

IAMGCON 2015

New Insight into therapy of Genetic Disorders

Kuldeep Singh*, J.P. Soni**

The 2nd Annual conference of Indian Academy of Medical Genetics, IAMGCON 2015, was held at Jodhpur collaboratively by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur and Department of Pediatrics, Dr S N Medical College, Jodhpur from 11-13 December 2015. Attended by more than 250 delegates and scientific deliveries by about 35 Medical Genetic experts from India and abroad on various advances in diagnosis and therapy of genetic conditions, it was a real treat to practicing Obstetricians, Pediatricians and medical specialists who attended the 3 day academic activity.

The first day was devoted for Fetal Medicine, perinatal autopsy and prenatal diagnosis and therapies. Hands on workshop on amniocentesis, pedigree drawing & analysis, identification of chromosomes and Fluorescent in-situ Hybridization (FISH) using softwares were held during the day. Workshop stations provided a real peep into the amazing world of Genetics.

The main conference was held on 12-13 December 2015 at AIIMS Jodhpur and focused on novelties in therapy and diagnosis. Globally there is perceptive changes in approach to these genetic disorders which are often disabling and lack a definite cure. The attitude of community is changing towards empowering communities to deal with these disorders. New therapies are being rigorously subjected to clinical trials and database available from old literature or practice based case series are

The conference was inaugurated on 12th December 2015 morning in the hands of stalwarts in field of Medical Genetics. Dr Dhavendra Kumar from United Kingdom was the Chief Guest and Prof I C Verma, founder father of Clinical Genetics in India was the

Guest of honour. Dr Verma in his keynote address stressed on role of genetics being central to all branches of medicine. Indeed genetics has a role in all disorders, but was worried that this has not been translated into the medical curriculum in India. He said "*Fortunately recent advances in genetic technologies such as microarray studies, next gene sequencing, non-invasive prenatal diagnosis and new therapies based on better understanding of pathogenesis of genetic diseases have revolutionized the practice of medical genetics, bringing helix to health and base pairs to the bedside*".

Dr Priya Kishnani from USA, another doyen in genetic disorders' therapeutics was conferred Dr S S Agarwal Oration. She deliberated in details on "Novel therapies for Genetic Disorders" in a very lucid and comprehensible style to the diverse audience.

Case based scenarios were discussed during major portion of the conference to emphasize algorithmic approach in dealing with genetic conditions for optimal utilization of resources keeping in mind principles of bioethics. All sessions and talk were lively, interactive and raised lot of enthusiastic query from the mesmerized audience.

To add further value to such meeting, interactive quiz was conducted and to our surprise it was the young generation of medical students who had the wide knowledge about the genetics. It remains to be seen whether this is just at the cognitive domain or will translate into practical application in public health. Essays on contemporary topics were also invited from young biomedical scientists.

The main highlight of the conference was encouragement for budding biomedical scientists from India to showcase their research work. Travel

Author's Affiliation: *Organizing Chairman, **Organizing Secretary, IAMGCON 2015.

Corresponding Author: Kuldeep Singh, Additional Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur- 342005 Rajasthan.
E-mail: kulpra@hotmail.com



bursaries were provided to the winner as well as young scientists whose work has added significantly to advancement of medical genetics. Competitive oral and poster presentations not only benefited the presenters but participants as well in innovative ideas.

Organizing Committee is attempting to put all resources and proceedings on the conference website accessible at www.iamgcon2015.in. Please keep visiting the site for Continuing Professional Development.



Inaugural session addressed by Prof Subha Phadke

