biswal Professor, Dept of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh
2	EMERGOMYCES AND RARE EMERGING FUNGI	Dr. Malini Capoor Professor, Microbiology, Vardhman Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi
3	EMERGING RARE PARASITIC INFECTIONS : ROLE IN CARCINOGENESIS-THE MISSING LINK	Dr. Tuhina Banerjee Professor & Head, Dept of Microbiology, Institute of Medical Sciences Banaras Hindu University
Chairperson - Dr. Jagdish Chander Former Professor & Head Department of Microbiology, Government Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh.		Dr. Priti Agrawal Professor and Head Department of Microbiology AIIMS, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 1 (30.10.2026) 3 : 30- 5 : 00 PM - HALL 3 THEME : PULMONARY MYCOSES : DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGES		
SN	Topic	Speaker
1	EPIDEMIOLOGY : SPECTRUM AND EMERGENCE	Dr. Jayanthi Savio Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology St. Johns Medical College, Bengaluru
2	WHEN TO SUSPECT PULMONARY MYCOSES AND DIAGNOSTIC ALGORITHM	Dr. Shivaprakash M Rudramurthy Professor & Head, Dept of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh
3	INTERPRETATION OF NON-CULTURE-BASED DIAGNOSIS	Dr. Priyanka Narain Associate Professor, Dept of Microbiology, Patna Medical College, Bihar
Chairpersons - Dr. Ragini Tilak Professor, Department of Microbiology Institute of Medical Sciences B.H.U, Varanasi		Dr. Shukla Das Head, Director, Professor, Department of Microbiology UCMS & GTBH Delhi

4 : 00 - 6 : 00 PM
IAMM
Executive Council
Meeting

Venue :
Conference Room,
Admin Block,
AIIMS, Nagpur

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

INDUSTRIAL SESSION - DAY 1 (30.10.2026)

5:00 - 6:00 PM - HALL 1 (ZUVERLASSE)

TIME	VENUE	INDUSTRIAL SESSIONS
5 : 00 - 6 : 00 PM	Hall 1 -	TOPIC: EVALUATING DISINFECTANTS USING EN/ASTM STANDARDS SPEAKER: Dr. Benedict Vinothini A. HIC Fellow and SR, Department of Microbiology, JIPMER, Puducherry Moderator: Dr. Apurba Sastry Professor, Department of Microbiology, Hospital Infection Control In-charge, JIPMER, Puducherry 1. HYGIENIC HAND-RUB TESTING (EN 1500) 2. SUSPENSION TESTS – BASIC AND SPECIALISED (EN 1040 AND OTHERS) 3. CARRIER/SURFACE TESTS (AOAC USE DILUTION TEST) 4. KELSEY-SYKES CAPACITY TEST

INDUSTRIAL SESSION - DAY 1 (30.10.2026)

5:00 - 6:00 PM - HALL 2 (ZUVERLASSE)

THEME: ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE IN HOSPITALS: CLOSING THE GAPS

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
5:00-5:10 PM	THE INVISIBLE RESERVOIR: WHY IT MATTERS?	Dr. Lata Sheoran Consultant Microbiologist, Yatharth Wellness Super Speciality Hospital & Heart Centre, Noida
5:10-5:30PM	ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING: BEST PRACTICES IN HIGH RISK SETTINGS	Dr. Veenu Gupta Prof & Head Department of Microbiology, DMC, Ludhiana
5:30-5:50 PM	ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE: WHAT, WHERE & WHEN?	Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi Chairperson & Sr. Consultant, Institute of Clinical Microbiology & Immunology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi
5:50-6:00 PM	FROM “LOOKS CLEAN” TO “IS IT CLEAN?”: AUDITS & KPIS	Dr. Lata Sheoran Consultant Microbiologist, Yatharth Wellness Super Speciality Hospital & Heart Centre, Noida

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

INDUSTRIAL SESSION - DAY 1 (30.10.2026)

5:00 - 6:00 PM - HALL 3 (BIOMERIEUX)

TIME	SPEAKERS
5 : 00 - 6 : 00 PM	TOPIC - THE SEPSIS CARE CONTINUUM: FROM DIAGNOSTICS TO INTERVENTION – A MULTIDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE
	Dr. Parikshit Prayag Infectious Diseases Consultant Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune
	Dr. Subhash Kr. Todi Director of the Department of Critical Care Manipal Hospitals, Kolkata
	Dr. Meena Mishra Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology AIIMS Nagpur
	Dr. Sankar Sengupta Head of Department-Laboratory Medicine CNCI, Kolkata
	Dr. Debkishore Gupta Director & Head, Medical Affairs - South Asia, Biomerieux bioMérieux India
7 : 00 PM Onwards	Dr. Cecilia Carvalhaes Director, Medical Microbiology Specialists bioMérieux India
	NETWORKING DINNER

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 2

(31 - 10-26) Saturday

CONVENTIONAL HALL

TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
8 : 00 – 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 1	Bone & Prosthetic Joint Infection (Session Theme)
		Navigating the Diagnostic Journey of PJIs: From Operation Room to Bench Dr. Aruna Poojary Lab Director & IPC In charge, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai The Journey of a PJI Patient: From Diagnosis to Recovery Dr. Aditya Menon Orthopedics consultant, PD Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai CHAIRPERSONS: Dr. Manideepa SenGupta Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, Mandakini Institute of Medical Sciences & Hospital, Ranaghat, West Bengal
	Convention Hall 2	From Culture/AST to Molecular Testing- Quality matters (Session Theme)
		Too Sensitive, Too Resistant? Quality Issues Behind AST Discrepancies - Dr. Sonal Saxena Professor & Head, Microbiology, MAMC, New Delhi From Extraction to Ct values: The Quality Chain in Molecular Testing- Dr. Bharti Malhotra Professor, Department of Microbiology, Sawai Mansingh Medical College, Jaipur CHAIRPERSONS : Dr. Vimala Venkatesh Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 2

(31 - 10-26) Saturday

CONVENTIONAL HALL

TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
8 : 00 – 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 3	Ocular Microbiology Diagnostics (Session Theme)
		SPEAKERS : Microbiological diagnosis of eye infections- nuances of specimen collection and routine diagnosis of viral and non-viral eye infections - Dr. Savitri Sharma Director Emeritus, laboratory Services, LV Prasad Institute, Hyderabad Uncommon Ocular Pathogens, Molecular Diagnosis and Metagenomic Approach in the Diagnosis of Eye Infections - Dr. Nishat Hussain Professor, Ocular Microbiology, Dr. R.P.C, AIIMS Delhi CHAIRPERSONS : Dr. Sanjay More Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, GMC, Nanded
	Convention Hall 4	The Shifting Microbial Landscape : What Today's Microbiologist Must Anticipate (Session Theme)
		SPEAKER: From Petri Dish to Patient: Lessons from a Lifetime in Microbiology Lt. Gen. D. Raghunath (Retired) When Culture Doesn't Tell the Whole Story: The ID-Microbiology Dilemma Dr. Ashwini Tayade Consultant - Infectious Disease, Wockhardt hospital, Director-Ishra Health-Infectious Disease Clinic, Nagpur CHAIRPERSONS : Dr. Pratima Gupta Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Deoghar Dr. Balram Ji Omar Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Rishikesh, Uttarakhand
8 : 00 - 9 : 00 AM	FREE CATEGORY POSTER PRESENTATION	

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 2		(31 - 10 - 2026) Saturday
CONVENTION HALL		
TIME		
09 : 00 – 10 : 00 AM	IAMM QUIZ	
10 : 00 – 11 : 00 AM	Dr. S. R. SENGUPTA IAMM SYMPOSIUM	
	TOPIC : ONE HEALTH AND JOINT OUTBREAK RESPONSE MODERATOR : Dr. Mala Chhabra Consultant Microbiology, Associate Dean (Research), Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital & Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi Panelist : Dr. Nivedita Gupta, Scientist G & Head, Division of Communicable Diseases, ICMR, Delhi Dr. Bharti Malhotra, Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Sawai Mansingh Medical College, Jaipur Dr. Rahul Dhodapkar, Professor & Head, Dept. of Microbiology, JIPMER, Puducherry Dr. Sandeep Chaudhary, Professor & Head, Dept of Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology, Nagpur Veterinary College, MAFSU, Nagpur	
11 : 00 – 11 : 30 AM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
	TOPIC : THE FUTURE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES : PREDICT, PREVENT, PROTECT SPEAKER : Dr. Nivedita Gupta Scientist G & Head, Division of Communicable Diseases, ICMR, Delhi	
11 : 30 - 12 : 00 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
	TOPIC : CHALLENGES IN DIAGNOSIS OF UNUSUAL PARASITES AND USE OF E-DIAGNOSIS SPEAKER : Dr. Harshavardhan Sheorey Consultant Clinical Microbiologist St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne & Royal Melbourne Hospital, Australia CHAIRPERSONS: Dr. Vilas Jahagirdar Retired Dean, GMC Miraj; former Professor and HOD, Microbiology, VMGMC Solapur	
12 : 00 – 01 : 30 PM	GENERAL BODY MEETING	
01 : 30 – 02 : 30 PM	LUNCH	

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

2 : 00 - 4 : 00 PM	IAMM AWARD SESSIONS	
02 : 30 - 03 : 30 PM	PLENARY SESSIONS	
	TOPIC : INTERESTING CASE DISCUSSION MODERATOR : Dr. Aruna Poojary Lab Director & Infection Control In-charge, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai PANELIST : Dr. Nitin Shinde Senior Consultant, Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine, KIMS Kingsway, Hospital, Nagpur Dr. Samir Dwidmuthe Professor & Head, Dept. Of Orthopaedics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur Format Overview - Theme : Real-time Grand Round – Interactive & Unscripted - Case Source : Selected from cases submitted by Young Trailblazer	2 : 00 - 5 : 00 PM FREE CATEGORY ORAL PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATION

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 2 (31.10.2026)

3 : 30 – 5 : 00 PM - HALL 1

THEME : ONE HEALTH IN ACTION : INTEGRATING HUMAN, ANIMAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	WATER, WASTE & BUGS : ENVIRONMENTAL PATHWAYS TO AMR	Dr. Jyoti Iravane Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology, GMC Aurangabad
2	IMPLICATIONS OF THE ONE HEALTH PARADIGM FOR CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY	Dr. Nayana Ingole Professor, Department of Microbiology, Kasturba Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Chinchpokli, Mumbai
3	COLLABORATE TO CONTAIN : MULTISECTORAL STRATEGIES FOR HEALTH SECURITY	Dr. Pragya Yadav Director in-Charge, National Institute of One Health, Nagpur, Scientist 'F' and Group Leader, Maximum Containment Laboratory, Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Virology, Pune

CHAIRPERSON : Dr. Vineeta Mittal

Professor RMLIMS, Lucknow

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 2 (31.10.2026)

3 : 30 – 5 : 00 PM - HALL 2

THEME : CULTURE THE UNCULTURED : ADVANCES IN ANAEROBIC INFECTION DIAGNOSIS

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	ASSOCIATION OF ANAEROBES WITH INFECTIOUS AND NONINFECTIOUS DISEASE, WIDENING HORIZON	Dr. Rama Choudhary ICMR Emeritus Scientist Former Head of Microbiology, AIIMS Delhi
2	FROM NEGLECT TO NECESSITY : UNMASKING ANAEROBES IN CULTURE-NEGATIVE INFECTIONS	Dr. Padmaja A Shenoy Associate Professor Department of Microbiology, KMC Manipal
3	CONVENTIONAL VS AUTOMATIONS : DIAGNOSTIC DILEMMA	Dr. Shashwati Nema Professor, Department of Microbiology AIIMS Bhopal
4	DECODING VIRULENCE AND RESISTANCE IN CLINICALLY SIGNIFICANT ANAEROBES	Dr. Archana Angrup Additional Professor Department of Medical Microbiology PGIMER, Chandigarh

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 2 (PANEL DISCUSSION) (31.10.2026)

3 : 30 – 5 : 00 PM - HALL 3

THEME : TEST WHAT MATTERS : DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP IN THE AGE OF AUTOMATION AND AI

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP IN THE AGE OF AUTOMATION : RESTORING THE CLINICAL REASONING	Dr. Vikas Manchanda Professor, Dept of Microbiology Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi
2	FROM OVER-TESTING TO TEST WHAT MATTERS	Dr. Umabala Pamidimukkala Professor & Head, Dept Microbiology, Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad
3	SPEED WITH SENSE : RATIONAL USE OF RAPID DIAGNOSTICS	Dr. V. Balaji Professor, Dept of Microbiology, CMC, Vellore
4	CLINICAL IMPACT & COST-EFFECTIVENESS IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES	Dr. Devjani De Medical Affairs Lead - India Biomerieux
5	FROM PATHOGEN TO PRESCRIPTION : THE CLINICAL POWER OF TIMELY DIAGNOSTICS	Dr. Anup Warriar Chief Medical Affairs & Quality Officer Aster Hospital, Cochin

Chairperson :
Dr. Rajni Gaiind
Consultant & Professor VMMC &
Safdarjung Hospital, New
Delhi

Dr. Jaswinder Kaur Oberoi
Sr Consultant, Microbiology
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital,
New Delhi

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

5 : 00 to 6 : 00 pm

INDUSTRIAL SESSIONS

HALL 1- ZUVERLASSE - BEYOND THE VENTILATOR: Breaking the Chain of Infection in Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)

Timing	TOPIC	SPEAKER
5:00 PM – 5:15 PM	VAP: Understanding the Microbiology Behind the Infection	Dr. Anupma Jyoti Kindo Dean Academics, Professor & Head Department of Microbiology Birsra Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, Ranchi
5:15 PM – 5:30 PM	VAE Surveillance	Dr. Chinmoy Sahu Professor, Department of Microbiology SGPGIMS, Lucknow
5:30 PM – 5:45 PM	Terminal Disinfection and Reprocessing of Respiratory Equipment	Dr. Ankur Goyal Professor & Head SN Medical College, Agra
5:45 PM – 6:00 PM	Breaking the Chain: Preventing VAP in ICU through bundle care	Dr. Nidhi Tejan Assistant Professor Department of Microbiology SGPGIMS, Lucknow
Moderator: Dr. Rungmei S. K. Marak Professor & Head, Department of Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, SGPGIMS, Lucknow		

5 : 00 to 6 : 00 pm

INDUSTRIAL SESSIONS

HALL 2 – BIOMERIEUX - Panel Discussion on Digital Innovation, Automation & Actionable Intelligence

TOPIC	SPEAKER
BEYOND THE CULTURE PLATE : THE FUTURE OF DATA-DRIVEN CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY	1. Dr. Bansidhar Tarai Director & Head, Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics & Infection control Max Super Speciality Hospital
	2. Dr. Subhranshu Mandal Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata
	3. Dr. Aruna Poojary Head of Dept , Pathology & Microbiology, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai.
	4. Dr. Rupali Suryawanshi Consultant Microbiologist Ruby Hall Clinic, Pune
	5. Dr. Nandini Seturaman Senior Consultant & Head of Department Microbiology Apollo Hospital, Chennai
	6. Dr. Neelam Taneja Professor & Head, Department of Medical Microbiology In-charge, Enteric & Bacteriology Division, PGIMER Chandigarh

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

5 : 00 to 6 : 00 pm

INDUSTRIAL SESSIONS

HALL 3 – BD DIAGNOSTICS TOPIC: SEPSIS AND BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS: BRIDGING CLINICAL AND LABORATORY EXCELLENCE

Time	Topic	Speakers
5:00 PM - 5:10 PM	SEPSIS 2026: PRACTICE-CHANGING INSIGHTS YOU CAN'T IGNORE	Dr. Nitin Shinde (ID Physician) Senior Consultant, Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine, KIMS Kingsway Hospital, Nagpur
5:10 PM - 5:20 PM	FUNGAL BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS: DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY	Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti Past President IAMM, ISHAM, ISMM Director, Doodhadhari Burfani Hospital and Research Institute, Haridwar
5:20 PM - 5:35 PM	PEDIATRIC BSI'S- IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE DIAGNOSTIC STEWARDSHIP- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	Dr. Ranganathan Iyer Director Clinical Microbiology, Infections and Infection Control Rainbow Children's Hospital Group
5:35 PM - 6:00 PM	CLINICAL VIGNETTES: DIAGNOSTIC AND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN BSI/SEPSIS	Moderator: Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti Panelists: Dr. Ranganathan Iyer Dr. Shehzad, Dr. Anuradha Deshmukh, Dr. Nitin Shinde

07: 00 pm Onwards
BANQUET DINNER

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 3

(01- 11- 26) Sunday

CONVENTION HALL

TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
8 : 00 – 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 1	The Next Pandemic in Waiting? (Session Theme)
		Which virus comes next? Preparing for the next pandemic. Dr. Manoj Murhekar Director, NIE, Chennai Solution of AMR - Is IAS practice (INSAAF) by Microbiologist? Dr. Prasan Kumar Panda Dept of Medicine (ID Division), AIIMS, Rishikesh , Secretary SASPI
	Convention Hall 2	Two Lives at Stake: Are we Missing Infections in Pregnancy? (Session Theme)
		ENDOSYMBIONT STRIKES BACK : MITOCHONDRIAL SIGNALS IN PLACENTAL INFECTION-DRIVEN PRETERM BIRTH - Dr. Siddhesh Aras Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Department of Oncology, Wayne State University School of Medicine Two Lives, One Microbe: Cracking the Code of Pregnancy Loss Dr. Chaitanya Shembekar Gynaecologist & Fertility Consultant, Omega Hospitals, Nagpur

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 3

(01- 11- 26) Sunday

CONVENTION HALL

TIME	VENUE	MEET THE EXPERTS
8 : 00 – 8 : 45 AM	Convention Hall 3	Leprosy & other neglected tropical diseases (Session Theme) The Spectrum of Leprosy: From Early Diagnosis to Difficult-to-Treat Disease Dr. Sanjiv Choudhary Professor & Head of Dermatology, venereology and Leprology, AIIMS, Nagpur Approach to neglected tropical diseases Dr. Debashish Biswas Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Bhopal CHAIRPERSON : Dr. Namrata Kumari Professor & HOD , Department of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sheikhpura, Patna
	Convention Hall 4	When to stop Antifungal Therapy (Session Theme) Antifungal Stewardship: Starting Right, Stopping Right Dr. Rajashree Khot Professor, Department of Medicine, AIIMS, Nagpur When to Stop, When to Switch: A Microbiologist's Guide to Antifungal Therapy Dr. Anjali Shetty Consultant Microbiologist, PD Hinduja, Mumbai
8 : 00 - 9 : 00 AM	FREE CATEGORY POSTER PRESENTATIONS	

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

CONFERENCE DAY 3

(01- 11- 26) Sunday

CONVENTIONAL HALL

	IAMM STUDENT SYMPOSIUM TOPIC
9 : 00 – 10 : 00 AM	TOPIC : SURVEILLANCE OF DEVICE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS MODERATOR : Dr. Purva Mathur Professor & Head, Microbiology Unit, Trauma Centre, AIIMS Delhi
	KEYNOTE ADDRESS
10 : 00 – 10 : 30 AM Tea to be served	TOPIC : A Bird's-Eye View of the Evolving Landscape of Tuberculosis Diagnostics SPEAKER : Dr. Shobhini Rajan Deputy Director General (TB), Central TB Division Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India CHAIRPERSON : Dr. Pratibha Narang Honorary Professor Dept of Microbiology, MGIMS, Sewagram
	DEBATE
10 : 30 AM - 11 : 30 AM	TOPIC : THE LAB VS THE PRESCRIPTION PAD: WHO REALLY CONTROLS AMR? MODERATOR : Dr. Abhay Chowdhary CEO, Urokul Kulkarni, Urosurgery Institute, Pune DEBATERS: Microbiologists : 1. Dr. Sumit Rai Professor and Head, Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, AIIMS Mangalagiri 2. Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharya Senior Consultant Microbiologist, Tata Medical Centre, Kolkata Clinicians : 1. Dr. Nikhil Balankhe Director, Department of Critical Care Medicine, Viveka Hospital, Nagpur 2. Dr. Mangesh Tiwaskar Consultant Physician and Diabetologist, Shilpa medical Research Centre, Mumbai

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 3 (01/11/2026)

11 : 30 AM to 12 : 30 PM - HALL 1

THEME : NTM UNCOVERED : AN UPDATE ON DIAGNOSIS, DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY, AND ONE HEALTH APPROACHES

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	ADVANCES IN NTM DIAGNOSTICS : FROM CONVENTIONAL METHODS TO NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING	Dr. Nilma Hirani Professor, Department of Microbiology, Grant Medical College & JJ hospital, Mumbai
2	DRUG SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING IN NTM : CURRENT METHODS, CHALLENGES AND CLINICAL CORRELATION	Dr. Mandira Verma Basil Director, Professor, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi
3	ENVIRONMENTAL AND ONE HEALTH PERSPECTIVES IN NTM TRANSMISSION & SURVEILLANCE	Dr. Joy Sarojini Michael Department of Clinical Microbiology, CMC, Vellore
4	TB DIAGNOSTICS AT A CROSSROADS: INTEGRATING RAPID MOLECULAR TESTS WITH CULTURE AND DST	Dr. Gaurav Salunkhe Professor Department of Microbiology, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
CHAIRPERSON : 1. Dr. Mangayarkarasi V Professor & Head, Dean Research Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Madurai		2. Col. A. Agarwal Professor & Head Department of Clinical Microbiology, AIIMS, Rajkot

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA - Day 3 (01/11/2026)

11 : 30 AM to 12 : 30 PM - HALL 2

THEME : DEMYSTIFYING AES: BEYOND FEVER AND ALTERED SENSORIUM

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	FINDING THE CULPRIT : TARGETED APPROACH TO DIAGNOSE AES	Dr. Amita Jain Executive Director and CEO, AIIMS Raebareli Former Dean and Head of Microbiology King George's Medical University (KGMU), Lucknow.
2	THE LETHAL VIRAL TRIO: DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGES IN RABIES, SSPE AND PML	Dr. Reeta S. Mani Professor & Head, Neurovirology, NIMHANS, Bangalore
3	AES ON TARGET : EARLY ACTION, ROBUST SURVEILLANCE AND CLINICAL IMPACT!	Dr. Anoop Velayudhan Scientist 'F' ICMR, New Delhi
Chairperson - Professor & Head Department of Microbiology Post Graduate Institute of Child Health, Noida		

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

PARALLEL SYMPOSIA – Day 3

11 : 30 AM to 12 : 30 PM – HALL 3

THEME : POST-COVID VIROLOGY: ARE WE PREPARED OR JUST EXPERIENCED?

SN	Topic	Speaker
1	FROM PANDEMIC PANIC TO PATHOGEN INTELLIGENCE : ARE OUR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS TRULY GENOMICS READY?	Dr. Rakesh Mishra Director, TIGS, Bangalore
2	THE NEW VIROLOGY LANDSCAPE : REEMERGENCE, SPILLOVERS, AND THE EXPANDING ZONOTIC THREAT	Dr. Anita Shete Scientist 'E' ICMR NIV, Pune
3	FROM EXPOSURE TO MANAGEMENT: A CLINICAL APPROACH TO ZONOSSES	Dr. (Prof.) Prashant P. Joshi MD (Medicine), MSc (Clinical Epidemiology, UNC Australia) Executive Director and CEO, AIIMS Nagpur

01 : 00 PM to 01 : 30 PM - VALEDICTORY

01 : 30 PM - Onwards Lunch