INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION GOA STATE BRANCH



EG VOCAL

Monthly Newsletter

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2024

PAALAK MITRA

FOSTERING CHILD: PARENT RELATIONS

STATE-LEVEL PROGRAM PALAK MITRA ON STRESS MANAGEMENT AND PARENTING SKILLS WITH WITH GOA LEGAL SERVICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PROSECUTION GOVT OF GOA

THERE WAS AN OVERWHELMING RESPONSE WITH AN ATTENDANCE OF OVER 100 PARTICIPANTS.

IMA GOA STATE IN ASSOCIATION WITH GOA **LEGAL SERVICE** AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PROSECUTION GOVT OF GOA **ORGANIZED STATE-LEVEL** PROGRAM PALAK MITRA ON **STRESS** MANAGEMENT AND PARENTING SKILLS ON 9/03/2024 WITH FACULTIES FROM



DR MEDHA SALKAR WAS THE CHIEF GUEST FOR THE FUNCTION ALONG WITH MADAM POONAM BHARNE. DIRECTOR OF PROSECUTION AS THE GUEST OF HONOUR.

MR. KEDAR MIRCHANDANI AND MRS. SEQUERA WERE RESOURCE PERSONS FROM SANGAT.DR SHEKHAR SALKAR COMPÈRED THE FUNCTION

Message from IMA President Dr. Sandesh Chodankar



SANGATH CENTRE

Dear Colleagues and friends, a warm greetings from IMA GOA State!

We have resolved to undertake various new initiatives under IMA Goa for the year 2024, Mental Wellbeing of citizens, working towards seamless regulatory compliance, and many more such activities.

I hereby proudly announce that we have taken the issue of operationalizing of Advanced Medical Directive: End of Life care to a logical end, i extend my gratitude to Honorable Justice Shri Sonak Sir and his team along will all stakeholders for the support.

I also thank Government of Goa for issuing a ordinance and extending the deadline by one year for registrations under CEA









IMA NEWSLETTER EDITOR MESSAGE

Dear Members

We have published the third edition of MediVOCAL, we aim to make our publication more vibrant, inclusive and relevant, kindly share your ideas and advices

Dr. Medha Salkar

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 31/03/2024



MA Goa state 2024 First Executive Committee Meeting of IMA GOA STATE 2024 held on 31st March 2024 10:00 am Onwards at Z Square Banquets, Samrat Ashok Theatre Panaji-Goa.

The meeting was hosted by IMA Mormugoa Attended by 21 executive committee members.

The meeting had interactive and fruitful discussions on various topics such as AMD, CEA, IMA Trust and Pan Card issues, IMA Help desk and Fund allocation to Headquarters for new premises.



IMA GOA STATE STARTS HELPDESK

As healthcare is witnessing tremendous growth the rules and regulations governing medical sector are increasingly becoming stringent.

In our continued efforts to streamline various issues faced by members of medical fraternity IMA Goa State Branch intends to set-up a dedicated help desk under IMA banner to provide end-to-end solutions for regulatory compliances.

The help-desk shall prove to be a single window contact for liaisoning with regulatory agencies including, licensing, data management, record keeping, auditing, and training.

REGISTER HERE

Click the icon to register on the Help-Desk







STATE LEVEL CME 10/03/2024



GOA STATE IMA WITH IMA TISWADI ORGANISED A STATE LEVEL CME IN ASSOCIATION WITH HEALTHWAY HOSPITALS AT HEALTHWAY HOSPITAL AUDITORIUM TO COMMEMORATE

WORLD KIDNEY DAY 2024.

DR J.P.TIWARI, PROF. & HOD, DEPARTMENT OF NEPHROLOGY, GMC DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS ON THE THEME OF WORLD KIDNEY DAY 2024- "KIDNEY HEALTH FOR ALL - ADVANCING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CARE & OPTIMAL MEDICATION PRACTICE".

DR SINDHU ARJUN, SPOKE ON "CKD TREATMENT IN DM, A NEW PARADIGM".

DR MADHUMOHAN PRABHUDESAI, SPOKE ON 'MANAGEMENT OF URETERIC STONES".

DR SHEETAL LENGADE, SPOKE ON 'OVERVIEW OF KIDNEY TRANSPLANT FOR NON NEPHROLOGIST".

DR SARANG KANEKAR, SPOKE ON 'BPH MANAGEMENT IN CLINICAL PRACTICE"

IN TOTAL 70 MEMBERS ATTENDED THE CME

HANDING OVER OF CHARTER OF DEMANDS 12/03/202

Goa State Ima President Dr Chodankar & IMA Bicholim President Dr Salkar handed over Charter of Demands on behalf of IMA in accordance with HQ directives at "Sankalp Patra Sujhav Abhiyan meet" for Health Care professionals on 12th march 2024.







Shri Sadanand Tanawde , Hon'ble member of Rajya Sabha and Shri Rohan Khaunte , Minister of IT and Tourism, Govt of Goa were present at the occasion







SEMINAR END OF LIFE CARE: WHOM. WHEN AND HOW? 21/03/2024



GOA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, GOA AND IMA GOA STATE BRANCH CONDUCTED A SEMINAR ON END OF LIFE CARE: WHOM, WHEN AND HOW? ON 21st MARCH 2024 AT 3 PM IN ADVOCATES CONFERENCE HALL IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY AT GOA.

A TOTAL OF 53 DOCTORS, 12 MAMLATDARS/JOINT MAMLATDARS AND 2 DEPUTY COLLECTORS ATTENDED THE SEMINAR.

FINAL AND CONCLUDING MEETING ON OPERATIONALIZING END OF LIFE CARE AND MEDICAL FUTILITY 28/03/2024

Meeting Held Under The Chairmanship Of Hon Justice Shree M.S.Sonak Ji And President Of IMA Dr Sandesh Chodankar Along With Health Secretary Shri Arun Mishra, DHS Director Dr.Geeta Kakodkar, Dean GMC Dr.Bandekar,

Mentor Of The Theme. Dr. Shekhar Salkar, Member Secretary GSLSA Ms Vijaya Ambre, Mr Ram Prabhudesai Judicial Magistrate And Representative Of Collectors, Law Dept. State Registrar.



It Was Decided To Notify The AMD And If Possible To Get It Gazetted So That It Can Be Implemented Effectively Very Shortly In The State Of Goa .Thus AMD Will Soon Become The Law Of Land And We Will Try Our Best To Get It Passed In The Assembly Goa Which Will Make Goa First State In India To Make The Living Will Official.



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IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION



INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

GOA STATE BRANCH





Ref: D/A/PR/0124/017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024

PRESIDENT Dr. Sandesh Chada 8668331655

IMM PAST PRESIDENT 98227474A7

HON. SECRETARY Dr. Rajashree Mar 9158055015

HON TREASURER . Gauresh Pal 8007249899

IST VICE PRESIDENT

2ND VICE PRESIDENT Dr. Shraddha Patil

3RD VICE PRESIDENT Dr. Surai Prabhudessai

HON. JT SECRETARY

CWC REPRESENTATIVE Dr. Pradeep Padwal Dr. Ajay Pednekar

EDITOR IMA NEWS

EDITOR IMA WEBSITE

Dr. Pramod Sawant Chief Minister Government of Goa.

Sub: Regarding Concrete proposal on standardization of rates chargeable to the patients by Health Care Facilities Based on Rule 9 (i) (ii) of central CEA 2010 and rules 2012.

Ref : 1. Recent directive by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in writ petition [Civil] no 648 of 2020 dated 27/02/2024 to Union of India.

2. Central Clinical Establishment (Registration & Regulation) Act 2010 and Rule: 2012 section 9 (i) (ii) (Encl-2)

Dear sur, With reference to the above subject, the H'ble Supreme court has directed the Secretary, Department of the Health, Union of India to come out with a proposal of Standardization of Rates chargeable to the patients by Health Care Facilities in consultation with the States.

It has also directed to do the same by holding a meeting with his counterparts in the State

This proposal has to be submitted by the Union Govt, after consultation with state governments and stake holders by the next hearing i.e. April 1st week.

On behalf of the IMA Goa state branch, I request you the following: 1] IMA Goa must be involved in any Discussion & Decision before submitting the response from Govt. Of Goa on the above matter.

Health being a state subject, as per the Central CEA or Respective State CEA there
is no provision for standardisation of rates in the Act. The act governs registration,
regulation, and minimum standards of care.

Hence with reference to the above issue at hand, we at IMA Goa State would like to meet you at the earliest to put forward our viewpoints and recommendations.

Looking forward to a positive response from you

Chilaman

Dr Sandeth Chodankar President Indian Medical Association

Goa State Branch 09422062770

Email- imagoastatesecretary@gmail.com

WITH REEFERENCE TO RECENT DIRECTIVES OF THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA IN WRIT PETITION NO.648 OF 2020 DATED 27/02/2024 TO UNION OF INDIA. DIRECTING THE SECRETARY DEPT. OF THE HEALTH UNION OF INDIA TO COME OUT WITH A PROPOSAL OF STANDARDIZATION OF RATES CHARGEABLE TO THE PATIENT BY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATES.

IMA GOA STATE PRESIDENT HAD COMMUNICATION WITH HON, CM OF GOA DR.PRAMOD SAWANT JI. **HEALTH SECRETARY OF GOA SHRI ARUN MISHRA** AND DIRECTOR, DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES GOA DR. GEETA KAKODKAR.

IMA GOA STATE STRESSED ON DEMAND THAT IMA GOA STATE MUST BE INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION AND DECISION BEFORE SUBMITTING THE RESPONSE FROM THE GOVT.OF GOA. ON THE ABOVE CITED MATTER.

WHEN CONTACTED TELEPHONICALLY HON CHIEF MINISTER WAS VERY MUCH IN RESONANCE AND AGREEMENT WITH US AND ASSURED OF HIS SUPPORT IN PERSONAL MEETING VERY SOON.



10/03/2024

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

MEETING WITH SWAMI BRAHMESHANANDJI AND DISCUSSED REGARDING IMA THEME RE KIND TO YOUR MIND AND HARMFIUL FEFECTS OF MORILE ON GENREAL POPLULATION ON

MFFTING WITH SANGATH REGARDING TRAINING DE TEACHERS TO CREATE AWARNESS ON HARMFIUL FFFFCTS OF MORILE



16/03/2024.



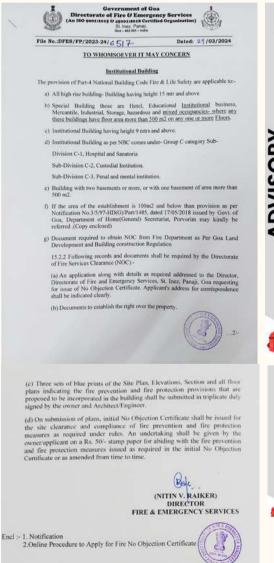


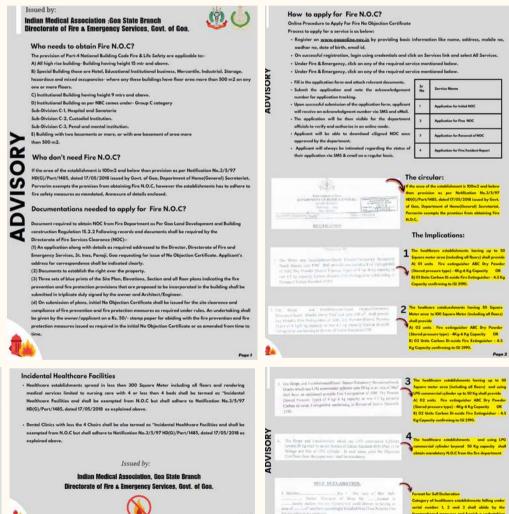
IMPORTANT MEETINGS

IMA GOA STATE MEETING WITH DIRECTOER OF FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PRESENT MEMORANDUM REGARDING CHANGES IN FIRE NOC FOR MEDICAL FRATERNITY 23/03/2024











IMPORTANT MEETINGS

Clinical Establishment Act

A MEETING WAS HELD BY HEALTH SECRETARY MISHRA JI, WITH THE CEA COMMITTEE OF IMA FOR URGENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CLINICAL ESTABLISHMENT ACT ON 12/01/24 AT THE SECRETARIAT.

DEAN GMC, DR BANDEKAR, DIRECTOR DHS, DR GEETA KAKODKAR, DR SANDESH CHODANKAR(IMA GOA STATE PRESIDENT), DR MITHUN MAHATME (CHAIRMAN CEA CELL AND MEMBER OF DISTRICT AUTHORITY NORTH) AND DR. SHEKHAR SALKAR TOOK AN URGENT MEETING WITH H'BLE AG. DEVIDAS PANGAM TO TAKE LEGAL OPINION AND FIND A SOLUTION FOR THE SAME ON 3/3/2024. AG GOA INFORMED US THAT NOW AS A RESULT OF THE HIGH COURT DECISION, IT IS CLEAR THAT ANY AND EVERY ESTABLISHMENT THAT DOES NOT HAVE PERMANENT REGISTRATION AFTER 8 JULY 2023 IS ACTUALLY ILLEGAL SALKAR (MEMBER IMA CEA CELL), MR MANUEL BARRETO, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, MS.GAUTAMI PARMEKAR, UNDER SEC HEALTH. IMA REPRESENTATIVES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF PANGAM SIR DRAFTED THE SAID AN AMENDMENT TO THE CEA ACT THROUGH AN ORDINANCE AT THE EARLIEST SO AS TO ADOPT A NEW DATE





GOVT GOA STATE HAS EXTENDED THE DATE BY 1 YEAR FOR PROVISIONAL VALIDITY AND PERMANENT APPLICATION BY 1 YEAR IN CEA BY AN ORDINANCE DATED 15/03/2024.







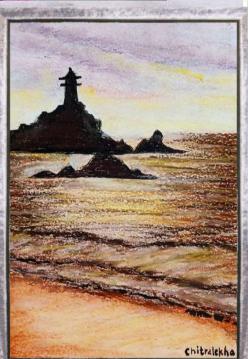
"IMA Goa State thanked governor in person and he was very happy to help medical fraternity! "



TALENT OF THE MONTH

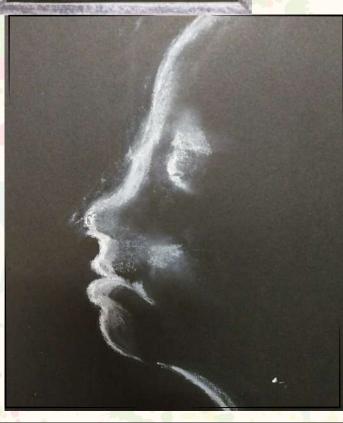
Dr. Chitralekha ...or Dr Picasso?

From writing prescriptions that cure patients... to painting canvases that heal the mind ... Dr Chitralekha Nayak is our talent of the month.











IMA MORMUGOA

CME 23/03/2024

Hotel Flora Grand attended by 39 members CME Topic as "Community Acquired Pneumonia:Practical Consideration For Effective Management"

Speaker: Dr Prabhu Prasad N C (Interventional Pulmonologist)





IIMA BARDEZ COLS WORKSHOP 07/03/2024

VENUE – GENO PHARMACEUTICALS RESOURCE PERSON DR SIDDHARTH NAIK, DR PRAMOD VERMA

16 PEOPLE TRAINED

IMA BARDEZ IN ASSOCIATION WITH IMA TISWADI
VENUE – HOTEL DELMON
DATE 9TH MARCH 2024
BREAST CANCER SCRENING – DR AVINASH ANAND
SCREENING FOR CERVICAL CANCER BEYOND PAP
SMEAR – DR SOPHIA RODRIGUES
1 CME POINT GRANTED • 78 MEMBERS ATTENDED

IMA BARDEZ



IMA MARGAO

CME on 15th march

On the occasion of World Sleep Day, CME was held in Hospicio South Goa District Hospital on15th March and was attended by 120 members.

Speakers:

- 1.Dr Nupur Kulkarni Prabhudesai (Margao) on Obstructive Sleep Apnea a pulmonologist's perspective.
- 2.Dr Nilesh Madkikar (Pune)and Dr JayeshRane (Porvorim) on role of ENT management in OSA
- 3.Dr Taranjit Kaul (Margao),On role of an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon in OSA



A senior citizen camp at Mahila mandal was held on 15th march 2024 supported by Lab Plus for Fasting and PP sugar along with other vitals

5 women were the beneficiaries



Donation Drive on 22/03/24

IMA Margao donated 50 blankets to an orphanage in Benaulim and to an old age home at Fatorda. Dr Babita and Dr Deepa Correia conducted this activity on 22nd March 2024

Donated a cheque of Rs One lakh from Margao IMA to Chetana charitable Trust a school for special children at Curchorem. Dr Babita, Dr Samita And Dr Rudolf visited this school to hand over the cheque.



IMA BARDEZ GLAUCOMA WEEK CME 15/03/2024

IMA BARDEZ

VENUE – HOTEL GREEN PARK
GLAUCOMA THE SILENT THIEF OF SIGHT – DR RITU CHAUDHARY
1 CME POINT GRANTED 96 MEMBERS ATTENDED



IMA BARDEZ CLINICAL ESTABLISHMENT ACT (CEA) 15/03/2024

VENUE – HOTEL GREEN PARK

DR MITHUN MAHATME AND DR SANDEEP NAIK BRIEFED THE IMA BARDEZ MEMBERS ON CEA WITH EMPHASIS ON TIMELINES AND PROCEDURE TO APPLY FOR PERMANENT REGISTRATION, 96 MEMBERS ATTENDED



IMA BICHOLIM BICHOLIM IMA CME 30/03/2024

SPEAKERS:

DR AMOL MAHALDAR - DIABETIC KIDNEY DISEASE DR RAGHOBA GAONKAR HYPERURICEMIA BY DR RAGHOBA

TEAM FROM DHS GAVE A PRESENTATION ON AYUSHMAN BHARAT DIGITAL MISSION

22 MEMBERS ATTENDED.

HELD IN LIONS CLUB HALL BICHOLIM





IMA BICHOLIM COLS PROGRAM 09/03/2024

IMA BICHOLIM

Workshop & Training on COLS was conducted by Dr Punam to train the trainers of Vedanta Staff

In all 26 participants were trained.

Chief Medical Officer of Vedanta Dr Abel Da Costa was also present on the occasion.





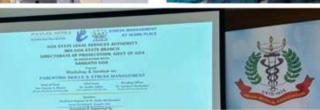












STATE LEVEL PROGRAM PALAK MITRA 09/03/2024

MA GOA STATE INITIATIVE BE KIND TO YOUR **MIND**

IMA Goa State in association with Goa legal service and Department of Prosecution Govt of Goa organized a state level programme **PALAK MITRA on Stress Management and** Parenting skills on 9/03/2024 with faculties from Sangath centre.

Dr Medha Salkar was the chief Guest for the function.

Madam Poonam Bharne, Director of Prosecution was the Guest of honor.

Mr Kedar Mirchandani and

Mrs. Sequera were resource persons from Sangat.

Mrs. Sequera were resource persons from Sangat.

Dr. Gauresh Palav proposed vote of thanks.

IINTER MA CRICKET TOURNMENT 17/03/2024 HOSTED BY MANIPAL HOSPITAL, GOA







P.B Warriors

Bicholim and Ponda IMA teamed together and Participated in the inter IMA Cricket tournament



IMA PONDA

AAO GAON CHALO PROGRAMME- 03/03/24 TO 09/03/24

Under Aao Gaon Chalo programme of IMA Ponda Dr. Suraj Kanekar conducted a yoga camp of six days from 3rd march to 9th march at morning 5 to 6:30 am. Attended by 38 villagers at Somnath temple Kodar.

Subject: Stress free life, preparation of next generation, side effects of fast food. How to prevent fatty changes in liver. Role of a lady in village building & so on.









DUBHASHI ON WOMEN'S HEALTH 06/03/2024

As a part of Women's Day celebrations, Dr. Rewa Dubhashi conducted interactive session on Women's Health with college students of PES's Ravi S. Naik College of arts & science. It was attended by 68 girls & by the teaching staff.





WEEKLY GUIDANCE TALK BY DR. PURNIMA USGAONKAR FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS OF MATRUCHAYA

Organized by IMA Ponda Adolescent Health Cell of IMA Goa State. The topic was "How to carry oneself and how to control oneself", 35 girls attended along with some care takers and the Superintendent. the seminar was concluded with a satsfactory Q&A session. Overall the program was useful in causing a bonding opening them up towards the real requirements from them. Dr. Purnima has told them to give the topics they want to be discussed.









IMA PONDA 08.03.24 - TALK BY DR. SUSHMA PRABHU

Dr. Sushama Prabhu gave a talk about Menstrual Health & hygiene to waste handlers and collectors in the Ponda Municipality Hall today. It was sponsored by a NGO group under the Hildaari project. There were about 45 waste collectors.

And at the end of the talk Sanitary pad kits were handed out to each of them.





08.03.24 - TALK ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BY DR. PURNIMA USGAONKAR





Dr. Purnima Usgaonkar conducted talk on Woman Health on International Women's Day at Encube Ethicals Pharma at Madkai.

100 employees attended the talk.

08/03/24 - DR. PURNIMA USGAONKAR AWARDED

Dr. Purnima Usgaonkar received Freedom Fighter Berta Menezes Braganza Memorial Award by Uzwad NGO on International Women's Day 2024 at Peaceful Society Madkai.



IMA PONDA 08/03/24 - TALK BY DR. SURAJ KANEKAR

Dr Suraj Kanekar of IMA Ponda was called as a chief guest by Keri Mahila Mandal to give a talk on women's day was also an examiner of Ladu competition out of millets. It was attended by about fifty ladies also decided to make plastic free ward.









09/03/24 - DR. SURAJ KANEKAR CELEBRATED WOMEN'S DAY AT KODAR

Dr. Suraj Kanekar celebrated woman's day at Kodar Village at Somanath temple in the evening total attendance were thirty people.





09/03/24 - 3rd PONDA IMA CME

As the World observes World Glaucoma Day 12th March & World Glaucoma Week from 10th to 16th March, IMA Ponda conducted a CME on Glaucoma- the silent cause of blindness. The talk was given by Dr. Shweta Khandeparkar which aimed to increase awareness first amongst doctors for early diagnosis & timely referral to the ophthalmologist. A screening programme was conducted by

Dr. Shweta & Dr. Rajesh Bhat preceding the CME for doctors of IMA Ponda.

Around 30 doctors were present.









IMA PONDA 12.03.24 - IMA PONDA ACTIVITY

In association with Ponda taluka legal services committee and Pratibha friend circle, Borim, as a part of Women's Day Celebration Dr. Nutan Dev gave a talk to the ladies on health of individual & that of family. The advocates present gave necessary information with regards to various legal matters & free help provided by government.







12/03/24 - FELICITATION & PRESENTATION OF DR. SAKHARAM GUDE AWARD

Felicitation & presentation of Dr. Sakharam Gude Award to IMA Ponda member Dr.Laxmikant Naik for Community Service by District Governor, Lions Club International.







IMA PONDA 20/03/24 - WEEKLY REGULAR HEALTH CHECK UP UNDER AAO GAON ABHIYAN

IMA Ponda, with Adolescent Health Cell of IMA Goa State, IAPGoa & Matruchaya Seva 25 was held. Dr. Purnima examined 20 patients 14 kids & 6 adolescents. Under Adolescents Health Cell activities health checkup of 6 adolescents girls & a talk to the girls on care of eyes was given by Dr. Purnima Usgaonker.30 girls attended. The spects were distributed & care of spects & the correct ways of handling & using were highlighted to those who were found to have refractory errors during a camp held on 17th March by Matruchaya.









30/03/24 - 4th CME

As the World observes World Kidney Day on the 14th of March, IMA Ponda conducted a CME on renal topics. The topics were Incidental renal masses- An Oncologists Perspective by Dr Sachin Arun Ambre and Diabetic Nephropathy by Dr Shital Lengade Around 40 doctors were present.







IMA TISWADI

2nd NATIONAL LEVEL TRAUMA CONCLAVE IN ORTHOPEDIC INJURIES 2-4 MARCH'24

THE NATIONAL TRAUMA CONCLAVE IN ORTHOPEDIC INJURIES IN AASOCIATION WITH AAOS AT TAJ CONVENTION CENTRE, DONA PAULA ATTENDED BY 600 ATTENDESS WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FACULTY



IMA TISWADI COLS WORKSHOP ON WOMEN'S DAY, 08/03/2024

MANAS
DEVELOPERS OFFICE
IN PANAJI FOR 26
PEOPLE.
DR SHANTA KUDALE
CONDUCTED THE
PROGRAM.





WORLD DOWNS DAY 21/03/2024

TISWADI COMMEMORATED IMA "WORLD DOWN'S SYNDROME DAY" ON THURSDAY. 21ST MARCH'24. GSIDC WAS REQUESTED TO LIGHT UP ATAL SETU WITH BLUE AND YELLOW COLORS SIGNIFYING THE COLORS DOWN'S SYNDROME. THE DAY CELEBRATES UNIOUENESS AND **DIVERSITY** INDIVIDUALS WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME. PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN BY MEMBERS BY ASSEMBLING AT THE PROMENADE OPPOSITE OLD SECRETARIAT IN PANAJI



IMA TISWADI IMA TISWADI -CME 22/03/2024

IMA TISWADI ORGANISED A CME AT HOTEL TAJ VIVANTA, PANAJI, FROM 7.30 PM ONWARDS TO CELEBRATE "ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH - MARCH 2024" AS PART OF AN INITIATIVE BY ICMR.

DR KEDAR PADTE SPOKE ON "ENDOMETRIOSIS - NEWER CONCEPTS".
IMA TISWADI COMMENCED A SERIES OF LECTURES CALLED 'BACK TO BASICS' DR
OSCAR REBELLO "APPROACH TO DYSPNOEA"

IN TOTAL 103 MEMBERS ATTENDED AND THE MEETING WAS ACCREDITED FOR 1 CREDIT HOUR BY GOA MEDICAL COUNCIL.







SPECIAL ARTICLE Kyasanur forest disease (KFD) By Dr Chitralekha Nayak

Kyasanur forest disease (KFD) is a known viral haemorrhagic fever along the belts of Western Ghats of India for the last 60 years. The disease is caused by KFD virus which is a member of Flavivirus family. It was first recognized in 1957, when an illness occurred concomitantly in monkeys and in humans.

KFD virus is transmitted to the wild monkeys through the bites of infected ticks. After infection, KFD virus is transmitted to other ticks feeding on the infected animals. Infection causes severe febrile illness in some monkeys. When infected monkeys die, the ticks drop from their body, thereby generating hotspots of infectious ticks that further spread the virus. Humans become infected through the bite of infected unfed nymphs and present with biphasic illness with fever, sometimes haemorrhagic and/or neurological features.

The alteration in epidemiological profile of the disease and deforestation in recent years has suggested that it is now time to consider KFD as an emerging tropical disease in India. The disease was limited to the Western Ghats of Karnataka State of India for about seven decades; however, since the last five years cases have been reported from adjacent States of Karnataka including Goa along the course of Western Ghats.

Goa has witnessed outbreaks of KFD in Sattari taluka since 2015.

During 1957-2012, KFD virus activity was limited to Shimoga, Chikmagalur, Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka State. In 2012, KFD cases were reported in Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu. During 2013-2015, confirmed cases were reported from Wayanad, Malappuram, Palakkad and Nilambur districts of Kerala State. Some cases were reported from Sattari taluka of Goa during 2015. During 2016, KFD cases were reported from Dodamarg and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra and Dharbandora taluka of Goa. The number of cases increased in 2017 from Dodamarg, Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra and Valpoi, Pernem, Dharbandora taluka of Goa state. Since the last seven decades, the virus activity was known only in Karnataka and for the past five years the cases have been reported from adjacent States of Karnataka such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Goa and Maharashtra. This is a cause of concern considering the similar ecology of the affected areas, which are all situated in the Western Ghats. It is not clear whether these areas are endemic or disease has spread due to movement of monkeys and small rodents (those harbour ticks), which act as reservoir for the virus.

Earlier data accumulated from the five districts of Karnataka showed the KFD transmission from December to May, when nymphal activities are at peak, thus maintaining wildlife-livestock-human interfaces. However, epidemiological data generated later from the other States suggest that the KFD cases can be detected as early as from October and cease of transmission is noticed by June. In Goa, peak number of cases was seen in March and April months followed by gradual disappearance of the cases by onset Of June in 2016. This is because humans gets exposed to ticks while visiting the forest for farming or grazing livestock animals, collecting dried leaves or dry woods, hunting or trekking, cashew cut forming and disposal of KFD-infected dead monkeys during these months.

Limited data is available regarding the clinical features and complications of Kyasanur Forest Disease. The clinical presentation of KFD is usually described as biphasic, but occasionally in four stages. In the first phase, patients usually present with sudden onset of fever, headache and generalized body pain, especially of the neck, upper and lower back and extremities. The second phase comprises of respiratory, haemorrhagic and neurological manifestations. The incubation period of KFDV in humans is 3-8 days.



Medi VOCAL

Besides fever and myalgia common clinical manifestations of KFD included gastrointestinal symptoms like vomiting, loose motions and abdominal pain.

A significant number of patients revealed respiratory tract involvement in the form of lower respiratory tract infection and pneumonia associated with gastrointestinal manifestation in 2015-2017 in Goa. Some patients also developed neurological symptoms in the later phase of illness. Neurological features included drowsiness, seizures, transient disorientation, confusion, cerebellitis, rarely convulsions and loss of consciousness.

Hemorrhagic manifestations also are very predominant in KFD patients .The peculiar features include low WBC and platelet count (pancytopenia), neutropenia, blood in vomitus and blood in stools, bleeding gums, reddish skin patches.

The diagnostic modality of choice in the first few days of illness is PCR test while antibody testing is used in the late phase. In the absence of a specific antiviral treatment, the clinical management of patients is limited to supportive care. Avoidance of exposure and vaccination is recommended to prevent this infection. Timely hospitalization and supportive therapy are more important because no specific and well-established antiviral treatment is available for KFD virus in humans currently. Maintenance of blood pressure, hydration and normal blood cell counts are the options included in supportive.

Infected ticks should be eradicated so as to control the spread of ticks in the whole forestry. A likely transmission of infection from a dead monkey to human can be prevented by use of insecticides in about a radius of 50 m circling the dead monkey. However, control programmes are difficult in practice as technically it is not feasible to carry a huge amount of water required for the spray of insecticide. Alternatively, tick-bite can be avoided by using repellents Moreover, to prevent direct contact with ticks, people should be instructed to use clothes having long sleeves.

Two-dose vaccine at an interval of a month followed by boosters is the ongoing vaccination strategy in India. The first series is followed by a booster at 6–9 months and then successive boosters after every 5 years. Evidently, KFD virus vaccines are being used on an extensive level, covering all the working risks units in the endemic areas, but still, for humans, it will remain a major problem.

Better awareness is required at public level regarding this disease and vaccination especially people of remote villages closer to forest areas as it will be emerging tropical disease in the near future.

