

HALF-YEARLY NEWSLETTER, JAN – JUNE 2022

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Editorial Board

Dr. Shalini Singh

Dr. Ekta Gupta

Address from Director, NICPR

Greetings to All for the year 2022!.

The year began on a positive note as we celebrated the 42nd Annual Day of our institute. Over the last few years, NICPR has made significant strides in developing and validating innovative and improved strategies for cervical, oral, and breast cancer screening in the country. Lately, the institute has expanded its research domain to other cancers including esophageal, gall bladder, head and neck, ovarian, endometrial and prostate as well. The institute has also started screening for risk factors for non-communicable diseases. Tobacco cessation counselling point is another important feature of our Health Promotion Clinic where behavioral and non-behavioral interventions are carried out to assist individuals to quit tobacco.

Community awareness and screening programs are being organized regularly especially among high-risk groups like prisoners and hard-to-reach areas for early diagnosis of lesions and appropriate management. Besides patient service, NICPR has also been working towards building a trained comprehensive workforce all over the country for screening of cancers in community. Over the last 6 months, NICPR has conducted trainings for Medical Officers, staff nurses and pathologists in screening for common cancers.

The Institute celebrated Republic Day, Women's Day and Yoga Day with full gusto and organized various activities with participation of young and elders alike. The Staff and faculty also participated enthusiastically to observe and spread the message on the occasion of Oral Cancer awareness month, World No Tobacco Day, National Statistics Day etc. Workshops and webinars have been organized on Improving Quality of Medical Research & Protocol Writing. NICPR scientists have been awarded several new research projects and are working enthusiastically towards their goals.

I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter and we look forward to your feedback.

तंबाकू निषेध क्लिनिक (TOBACCO CESSATION CLINIC)

संस्थान की तम्बाकू निषेध क्लिनिक है मुख्य आकर्षण

राष्ट्रीय कैंसर रोकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान, नोएडा के तम्बाकू निषेध क्लिनिक में तम्बाकू खाने वालों को तम्बाकू छुड़वाने में निशुल्क मदद प्रदान की जाती है। यह क्लिनिक संस्थान के ग्राउंड फ्लोर में कमरा नंबर 9 में स्थित है जहाँ सुबह 9 बजे से 1 बजे तक कोई भी व्यक्ति जो धूम्रपान या तम्बाकू का सेवन करता है और इस बुरी आदत को छुड़वाना चाहता है तो वह बिना किसी रेफ़रल के अपने मुख की जांच के साथ - साथ सलाह ले सकता है और तम्बाकू खाने की इस बुरी आदत से मुक्ति पा सकता है और मुख के कैंसर के साथ साथ अन्य कई प्रकार की गंभीर बिमारियों से स्वयं को बचा सकता है।







कौन कौन करवा सकता है क्लिनिक में पंजीकरण:

सिगरेट) धूम्रपान करने वाले -, बीड़ी, हुक्का, पाइप, सिगार खैनी) तंबाकू चबाना /धुंआ रहित तंबाकू उपयोगकर्ता , गुटखा, पान मसाला, जर्दा, तंबाकू के साथ पान

कैंसर ही नहीं, तंबाकू खाने से होती हैं और भी जानलेवा बीमारियां

तम्बाकू सेवन अथवा धूम्रपान एक ऐसी बीमारी है जो हमें और हमारे अपनों को जीवन भर रुलाने की वजह बन सकती है। समाज का हर तबक़ा, हर उम्र के लोग इसकी की चपेट में आते जा रहे हैं। आज बच्चे, बूढ़े, मिहलाएं, पुरुष सभी तम्बाकू सेवन अथवा धूम्रपान की लत से घिरे हुए हैं और यह स्थिति दिन प्रतिदिन भयावह रूप लेती जा रही है। तम्बाकू के किसी भी रूप में सेवन से टीबी, इम्फसीमा, मुंह, गले और फेफड़ों का कैंसर, ल्यूकेमिया, हार्ट डिसीज, ब्रेन स्ट्रोक, डायबिटीज, क्रोनिक ब्रोन्काइटिस, आंखों के रोग, नंपुसकता, इनफर्टिलिटी, पेष्टिक अल्सर, गर्भधारण करने में दिक्कत, गर्भपात, कोल्ड-फ्लू, श्वसन-तन्त्र में संक्रमण, स्वाद और गंध में कमी, समय से पहले बुढ़ापा और ऑस्टियोपोराइसिस जैसी बीमारियों का जोखिम बढ़ जाता है।

आइये आज ही सहायता के लिए संपर्क करें

तम्बाकू छुड़वाने में हम आपकी पूरी सहायता कर सकते है, आज ही क्लिनिक में आकर बात करें। योग्य और प्रशिक्षित चिकित्सक और परामर्श दाता आपकी पूर्ण रूप से सहायता करेंगे व्यवहारिक परामर्श और आवश्यक्तानुसार निकोटिन च्युइंग गम और फ़ॉलोअप द्वारा आपकी इस तम्बाकू खाने की बुरी आदत को छुड़वाया जायेगा। तम्बाकू से होने वाले शारीरिक, मानसिक व आर्थिक नुकसान के बारे में बताकर तम्बाकू न सेवन करने की सलाह भी सभी को दी जाती है। तो आइये आज ही अपने बेहतर स्वास्थ्य के लिए एक कदम तम्बाकू छुड़वाने की क्लिनिक की ओर बढ़ाते है और स्वयं को कैंसर जैसे गंभीर बीमारी से बचाते है

आपका स्वास्थ्य अनमोल है

चंद्रेश प्रज्ञा वर्मा , (मेडिकल सोशल वर्कर) डॉ प्रशांत कुमार सिंह , वैज्ञानिक 'डी'

कैंसर रोकथाम एवं जन स्वास्थ्य विभाग





ज़िन्दगी चुनो तंबाकू नहीं

ना खाओ गुटका और तम्बाकू, यह लेता है सबकी जान, खैनी पान मसाला सुपारी को खाने से नहीं बढ़ती शान. जो खाओगे गुटका पान तम्बाकू और सुपारी, जीवन के साथ ये करदेगा तुम्हारी जेबो को भी खाली. बीड़ी सिगरेट से हो रहा बहुत बड़ा नुक्सान, ले सकती है यह तुम्हारे आस पास वालो की भी जान. उड़ रहा नशे में ये सारा संसार, जहा देखो वहां नशा ले रहा सबकी जान. खा रहे तुम नशे को, या ये खा रहा तुम्हे स्वाद के नशे में मगन तुम अपने फेफड़े जला रहे. स्वास्थय को लगाकर दांव पर तुम रहे अपना घर जला, वर्तमान भविष्य अपने बच्चो का तुम रहे हो डूबा. छोढो नशा नशे की संगत, भर लाओ खुशियों की झोली, बच्चे सुखमय, समाज सुखमय, सुखमय तुम्हारे हमजोली. हाथ बढ़ाओ, हाथ मिलाओ, मिलकर सब यह ठाने, ना खाएंगे, ना लाएंगे मौत के यह बहाने.

मनु चौधरी, परियोजना तकनीशियन

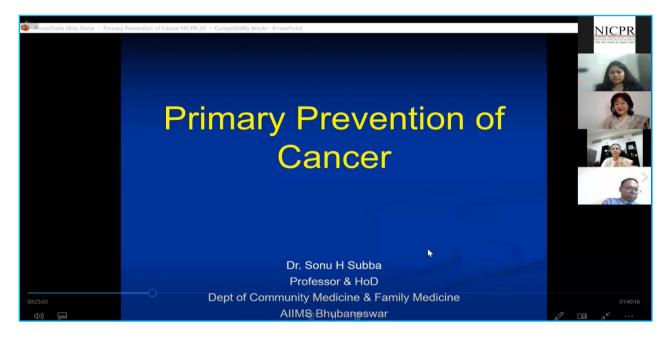
डॉ. एकता गुप्ता, वैज्ञानिक-ई क्लीनिकल ऑन्कोलॉजी विभाग

INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES (HEALTH DAYS/EVENTS/SEMINARS/TRAINING COURSES ORGANISED)

January 2022:

14th January 2022: Annual Day Celebrations

The institute celebrated its 43rd Annual Day on 14th January 2022. To commemorate this special occasion, an online guest lecture on '**Primary prevention of cancer**' was given by Dr Sonu Subba, (Professor & Head, Dept of Community Medicine, AIIMS Bhubaneshwar). It was followed by a Panel discussion on '**Wellness: an antidote to cancer and other NCDs**' in which esteemed experts from various institutions joined and deliberated upon various aspects of wellness. A video on – Setting up of High Throughput Viral Diagnostic Laboratory at NICPR, was also released by the Dr. Shalini Singh, Director ICMR-NICPR.





26th January: Republic Day celebrations

NICPR celebrated 73rd Republic Day with traditional gaiety and enthusiasm. The tricolor was unfurled by the Director, NICPR in presence of staff members, and the national anthem was sung.

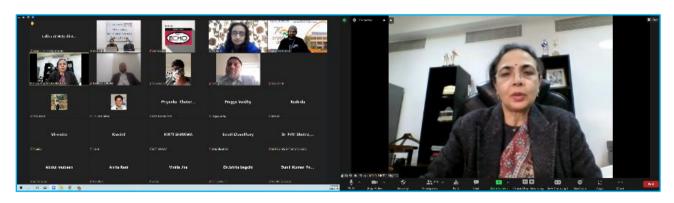




February 2022

4th February 2022

A webinar on "Awareness on Common Cancers" was organized by the Division of Clinical Oncology to mark the event of World Cancer Day. A total of 270 participants attended the online program. The expert speakers for sessions included **Dr.Anurag Srivastava**, Ex-Head, Department of Surgery, AIIMS, New Delhi, **Dr.Sumitha Mehta**, Senior Consultant, Department of Obstretics & Gynecology, BJGRH, New Delhi and **Dr.Shalini Gupta**, Additional Professor, Oral Medicine and Radiology, CDER, AIIMS, New Delhi.





7th February 2022

Awareness workshop for ICMR-NICPR house-keeping staff on cancer prevention

An awareness workshop was organized in collaboration with speakers from other departments regarding prevention risk factors, signs and symptoms, and treatment available for prevalent cancers. The workshop was organized at the central ground of the institute. The gathering was addressed by Director of the institute, followed by a talk on 'cancer prevention, importance of lifestyle style and cancer screening of breast, cervix and oral cancer' by the Scientists of the institute.





23rd February- 29th April 2022

NICPR-ECHO Online Certificate Course on Cervical Cancer Screening for Pathologists

Team: Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Dr. Ruchika Gupta, Dr. Shamsuz Zaman

The Division of Cytopathology at ICMR-NICPR, Noida conducted an 'Online certificate course on cervical cancer screening for the pathologists' through ECHO platform and under the aegis of 'The Indian Academy of Cytologists, the national professional body of cytologists. The course duration was spread over 18 sessions from 23rd February to 29th April 2022 with twice a week session of 1.5 hours each. The project ECHO is a collaborative medical education program using "Hub and Spoke" model which aims to link expert specialist teams at an academic hub with primary care clinicians in local communities, who are the spokes and receive mentoring and feedback from specialists. In our program, the Hub was the team of cytopathologists at ICMR-NICPR and spokes were the 42 participants enrolled in this course from all across India.

This comprehensive training course on cervical cancer screening covered a gamut of topics pertaining to cervical cancer – beginning from epidemiology and magnitude of the disease to screening strategies, with major focus on cytology-based screening. Detailed deliberations were held on the basic cytomorphologic features of a cervical smear – normal cells and their variations in inflammation, various infective organisms in a cervical smear and cervical intraepithelial lesions encompassing squamous as well as glandular lesions. The didactic deliberations were amply supplemented by interactive virtual slide sessions using whole slide imaging, giving the participants a feel of viewing a microscopic slide themselves. In addition, virtual live microscopy sessions shall be conducted to enhance the learning process. Case presentations by the participants were included in every session to enable them to discuss with experts the difficulties encountered by them during routine cervical smear screening. This approach is intended to enhance their skills at recognizing the cytomorphological changes in various grades of cervical precancerous lesions and improve the cervical cancer screening services rendered by them in their respective geographical areas.



March 2022

4th March, 2022: एक दिवसीय हिंदी प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला

आई. सी. एम. आर. - राष्ट्रीय कैंसर रोकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान, नोएडा द्वारा कार्यालय में मातृ भाषा हिंदी के अधिकाधिक प्रयोग व प्रचार-प्रसार हेतु हिंदी प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला का आयोजन मार्च माह की दिनांक 04/03/2022 को संस्थान में आयोजित किया गया. एकदिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला में संस्थान के प्रशासनिक अनुभाग (एडिमिन), लेखा अनुभाग (एकाउंट्स) एवं भण्डार अनुभाग (स्टोर) में कार्यरत समस्त अधिकारी, कर्मचारियों, परियोजना स्टाफ समेत 35 कर्मचारियों ने प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त किया। हिंदी कार्यशाला हेतु अतिथि वक्ता के रूप में श्री दिलीप कुमार निगम उप निदेशक, राजभाषा स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, को प्रशिक्षणकर्ता के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया। उक्त कार्य शाला में हिंदी राजभाषा की नीति का कार्यान्वयन: प्रावधान, किठनाइयाँ एवं समाधान व कार्यालय में हिंदी भाषा के उपयोग पर जानकारी दी गयी। संस्थान में आयोजित हिंदी कार्यशाला से सभी प्रशिक्षाणार्थी को न सिर्फ राजभाषा नीति का ज्ञान अर्जित हुआ बल्कि उसके अनुपालन में उनकी भूमिका से भी अवगत कराया गया। उक्त प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम से सभी कर्मचारी लाभान्वित हुए।

"हिंदी में पत्राचार हो हिंदी में हर व्यवहार हो, बोलचाल में हिंदी ही अभिव्यक्ती का आधार हो।"



8th March: International Women's Day celebration

To celebrate International Women's Day and International HPV awareness day, ICMR- NICPR organized a hybrid event on March 8th 2022, where approximately 250 participants across the world joined the session. The event included presentations from eminent and renowned scientists across the globe. Cancer biologist, **Dr. Doris Benbrook**, Presidential Professor at Stephenson Cancer center, University of Oklahoma, Health Science Centre,

Oklahoma, USA delivered an insightful talk on "What causes cervical cancer and how it can be prevented and treated?" Her research focus is on a non-toxic therapeutic drug against gynecological cancers which are under human trial in USA. It was followed by a talk by **Prof. GK Rath**, Ex-Head, NCI Jhajjar and Advisor to NITI Aayog, Government of India. His talk on "Cancer is preventable and curable if detected early" was well received by general public, researchers, clinicians and students across the globe. A lot of queries of participants related to cancer prevention and control were addressed by the experts.

Also, on this day, the institute inaugurated the latest model of Hybrid Capture 2 (HC2) in the presence of Dr Anurag Srivastava, Ex- HOD Surgical Disciplines, AIIMS, New Delhi. The device is used for the detection of Human papillomavirus (HPV) in cervical swabs for its service to mankind and our nation.



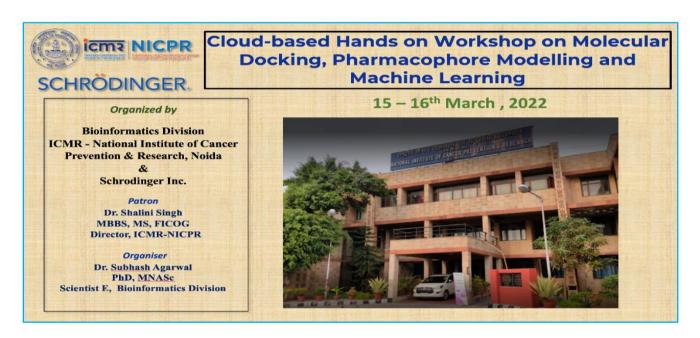






15-16 March 2022: Hands-on Workshop on "Molecular Docking, Pharmacophore modeling, and Machine Learning"

A two-day cloud-based hands-on workshop was organized by the Division of Bioinformatics, in collaboration with Schrodinger Inc. The focus of the workshop was on Molecular Docking, Pharmacophore, Modeling and Machine Learning. A total of 106 students, researchers and faculties took part in this workshop from 66 different colleges, universities and research institutions all over India. The participants were provided with practical experience and in-person guidance of using the Maestro GUI, covering the organic molecule sketching, protein preparation, and screening using Molecular Docking for hit identification of molecules against therapeutic targets. The workshop also dealt with Pharmacophore Modelling, Shape based Screening & Core Hopping and Machine-Learning Model building using AutoQSAR.



22 – 24 March, 2022: Workshop on "Laboratory Diagnosis of SARS COV-2 by Real-time PCR"

High Throughput Viral Diagnostic Laboratory at NICPR organized a three-day workshop on Laboratory Diagnosis of SARS CoV-2 by Real-time PCR". Day 1 started with lectures by our esteemed guest scientists from different reputed institutes. After the lecture series, a lab tour and demonstration were given to all participants on handwashing, PPE donning & doffing. On Day 2 the speakers shared their knowledge with participants followed by a demonstration and hands-on experience of sample handling and processing including sorting, aliquoting, sample storage, and RNA Extraction (Magnetic bead base and Column base Nucleic acid extraction), and demonstration of Automated Nucleic acid extraction. The last day of the workshop started with a demonstration and hands-on experience of sample processing (Reagent preparation & Template addition) which was followed by demonstration of PCR and lastly PCR Result analysis & Data Management.







28th-29th March: Oral Cancer Screening Workshop for Healthcare Workers

A two-day workshop was organized by NICPR, Noida in collaboration with York University, UK. The primary objective of the workshop was to provide hands-on training to female community health workers so that they can screen the potentially malignant oral lesions while performing their duties and other assigned tasks in the field. It was a capacity-building program to increase the skills and eventually promote oral health and early referral and diagnosis of Oral Potentially Pre-Malignant Disorders. Experts from York University and NICPR facilitated the program in the Hindi language. 18 pre-enrolled community health workers participated and completed the 2-day training program.





April 2022

1st April to 15th April: Swachhata Pakhwada

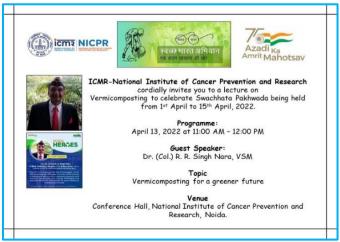
A lecture was organized by ICMR-National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research, Noida to celebrate the Swachhata Pakhwada being held from 01.04.2022 to 15.04.2022. Dr. (Col.) R. R. Singh Nara was invited as a guest speaker to share his experiences with water harvesting, water conservation, and vermicomposting activities that he has undertaken. The event was held in hybrid mode; and an online link was made available for the wider audience via zoom. Further, the event details were shared on twitter handle of ICMR-NICPR for wider circulation. Around 40 participants were present physically and around 35 people had joined via zoom link. The lecture continued for about 45 minutes





followed by 15 minutes of discussion. The lecture was very fruitful and will definitely help us in transforming our institute to a green, sustainable and a healthy campus.





28th April: Kenyan Task Force Visit

Delegates of the National Task Force on Cancer Management of The High Commission of the Republic of Kenya along with the officials of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare visited ICMR-NICPR on 28th April 2022 with the objectives:

- •To gain insight on how cancer prevention and early detection is offered in India, in the context of the large population.
- •To appreciate how India has structured cancer human resource training and mentorship, as well as referral structures for cancer treatment in the Indian healthcare system.

The delegates were briefed about the major ongoing and concluded projects of the institute of public health importance / translational value and various Flagship programs of the Institute were presented followed by an 'Interactive Session'. The delegates visited all the labs, health promotion clinic of the institute to get a glimpse of functioning over here.







29th April 2022: Oral Cancer Awareness month: Awareness Program

An awareness and sensitization program for Oral Cancer Awareness Month was organized by the Division of Clinical Oncology for the maintenance staff of ICMR-NICPR as well as the school students. Around 40 staff members attended the lecture wherein scientists from the division impressed upon the maintenance of oral Hygiene and prevention of Oral Cancer. They were sensitized regarding the harmful effects of tobacco use and users were motivated to enroll in the tobacco cessation clinic at NICPR. The awareness program at Government School, Morna was a successful event wherein students participated enthusiastically and their queries were addressed by the staff of NICPR.









May 2022

19th May 2022

Scientific Colloquium on "Prevention of NCDs- Indian Perspective"





A scientific colloquium was organized on the occasion of World Hypertension Day on a very important topic: Prevention of NCDs – Indian Perspective. The speaker for this occasion was Dr. Sanjiv Kumar, Chairman and Managing Trustee of Three Domain Health Leadership Foundation and Chairperson, Indian Academy of Public Health. He gave insights on the prevention of NCDs at the individual and family level using simple and cost-effective measures.

31st May: Oral Screening Camp on World No Tobacco Day 2022

To observe the World No Tobacco Day 2022, the Knowledge Hub organized an 'Oral Screening Camp' at the local Bus depot, Noida (Uttar Pradesh) for the bus drivers and operators. Tobacco cessation experts shared the information about the adverse effects of tobacco consumption and delivered tobacco cessation advice along with the oral screening. Total 100 participants received the service provided.



Jun

03.6.22: Signing of MoU between ICMR-NICPR and Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Greater Noida

For increasing collaboration in academic activities and research, ICMR-NICPR has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Greater Noida, an autonomous medical teaching Institute affiliated with the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical University, Lucknow. Under this MoU, both parties will work jointly for the common research interests both at national and international levels and support the exchange of academic, research, and training materials. MoU was signed by the Directors of both the institutes in the presence of the staff of NICPR and GIMS.









8th June 2022: एक दिवसीय हिंदी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम

आई. सी. एम. आर.-राष्ट्रीय कैंसर रोकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान, नोएडा द्वारा कार्यालय में मातृ भाषा हिंदी के अधिकाधिक प्रयोग व प्रचार-प्रसार हेतु हिंदी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन जून माह की दिनांक 08/06/2022 को संस्थान में आयोजित किया गया। एकदिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला में संस्थान के समस्त वैज्ञानिक गण एवं तकनीकी अधिकारियों ने प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त किया। प्रशिक्षण में कुल ३० प्रशिक्षणार्थी उपस्थित रहे। हिंदी कार्यशाला हेतु अतिथि वक्ता के रूप में श्री दिलीप कुमार निगम उप निदेशक, राजभाषा स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, को प्रशिक्षणकर्ता के रूप में आमंत्रित किया गया। उक्त प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में हिंदी राजभाषा की नीति का कार्यान्वयन: प्रावधान, कठिनाइयाँ एवं समाधान व कार्यालय में हिंदी भाषा के उपयोग पर जानकारी के साथ साथ हिंदी भाषा के कार्यालय में अधिकाधिक प्रयोग जैसे हिंदी प्रारुप तैयार करना, हिंदी में व्याख्यान का आयोजन करवाना इत्यादि पर भी जानकारी दी गयी। संस्थान में आयोजित हिंदी कार्यशाला से सभी प्रशिक्षाणार्थी को न सिर्फ राजभाषा नीति का ज्ञान अर्जित हुआ बल्कि उसके अनुपालन में उनकी भूमिका से भी अवगत कराया गया। उक्त प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम से सभी प्रशिक्षणार्थी लाभान्वित हुए।



आई. सी. एम. आर. राष्ट्रीय कैंसर रोकथाम एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान



एक दिवसीय हिंदी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम

वैज्ञानिक एवं तकनीकी अधिकारियों हेतु ०८ /०६/२०२२













#IndiaAgainstCancer

#ICMR4NewIndia

#WeArelCMR

#AzadiKaAmritMahotsav

10th June 2022: World Environment Day 2022

The World Environment Day 2022 was celebrated in ICMR-NICPR on the 10th of June 15, 2022, in the Conference Hall. The program commenced with a welcome address from Dr Anuj Kumar and an introductory lecture by the Director, Dr Shalini Singh. The director encouraged NICPR staff to take steps toward conserving energy and protecting the environment. In line with the theme of this year, world environment day 2022 – Only One Earth, two lectures were organized. The first lecture was on "Organic waste management solution", in which technology to decompose waste food into fertilizers was introduced. In the second lecture, entitled "solar energy technologies for sustainable development", the positive effects of installing solar panels in urban areas were introduced.









14th June 2022: World Blood Donation Day Pledge

Pledge to voluntarily donate blood by NICPR staff.





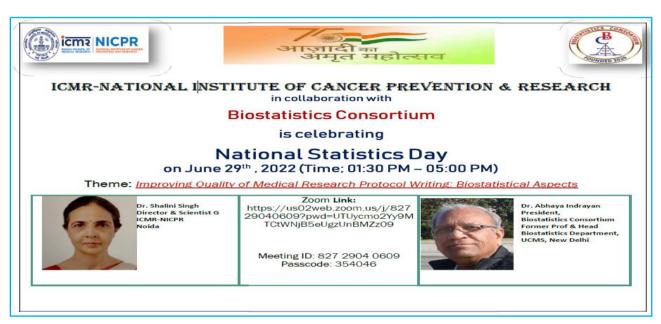
16th June 2022: International Day of Yoga

ICMR- NICPR organized a hybrid event on International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 16th June 2022, where approximately 150 participants joined the session. The welcome address was given by Dr. Shalini Singh, Director, ICMR-NICPR. It was moderated by Dr. Showket Hussain, Scientist-D and his team. The event included lecture and demonstration sessions from designated people from Moraji Desai National Institute of Yoga, Ministry of AYUSH. The event included lecture from Ms. Namisha Singh where she emphasized the role and importance of yoga in daily life. This was followed by the demonstration of yoga practices by Mr. Varun Nautiyal. The event was concluded by presenting vote thanks by Dr. Nazneen Scientist-D.



29th June: Workshop on Improving Quality of Medical Research & Protocol Writing:

On National Statistics Day (29th June, 2022), an online event on "Improving Quality of Medical Research & Protocol Writing" with a focus on bio-statistical aspects was organized by ICMR – National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (ICMR-NICPR), in collaboration with Biostatistics Consortium. The program aimed to guide the young researchers towards improving quality of medical research at the level of planning the research. The participants were introduced to bio-statistical aspects of study designs, sample size calculations, data collection procedures, and protocol writing analysis plan required at the planning of bio-medical research studies. The total number of participants (online and offline) were 120.









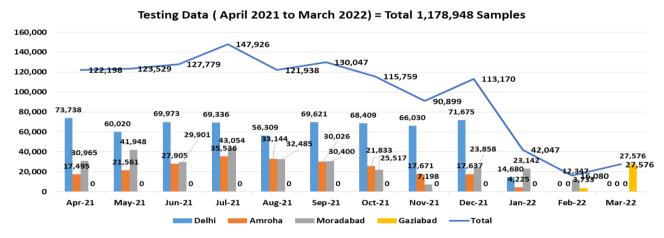


FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS OF NICPR

High Throughput Viral Diagnostic Laboratory (HTVDL)

ICMR- National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research(NICPR) undertook an initiative to establish a High Throughput Viral Diagnostic Laboratory (HTVDL) within the premises of NICPR at NOIDA under the guidance of ICMR to cater to the regional diagnostic needs in a public health emergency. This facility has been established in a war footing in a short span of time frame during the Nationwide Lockdown due to covid19 pandemic and the laboratory facility was inaugurated by the Honorable Prime Minister of INDIA on 27th July 2020.

The High Throughput viral diagnostic laboratory (HTVDL) is a state of art high throughput laboratory capable of high testing capacity of 6000 to 8000 tests per day, with skilled scientists, other human resources, high-end machinery that includes 4 high-throughput Semi-automated RNA extraction machines, Real-time PCR machines, 15 Bio-Safety hoods. NICPR has taken a big leap toward setting up the largest facility in India to serve the needs of the Delhi and Uttar Pradesh districts. HTVDL had played a major role in containing the COVID-19 spread during the pandemic time and worked 24x7 with three batches of technically skilled staff. The lab testing initiated with Parliament samples and other dignitaries and slowly shifted to diagnose to district-wise collected samples. During the different phases of the covid wave, HTVDL adopted pooling strategies as per ICMR advisory to meet the high number of cases.



NICPR-HTVDL has proven its capability and served the nation during pandemic waves. HTVDL stood its time and served tirelessly to the nation during the tough phases of the pandemic and nationwide lockdown and accomplished a huge number of sample testing, 21.7 lakhs till March 2022. HTVDL continued its function of capacity building by imparting training activities through a workshop on "Laboratory diagnosis of SARS-Cov2 by Real-time PCR" conducted in March 22-24, 2022 with invited lectures on Genomic surveillance and Therapeutics on treatment for covid infection. As the covid cases declined, the lab discontinued its function at March 31, 2022.



Health Promotion Clinic

The health promotion clinic is a one-of-a-kind clinic that has been functional at NICPR since 2014. It functions in the OPD rooms situated in the Division of Clinical Oncology.

Activities carried out at Health Promotion Clinic:

- Creating awareness of cancer and its risk factors through kiosks displayed in the clinic area.
- Documentation of demographic details
- Screening for hypertension and diabetes
- Height, weight, and BMI estimation
- Cancer Screening services

Cervical cancer screening

- Visual Inspection with acetic acid,
- Pap smear
- HPV DNA testing

Breast Cancer screening

Clinical breast examination

Oral Cancer Screening:

- Oral Visual Examination
- Diagnostics services
 - Colposcopy examinations
 - Biopsy
- **Treatment Services**
 - Thermal Ablation
- Symptomatic treatment

All the patients presenting to the clinic are registered and their data is collected in electronic format. Their comprehensive check-up is conducted and based on the findings, they are managed accordingly.



Summary of work done (JAN-JUNE 2022):

Total number of individuals screened: 721 (Females- 655, Males-66)

Pap smears: 588

VIA: 580 HPV: 545

Clinical breast examination: 624 Oral Visual Examination: 591

Colposcopy: 17 Cervical Biopsy: 09



IEC activities:





Cancer awareness lecture on the occasion of International Women's Day at PHC Harola, Noida





Awareness lecture on oral hygiene on occasion of Oral Cancer Awareness Month at Govt. School, Morna

Health Camps organized:

- -A cervical, breast, and oral cancer screening and awareness camp was organized at District jail, Dasna, Ghaziabad on 18 May 2022. A Talk about early signs and symptoms of cervical, breast, and oral cancer and the importance of early cancer screening was given.
- A free cancer screening camp for rural women was organized on 17th June 2022 at PHC Mohna, Faridabad. The Medical officer at PHC Morna told us about the village and PHC setup, at present there are 20 Asha workers in Mohna village. Scientists and social workers from Clinical Division conducted this camp wherein PAP smear examination, VIA, clinical breast examination and oral visual examination of patients were carried out. Along with that, ASHA workers were taught about breast examination and explained about the Pap smear so as to spread awareness amongst the community.







National Tobacco Testing Laboratory

The National Tobacco Testing Laboratories (NTTLs) have been established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India at three centers: ICMR-National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), Noida; Centre Drugs Testing Laboratory (CDTL), Mumbai and Regional Drugs Testing Laboratory (RDTL), Guwahati for the purpose of Tobacco Research and Testing. The NTTL at NICPR is the apex and coordinating center for the other two labs. the first-of-its-kind in the southeast Asian region. NTTLs are envisaged as world-class accredited laboratories providing analytical facilities and advisory for tobacco and tobacco products.

Activities:

NTTL at NICPR has been accepted as a member of World Health Organization's Tobacco Laboratory Network (TobLabNet).

The Lab has participated in WHO TobLabNet method validation for nicotine, moisture and pH analysis of reference SLT samples for developing SOPs for smokeless tobacco products.

NTTL receives samples from various government agencies across the country and also from WHO reference samples for tobacco product analysis.

The lab received approximately 297 smoke & smokeless tobacco samples and performed nearly 1123 tests in the reporting period (~ 3369 test in triplicate).

NTTL is presently working on optimization of new methods for flavoring agent (menthol) analysis in tobacco samples.

The scientific officers at NTTL-NICPR attended the following webinars/ meetings:

- Safer Karl Fischer Titrations with CMR-free reagents and OMNIS by Metrohm on 28th March, 2022.
- Applications of mass spectrometry for advance research by Waters on 27th April, 2022.



WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco

21st June 2022: Orientation program on WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco

Distinguished Guests: Mr. Pranay Lal, Senior Technical Advisor · International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), Dr. Amit Yadav, Senior Technical Advisor, The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), and Mr. Deepak Mishra, Executive Director, Socio Economic and Development Society, Patna

Attendees: Dr. Shalini Singh, Director & Scientist G, Dr. Prashant Kumar Singh, Nodal Officer, WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco, Faculty members, Scientists and technical staff of the project "WHO FCTC Knowledge Hub on Smokeless Tobacco"

Event details: Dr. Prashant Kumar Singh began the session by greeting the distinguished guest speakers with an introductory address and stating its primary objective, to create familiarity with the objectives of working for the Knowledge hub and to infuse new ideas for the same. Mr. Pranay Lal, author of the well-received book "INVISIBLE EMPIRE," gave an historical overview of tobacco, debunking the misconception that "Tobacco is native to India". He also explained the influence of agro-ecological zones on different varieties of Indian tobacco products. Furthermore, Dr. Amit Yadav addressed tobacco control policies and legislation, along with implementation gaps at varying tiers. He also discussed the ToEFI guidelines for tobacco-free educational institutions. The Socio Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS) executive director, Dr. Deepak Mishra, shared the array of activities conducted by his organization supporting the government in managing legal challenges by tobacco industry and media advocacy. He underlined the significance of selecting provincial food safety officials in order to expand the scope of the action against smokeless tobacco products. The entire discussion was about breaking the ice and ensuring that the recently recruited team understands the fundamental goal of the project and encourage each member to contribute new evidence-based insights to the Knowledge Hub. Finally, a vote of thanks was given by Dr. Prashant Kumar Singh to conclude the session, and similar monthly sessions with the experts were recommended to be held once a month to monitor the progress.

31st May 2022: Webinar/Talk on World No Tobacco Day 2022

On the World No Tobacco Day 2022, the "O-PMD Hub", a National Resource Centre, under the National Oral Health Programme, MoHFW, Govt. of India and Department of Dental & Oral Surgery, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals, New Delhi organized a webinar in association with Indian Dental Association West Delhi Branch. As one of the speakers, Dr. Shalini Singh, Director-National Institute of Cancer Prevention & Research (ICMR-NICPR) shared insights on "Smokeless Tobacco Use among Women: A Neglected Issue". The webinar included a discussion on "Tobacco: An Epidemic" by Dr. K.S. Sachdeva, Regional Director- The Union, South Asia at International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. Dr. Jagdish Kaur, Regional Advisor (TFI) - World Health Organization shared her expert views on "Tobacco-A Threat to Environment".

On World No Tobacco Day, an article on "Tobacco use during pregnancy: a threat to motherhood" in LMICs was published on *downtoearth.org.in*.



The article shares the information on the study being conducted by ICMR-National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research, Noida to narrow the knowledge gap in women on tobacco use and its adverse health effects. Pregnant women consuming tobacco are being screened and behavioral intervention is being provided to quit tobacco use during their ante-natal check-ups. Women who want to quit and seek help are also encouraged to visit ICMR-NICPR, Sector -39, Noida for free counseling and behavioral intervention. Besides, information on quitline services under the National Tobacco Control Programme has also been shared.

Available at: https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/health/tobacco-use-during-pregnancy-a-threat-to-motherhood-83097



TRAINING / WORKSHOPS:

A. Division of Molecular Biology-

- 1. Six (6) months (January-June) Project Dissertation Training: Number of Participants 6
- 2. Summer training (May-June, 4-8 Weeks): Number of Participants 10
- 3. Summer training (8 Weeks): National Academy Fellow -1

B. National Tobacco Testing Laboratory-

1. Training on Rotary Smoking Machine by NTTL NICPR (March) participants - 2

C. Division of Clinical Oncology-

- NICPR-ECHO's online cancer screening training program for medical officers (14 weeks): 2 cohorts
- ✓ CSTP-MO14 (Participants trained: 65)
- ✓ CSTP-MO15 (Participants trained: 58)
- 2. NICPR-ECHO's online cancer screening training program for nurses (10 weeks): 2 cohorts
- ✓ CSTP-N3 (Participants trained: 65)
- ✓ CSTP-N4 (Participants trained: 41)
- 3. NICPR-ECHO's online cancer screening training program for healthcare professionals in Africa: CSTP-A, Conducted as a collaborative initiative with ICMR HQ and African Union Scientific technical Research Committee.
- ✓ It's a 12 week course and a total of 12 participants were trained.

D. Division of Cytopathology-

1. NICPR-ECHO Online Certificate Course on Cervical Cancer Screening for Pathologists (Feb 23 – Apr 29, 2022)

E. Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics-

1. Internship (1st June, 2022 – 31st July, 2022) participants-1

PRESENTATIONS/TALKS

Dr. Mausami Bharadwaj.

- Delivered Invited lecture entitled Microbiome: Player of Tobacco-associated Oral Cancer in 41st Indian Association of Cancer Research, March 2-5 2022 at Amity University Noida.
- Delivered an invited lecture entitled "Molecular basis of Human Papilloma virus mediated cancers" in Save the Environment- NGO on 8th March, 2022 (on line)

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Dr Sanjay Gupta:

- Cytology of squamous epithelial lesions of the cervix 'ASC' and 'Low grade lesions': patterns & pitfalls'
- 'Cytology of 'High grade squamous lesions of the cervix'
- Case-based discussions on colposcopic-histologic correlation of screen-positive case
- Virtual interactive slide sessions on cytology of normal, infections and SIL lesions of uterine cervix

Dr Ruchika Gupta:

- 'HPV and other biomarkers in cervical cancer prevention'
- 'Cervical cyto-histological correlation: the ASC guidelines'
- Virtual interactive slide sessions on cytology of normal, infections and SIL lesions of uterine cervix
- 41st Annual Conference of the Indian Association for Cancer Research (IACR-2022) on "Combating Cancer: Biology to Therapy to Drug Resistance" along with an International Symposium on "Stem Cell and Cancer" which is being organized by Amity Institute of Molecular Medicine & Stem Cell Research (AIMMSCR), Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, Noida in the Hybrid Mode from 2nd to 5th March 2022
- Poster presented: Knowledge, practice and skills in Cytology-based cancer screening:
 Impact assessment of training workshops for the Pathologists

Dr Smita Asthana:

- Resource Person for One Week Online National Workshop on Time Series Analysis & Biostatistics organized by Science Technology Institute, Lucknow during 21st – 27th February, 2022 on "Systematic Review and Meta-analysis."
- Invited as an Expert Speaker to Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Greater Noida:

NEW PROJECTS INITIATED:

 Identification of rare variants in Pattern recognition receptors (PPRs) and their crosstalk with Interleukins and NF-kB to understand the functional Implications in Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs)

Duration: 3 years

Funding agency: Extramural – ICMR Ad-hoc

• Immune response to precautionary third dose of COVISHIELD/COVAXIN among the healthy adult population: an ICMR Cohort study, India

Funding agency: ICMR (Taskforce)

Project Duration: 9 months

 Al-assisted classification of conventional cervical smears using Google's TensorFlow artificial neural network

Funding Agency: Intramural Duration of Project: 12 months

 To study the role of Kinesin-3 family associated with paclitaxel drug resistance in breast carcinogenesis

Funding Agency: ICMR – SRF Duration of Project: 2022 – 2025

• ICMR Capacity Building for Disease Estimation and Projection

Name of Funding Agency: ICMR

Duration: 3 Years

• A demonstration project for reduction of tuberculosis in India- a multicentric study

Name of Funding Agency: ICMR HQ, New Delhi

Duration: 2 Years

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Staff News

NICPR warmly welcomes new members to its family.

S.No.	Name & Designation	D.O.J. in NICPR
1.	Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Scientist-B (Non-Medical)	03.03.2022
2.	Dr. Sudhir Tanwar, Scientist-B (Non-Medical)	07.03.2022

Staff Transferred in:

S.No.	Name & Designation	D.O.J. in NICPR	Remarks
1.	Sh. Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Section Officer	23.02.2022	Transferred from ICMR, Hqrs, New Delhi
2.	Sh. Vikas Kumar, UDC	03.03.2022	Transferred from ICMR-NIOH, Ahmedabad
3.	Ms. Rekha Saxena, Scientist-G	01.04.2022	Transferred from ICMR-NIMR, New Delhi
4.	Sh. Gaurav Sharma, Lab. Attendant-1	02.05.2022	Transferred from ICMR-NIOH, Ahmedabad

We Bid Farewell to:

S.No.	Name & Designation	D.O.R. from NICPR	Remarks
1.	Sh Ajay Singh, Lab. Attendant-1	31.01.2022	Transferred to ICMR-NJIL& OMD, Agra
2.	Sh. Brij Mohan Malhotra, Section Officer	28.02.2022	Retired
3.	Smt. Sonia Khattar, Section Officer	14.03.2022	Transferred to ICMR, Hqrs, New Delhi
4.	Sh. Ram Chander Das, Lab. Assistant	31.03.2022	Transferred to ICMR-NIOP, New Delhi
5.	Sh. Satyapal Singh, Lab. Assistant	31.03.2022	Transferred to ICMR-NIOP, New Delhi

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