



## Care With Compassion: That's Palliation



**DR. DATTARAM DESSAI**  
President  
IMA Goa State

### Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Navratri and Dussehra festivals bring joy and cheer to all.

We had our annual conference, XXXVII GIMACON 2025, last month. It was a wonderful event where we met, learnt and enjoyed. Thank you for your overwhelming response.

Please try to have awareness programmes and CMEs on our theme 'Care With Compassion : That's Palliation'.

Take care.



**DR. VRUSHALI PRABHUDESAI**  
Editor  
IMA Goa State

### From the Editor's Desk

Hi,

With curtains finally being drawn on XXXVII GIMACON 2025, IMA Goa State & IMA Ponda are overcome with emotion ... an emotion of GRATITUDE. The strength of our association lies in our members & our commitment to shared goals. Zuri White Sands, Varca was witness to one such goal last month.

We, as Doctors, are custodians of our society's well being. We act in good faith towards our patients. To be held accountable for actions not in our domain is to demean our sincerity. Let our decency not be misread as our vulnerability.



## XXXVII GIMACON 2025

A Report

By

Dr. Purnima Usgaonker,

Organising Co-ordinator, XXXVII GIMACON 2025



XXXVII GIMACON 2025, the flagship Annual Conference of IMA Goa State, hosted by IMA Ponda Branch, was held at Zuri White Sands Resort, Varca, Salcette Goa, on 27th and 28th September 2025. Around 280 delegates from all over Goa participated in the conference.



### Saturday, 27 September 2025

The two-day event commenced with inauguration of stalls at 3.30pm at the hands of the IMA Goa State President, Dr. Dattaram Desai.





This was followed by the Inaugural Function graced by Mr. Digambar Kamat, Minister for PWD, Captain of Ports & Legal Metrology, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Geeta Joshi, President IAPC, as the Guest of Honour. The inaugural function started with the IMA Prayer and Flag Salutation by the IMA Goa State Secretary, Dr. Abhijit Shanbag. At the outset, Dr. Ajay Pednekar, Organising President, welcomed the gathering, which was followed by floral welcome with flowers made by the mentally challenged children of Lokvishwas Pratisthan. The Traditional Lamp was lit at the hands of Dignitaries on the dais with pleasant Saraswati Vandana playing in the background.



Dr. Abhijit Shanbag, IMA Goa State Secretary, presented the IMA Goa State activities as well as those of the local branches. IMA Goa State President, Dr. Dattaram Desai, then addressed the gathering.



Three prominent members of IMA Goa State, Dr. Mohan Dhumaskar from IMA Bardez, Dr. Sandesh Chodankar from IMA Bicholim and Dr. Shaileshkumar Kamat from IMA Mormugao were felicitated at the hands of the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour for their outstanding achievements. The IMA Goa State Awards 2024 were given at the hands of the Chief Guest. The awardees were

- Best Branch to IMA Ponda, received by the then Secretary Dr. Vaishali Talaulikar, and President Dr. Suraj Kanekar,
- Best President to Dr. Suraj Kanekar from IMA Ponda and
- Best Secretary to Dr. Siddharth Naik from IMA Bardez.





# Doc Talk



IMA Goa State President Elect, Dr. Shraddha Patil placed her vision for the upcoming year 2026 with the theme under her leadership 'Embrace Neurodiversity ... We Care, Connect and Champion'.



Guest of Honour Dr. Geeta Joshi expressed her happiness on the State theme for 2025, 'Care with Compassion : That's Palliation', and put forth her guiding thoughts.



The Chief Guest Mr. Digambar Kamat, in his address, praised medical profession and said Doctors are real Gods. He gave number of instances where he had this experience. He assured his support in protecting doctors from violence and ill treatment.



The Souvenir of the Conference, a beautiful compilation by the IMA Goa State Editor, Dr. Vrushali Prabhudesai was released at the hands of the Chief Guest.



Mementos were presented to the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour with citations.



The inaugural programme concluded with the vote of thanks by the Organising Secretary, Dr. Rakesh Deshmane. This was followed by the National Anthem. The entire programme was vividly compered by our Master of Ceremony, Dr. Kalyani Kakode.





# Doc & Talk



The IMA Goa State Oration was very interesting and enchanting. Our Distinguished Orator, Dr. Nandu Mulmule, Consultant Psychiatrist and Motivational Speaker, spoke on 'Man's Search for Meaning and Happiness'. He held the audience spellbound with his anecdotes.



The State President and State Secretary managed the sessions as per protocol. This was followed by Cultural Programme under the wonderful leadership of Dr. Nutan Dev, and participation of our singers and artistes. Icing of the cake were the Lovely kids, children of our IMA members. Banquet was served simultaneously.





**Sunday, 28th September 2025**

The day's programme started with the Scientific Poster and Paper Presentations, Judges being Dr. Rajesh Patil & Dr. Nilesh Talwadkar, and chaired by Dr. Sarvesh Dubhashi and Dr. Shirish Mandurkar. Dr. Manwin Fernandes won the first prize while the second prize was shared between Dr. Hardik Patel and Dr. Sreedharan M for Scientific Posters while Dr. Sasmit Lotlikar and Dr. Gokuldas Sawant won the first & second prizes respectively for Papers.



**This was followed by Scientific Sessions.**

**Lecture 1** with Speaker, Dr. Purvez Grant, Director & Trustee, Ruby Hall Clinic, Pune on the Topic 'Recent Advances in Health Care', chaired by Dr. Manish Debsikdar and Dr. Amey Kamat.



**Lecture 2** with Speaker, Dr. Ajay Patil, Professor & Head, Kashibai Navale Medical College, Pune & Medicolegal Consultant on the Topic 'The Doctor gets a Notice : What next?', chaired by Dr. Rewa Dubhashi and Dr. Abhijit Kamat.



**Lecture 3** with Speaker, Dr. Geeta Joshi, Consultant Palliative Care Physician & President of IAPC on the Topic 'Basic Concepts in Palliative Care', chaired by Dr. Basavraj Pattanshetti and Dr. Vandana Patankar.





# Doc & Talk



**Lecture 4** with Speaker, Dr. Sameer Melinkeri, Consultant Haematologist, Director & Head Haematology, and Director Blood & Marrow Transplantation, Dinanath Mangueshkar Hospital Pune on the Topic 'Evolving Diagnostics and Treatment Modalities .. from remission to cure for cancers', chaired by Dr. Sandeep Naik and Dr. Samidha Khandeparkar.



The lectures were followed by a Panel Discussion on 'Hematology & Hemato-oncology'. The Panelists were Dr. Sameer Melinkeri, Dr. Mahadev Swamy, Dr. Ramnath Nevrekar, Dr. Nakul Tikare.



The MCs, Dr. Mary Ramnathkar and Dr. Suyash Mandurkar did a wonderful job of compering the sessions.



Post Lunch there was the Annual General Body Meeting of IMA Goa State followed by Valedictory Function with prize distribution, and presentation of certificates of gratitude with mementos to the sponsors, and the most awaited and cherished Lucky Dip. Farewell was bid with a refreshing Tea.





# Doc & Talk





## BRANCH ACTIVITIES

### IMA Bardez

IMA Bardez conducted its GBM on 20 September 2025 at Hotel Green Park.

It was followed by ... CME on 'Surviving Sepsis : Lessons Learnt'. Dr. Nimisha Parkar gave a talk on 'Early Recognition and Management of Sepsis'. Dr. Shivanand Gauns spoke on 'Paediatric Sepsis', Dr Vardhan Bhobe and Dr Elphinston Fernandes spoke on 'Surgical and Urosepsis' respectively.

The programme was attended by 69 members. 3 CME Points were granted.



IMA Bardez in association with the Endocrinology Team of Goa Medical College conducted Module 3 of the ongoing diabetes refresher course on 21 September 2025. It included talks on 'Microvascular Complications' by Dr. Ankush Desai, 'Macrovascular Complications' by Dr. Rukma Patnekar, and 'Chronic Complications of Diabetes Beyond the Usual' by Dr Fahad Mohamed. There were 24 participants. Credit Point/s 1.

IMA Bardez along with NDH conducted a CME on 'Interviewing skills in difficult clinical scenario' on 26 September 2025. The talk was given by Dr. Gaurav Haldankar, Sr Psychiatrist @ NDH.

The CME was attended by 50 doctors and was awarded 1 credit point by the Goa Medical Council.



Under SWATCHAATA HI SEVA campaign, Indian Red Cross Society Bardez Taluka & IMA Bardez in association with Mapusa Municipal Council organised General Medical Camp for the Safayee Karmachari & the Staff of Mapusa Municipality on Friday, 26 September 2025 at Old Mapusa Municipality Building, Mapusa. In all 65 staff of Mapusa Municipality took the benefit of the camp.

The following Doctors gave their free consultations during the camp ...

- Dr. Pradeep Korgaonkar,
- Dr. Sunaina Thakur,
- Dr. Jayanti Aldonkar,
- Dr. Manjita Chari,
- Dr. Hethel Bhakta,
- Dr. Tara Agarwal,
- Dr. Divya Naik.

Technician Santosh did the blood sugar test.





## IMA BICHOLIM

IMA Bicholim in association with Goa Institute of Management organized a talk by Dr. Jose Alvares, Consultant Gastroenterologist. The talk was attended by about 70 students, staff & faculty from Goa Institute of Management, Sanquelim.



## IMA CQS

Dr. Deepak Lotlikar conducted his routine weekly checkup of inmates of the Home for the Destitute run by the Missionaries of Charity at Igramoll, Quepem



IMA CQS organized it's monthly CME on 12 September 2025 at IMA CQS Hall, Curchorem in the form of 'Good Clinical Practice' where there was discussion among CQS members on various topics like Chest pain, Ear complaints, Back aches and other commonly encountered problems in the routine clinical practice. Discussion on each topic was followed by an Expert Opinion given by the specialist in the concerned topic, on current and proper guidelines in managing each entity in correct way. CME was attended by 35 members of CQS.



## IMA MARGAO

IMA Margao held a CME on 05th September 2025 at Hotel Orzo, Margao. Dr. Anura Kantak spoke on 'Cancer Screening – A Step Towards Preventive Oncology'. 86 members attended. CME accreditation : 2 points for speakers, and 1 point for delegates.



IMA Margao supplied eight food baskets to newly detected Tuberculosis patients as part of Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan.

## IMA MORMUGAO

IMA Mormugao held a CME on 12 September 2025 at Hotel HQ, Vasco. Dr. Anura Kantak, Consultant Oncologist spoke on 'Cancer Screening – A Step Towards Preventive Oncology'. The CME was attended by 41 members.





IMA Mormugao in association with St. Andrew's School ICSE/ISC, held a free medical camp along with blood testing (blood sugar, glycosylated hemoglobin, lipid profile and single lead ECG) from 08.00am to 11.30am at St. Andrew's ICSE school premises on 14 September 2025. 53 patients, including 11 children benefitted from the camp. Doctors who volunteered for the camp were :-



Dr. Rosario Menezes, Pediatrician

- Dr. Savio de Souza, Physician
- Dr. Wanda Araujo, Skin
- Dr. Ruhi Saith, Physician
- Dr. Poornima Naik, Gynaec/Obs
- Dr. Parag Sawant, ENT
- Dr. Suganiya Subramaniam, Palliative Care
- Dr. Mitchell Menezes, Physician
- Dr. Aaron Soares, Ortho
- Dr. Ana Pereira, Skin
- Dr. Ruth Viegas, Gen Med

There was a talk conducted by IMA Goa State from 09.30am to 10.15 am on Palliative Care by Dr. Pankaj Rajmane. 30 people attended the talk.

## IMA Ponda

In observance of World Nutrition Month, a programme was organized at Matruchaya Balikakalyan Ashram Wade Talauli, by IMA Ponda with IMA Ponda Charitable Trust, Adolescent Health Cell of IMA Goa State and IAP Goa State on 02 September 2025, with a talk by well-known dietician from Ponda, Diet Expert Mrs. Vandana R. Kakodkar.

Mrs. Bodke, the Superintendent of the centre, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Purnima Usgaonker introduced the topic, and spoke about the importance of nutrition and the purpose of observing the day or the month. Dr. Vandana addressed the girls with a beautiful presentation about diet and nutrition. The girls actively participated and exhibited deep interest in knowing the importance of nutrition. She then spoke with the cook and told her how to prepare a balanced diet plate or smart plate. Dr. Purnima spoke to the cook when she complained about girls not eating vegetables to prepare vegetables with different taste and menu. She gave many tips towards preparing food items like soup, cutlets, parathas from leafy vegetables as well as left out veg preparations. Around 30 girls and staff attended the programme.





# Doc & Talk



The weekly health check-up organized by IMA Ponda & the IMA Ponda Charitable Trust, IAP Goa State and Adolescent Health Cell of IMA Goa State was held at Matruchaya, Dhavali on 03 September 2025. Dr. Purnima Usgaonker examined 9 newborns, 5 toddlers and 2 adolescents. Medicines were sponsored by Matruchaya and IMA Ponda Charitable Trust.



Regular weekly health checkup under Matruchaya Seva and Aao Gaon Chalen Abhiyaan of IMA Ponda, IMA Ponda Charitable Trust, IAP and Adolescent Health Cell of IMA Goa State was held on 10 September 2025 at Matruchaya. 16 kids and 4 adolescents were examined by Dr. Purnima



XXXVII GIMACON was held on 27th and 28th September 2025 at Zuri White Sand Resorts, Varca. The conference was inaugurated on 27th September with Shri. Digambar Kamat, Hon. PWD Minister, Govt of Goa as Chief Guest and Dr. Geeta Joshi, President IAPC as Guest of Honour. Dr. Mohan Dhumaskar, Dr. Sandesh Chodankar and Dr. Shailesh Kamat were felicitated at the conference for their exemplary services to the society. IMA Goa State Oration was delivered by Dr. Nandu Mulmule on the topic 'Man's Search For Happiness'. The oration was followed by a cultural programme with active participation from IMA members. 28th September started with paper and poster presentations followed by CMEs with speakers Dr. Geeta Joshi, Dr. Purvez Grant, Dr. Ajay Patil and Dr. Sameer Melinkeri. There was a panel discussion on Haematology by experts at the end of scientific sessions. The conference concluded with annual GBM of IMA Goa State, and valedictory function. Total 285 delegates attended. 5 CME credit points were allocated for the conference.

