

**Report on APCRICON 2014**  
**The 16<sup>th</sup> National conference of the**  
**Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India**



**Organised by the Department of Community Medicine**

**In association with**

**Association for prevention and control of Rabies of India**

**For post-graduates, Medical officers and other practitioners**

**Date: 5.7.2014 and 6.7.2014**

**Venue: Hotel Fortune JP palace, Mysore**

## Details of the delegates

390 delegates had registered for the conference and there were about \_\_\_\_ spot registrations. The delegates were post graduates, medical officers and other practitioners



Picture 1: Registration counter – delegates registering at the counter

## Inaugural ceremony

The workshop was inaugurated by the Honourable health minister Shri.Khader U.T, The guest of honour Dr. Pushpa Sarkar – Director, Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr. Abdul Rahman - President APCRI, Founder president and mentor Dr. Sudharshan M.K, Dr. Mahendra B.J and Dr.Vinay M, Organising secretary, APCRICON 2014. Dr. Subhash Babu, Chairman, Scientific Committee, APCRICON 2014 welcomed the gathering

The honourable health minister Shri. Khader U.T who addressed the gathering pointed at how the public should act responsibly to compliment the activities of the government. He also the stressed on the wisdom behind preventive care and how it is superior to curative care

Dr. Pushpa Sarkar, the Director of Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, who spoke on the occasion emphasized that the knowledge gained from the deliberations and interactions in a conference should materialise in to action and help to serve the underserved such as the rural poor.

Dr. Abdul Rahman, the president of the Association for prevention and control of Rabies in India said that the APCRI will continue to lead the fight against Rabies and that he hoped that the government shall aid the association realise its goal.

Dr. Mahendra B.J, the organising chairman of APCRICON 2014 pointed out that the fight against rabies has been a successful on thus far but a lot needs to be done in this regard.



Pic 2: Dignitaries inaugurating the conference

The lifetime achievement award was bestowed upon Dr. Bankim Patnaik from Odisha for his valuable service in the field of prevention of Rabies.

Dr. Patnaik graduated from SCB medical college. He began his career as a casualty medical officer and later became a clinical pathologist with additional charge of the Anti Rabies clinic. Despite the busy schedule at the hospital he went on to study diploma in clinical pathology and diploma in Virology. He was trained in diagnosis, treatment and prevention of rabies in CRI Kasauli and Haffkine Institute, Mumbai. After 25 years of government service he voluntarily retired in order to devote himself to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of rabies by establishing a modern anti-rabies clinic in Cuttack, which was first of its kind in Odisha. He has worked towards improving the awareness about rabies and its prevention among the health care providers and the general public by visiting several districts in Orissa and interacting with them. He is one of the members of the team which founded the Association for prevention and Control of Rabies in India on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1998 at a meeting in Bangkok. He has organised the APCRICON 2003 and introduced a pre-conference CME element to the conference which was appreciated by the WHO. He is a fellow of the IMA college of general practitioners, Member-advisory board and key trainer for APCRI.



Pic 3: The dignitaries felicitating Dr. Bankim Patanik

The honourable health minister Shri. Khader U.T, released the souvenir of the conference and the guest of honour Dr. Pushpa Sarkar released the APCRI Journal.



Pic 4: Release of the APCRICON 2014 souvenir



Pic 5 : Release of the APCRI journal

## Scientific Sessions

Session 1 : The first scientific session of the day was chaired by Dr. Abdul Rahman President APCRI and by Dr. Sumit Poddar a critical Care consultant and Rabies consultant.

The first talk was by Dr. Gyanendra Gongal , Scientist, WHO regional Office, South East Asian Region, New Delhi. He spoke on the global and regional Rabies situation. He traced the history of control of Rabies globally and regionally. He pointed out how imported dogs could cause cases of rabies and the co-ordination of efforts within a region will help to achieve a rabies free status



Pic 6 : Dr. Gyanendra Gongal delivering his talk on Global and Regional Rabies situation

Dr. Gongal's speech was followed by Dr. Madhusudhana's talk on 'Human Rabies Survivors: From Scientific curiosity to scientific reality'. Dr. Madhusudhana is the professor of Neurovirology at the National Institute of Mental Health and neurosciences. Dr. Madhusudhana spoke about the survivors of Rabies abroad and in India and explored the reasons behind the course of the illness. He also expounded on the Milwaukee protocol and its reproducibility.

The audience had questions on why the survivors were common among paralytic rabies and not in furious rabies and on the immune response in these situations.



Pic 7: Dr. Madhusudhana S.N speaking on 'Human Rabies Survivors: From Scientific curiosity to scientific reality'

The next talk was delivered by Dr. Anitha Mahadevan. Dr. Anitha Mahadevan is an Additional Professor, Neuropathology, NIMHANS. She spoke on 'Pituitary involvement in Rabies Virus encephalitis'. She spoke on how the symptoms in Rabies such as an intact blood brain barrier and the paucity of immune response was similar to the state in which steroids were administered. She traced the cause to probable involvement of the hypothalamus and subsequently the steroid secretion as a possible cause. She cited articles where Metyrapone was used to treat mice infected with Rabies and metyrapone treatment for Rabies could be tried in human rabies cases.



Pic 8: Dr. Anitha Mahadevan delivering her talks on 'Pituitary involvement in Rabies Virus encephalitis'

Session 2: The next session was chaired by Dr. Sudharshan M.K and dr.Ichhpujani.

The next talk was by Dr. Amlan Goswami who outlined the evolution of APCRI and the role that the association has played in changing the scenario of Rabies prevention in India. His talk was titled 'Impact of APCRI on the Rabies Scenario in India in the last 16 years'



Pic 9: Dr. Amlan Goswami delivering his speech

The next talk of the second session was by Dr. Isloor who spoke on monoclonal antibodies against rabies virus and how monoclonal antibodies were superior to human immunoglobulins, the techniques used in the development and testing of the efficacy of the antibodies against rabies virus of different strains. Dr. Isloor is an Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Veterinary College, Bangalore



Pic 10: Dr. Isloor speaking on monoclonal antibodies

The next talk was on 'Surveillance of Bat rabies in India: Results of a pilot study' by Dr. Reeta Mani. Dr. Reeta Mani is an Assistant Professor, Neurovirology, NIMHANS. The study that Dr. Reeta presented was conducted in Nagaland and she explained the difficulties in conducting such surveillance. She concluded that such surveillances should be conducted to conclude on the presence/absence of Rabies in Bats in India



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Pic 11: Dr.Reeta delivering her talk on Bat surveillance in India

Dr. Ashwin Y. B is a Senior resident, Neurovirology, NIMHANS. He spoke on 'Evaluation of herbal extract for its anti viral effect against rabies virus' which was the results of animal experiments. Few extracts had virucidal properties and he said that they will be further evaluated before being taken up in humans.



Pic 12: Dr. Ashwin Y.B speaking on 'Evaluation of herbal extract for its anti viral effect against rabies virus'

The next talk was by Dr. Ashwini Shetty who spoke on 'Human Rabies Cases in India: A Laboratory perspective from NIMHANS'. She is a senior resident in Neurovirology in NIMHANS.



Pic 13: Dr. Ashwini Shetty speaking on 'Human Rabies Cases in India: A Laboratory perspective from NIMHANS'

The last talk of the session was by Dr. Ranjit Mankeshwar, Associate Professor, GMC, Mumbai. He spoke on ' ERIG use in ARV OPD – a 3 year retrospective audit'. He spoke on the need for the audit, the results and how the results had helped him introduce changes in the ARC.



Pic 14 : Dr. Ranjit Mankeswhar speaking on ERIG use in ARV OPD – a 3 year retrospective audit

Session 3: The chair person for the third session was Dr. Tripathy and Dr. Chittaranjan Roy

The first talk of the session was by Dr. Isloor who spoke on behalf of Dr. Yathiraj on 'Strategies for control of rabies in dogs'. He enumerated the various methods and concluded that a single method cannot be used for control Rabies in Dogs.



Pic 15: Dr. Isloor speaking on behalf of Dr. Yathiraj on 'Strategies for control of rabies in dogs'

The next speaker in the third session was Dr. Gowri Yale who spoke on 'Factors affecting the duration of immunity of rabies vaccination in Dogs'. Dr. Gowri Yale is a Ph.D., Graduate, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai. She brought out factors that could influence antibody titres such as breed of the dog, the type of food the dog was fed on etc.



Pic 16: Dr. Gowri Yale presenting her study on 'Factors affecting the duration of immunity of rabies vaccination in Dogs'

The next talk of the session was by Dr. Sachin Rustagi on 'Efficacy, a hard end point to measure survival after exposure to laboratory proven rabid animals. The rabipur (PCECV) experience'. He explained how efficacy is the ideal end point and how rabipur has 100% efficacy in victims bitten by a proven rabid dog.



Pic 17: Dr. Sachin Rustagi speaking on 'Efficacy, a hard end point to measure survival after exposure to laboratory proven rabid animals. The rabipur (PCECV) experience'

The last talk of the day was by Dr.Elango, former Director of Public Health & Preventive Medicine, Govt. of TN who spoke on the rabies control initiatives taken in Tamil Nadu and its replicability.



Pic 18: Dr. Elango speaking on 'Rabies control initiatives in Tamil Nadu – A study '