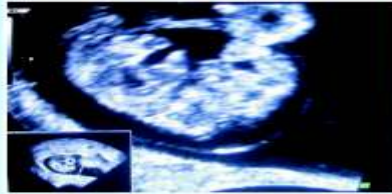


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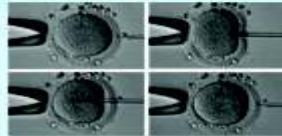
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- Blastocyst Culture
- Operative Laparoscopy & Hysteroscopy
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Dr. Laxmi Agrawal
(Art Specialist)



Dr. Hasmukh Agrawal
(Art Specialist)



Reshambai fertility Hospital

Center For Human Reproduction ivf-icsi (Test Tube Baby Center)

Swastik Complex, Opp. Rajsthan Hospital,
Shahibaug, Ahmedabad-380 004.

Phone : 079-22863777 / 3444, M. : 094266 70791 Fax : 22865596

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(Branch of Indian Medical Association)

ESTD : 1902

AHMEDABAD MEDICO NEWS

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President - AMA



DR. GARGI PATEL
Hon. Secretary - AMA

Imm. Past President - **DR. KIRITKUMAR C. GADHAVI**

VOL. 16

MARCH-2022

ISSUE-11

HIGHLIGHTS

Programme

16-04-2022 Entertainment Programme

Article

Let us know Autism Better - By Dr. Prarthana Kharod Patel



'SECRET TO SUCCESS IS THE RESULT OF UNITY, HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE'

Message From President's & Hon. Secretary's Desk



Dear members,

Greetings of the season !!

The summer is at the doorstep now. It is also time of various examinations. We wish all the best to the children of the members appearing in board exams & various competitive exams.

The month of March remained full of social & scientific activities. This month we have arranged large numbers of events with reference to the international women's day.

"Feminism isn't about making women strong. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength."

- G.D. Anderson

The programmes conducted by strong team of Women doctor wing of AMA & ladies wing AMA, certainly proved that. "There is nothing like to empower the women; it's just to let her to be empowered." The fully occupied hall with ladies delegates were enlighten by wonderful talks on current topics by various eminent speakers.

From 07-03-2022 to 11-03-2022, the health awareness programmes for women were conducted in various schools & at various organizations over the period of entire week.

As a general belief, doctors are not good at their wealth management. We usually remain busy with our work; but, most of us usually fail to have proper long term management of our financial planning including retirement plans. The wealth management gurus guided us in a wonderful CME on "Doctor as an entrepreneur" which was organized on 13th March. It is also fact that, while catering services to society & while busy with developing our career, we failed to take proper care of our own health. We shall allot enough time for our health too.

We had back to back two scientific programmes: on 20th March it was on tuberculosis & on 27th March on some interesting current topics related to medical practices. So, overall with the series of offline events, we have been geared up to our routine.

With great pleasure we would like to inform that, Ahmedabad Medical Association has received NOC from Gujarat State Council for transfusion, Govt of Gujarat to establish our own blood bank at PPS house, Mithakhali.

With support of all, we will continue our efforts to keep our association more vibrant & strong.

Jai AMA

Jai IMA

Dr. Dilip B. Gadhavi

President

Ahmedabad Medical Association

Dr. Gargi Patel

Hon. Secretary

Ahmedabad Medical Association

IMA National President Dr. Sahjanand Prasadji was the guest & heartily welcomed at Ahmedabad Medical Association on 21-03-2022



IMA National President Dr. Sahjanand Prasad



Appreciation of Dr. Bipin Patel For membership drive for IMA



International Women's Day Celebration on 06-03-2022



International Women's Day Celebration on 06-03-2022



International Women's Day Celebration on 06-03-2022



International Women's Day Celebration on 06-03-2022



Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



India Colony, UHC 7-3-2022



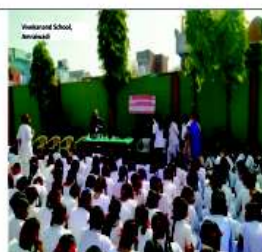
India Colony, UHC 7-3-2022



India Colony, UHC 7-3-2022



Vivekanand School, Amraiwadi, 7-3-2022



Vivekanand School, Amraiwadi, 7-3-2022



Vivekanand School Amraiwadi, 7-3-2022



Sharda Vidhyalay School, Isanpur, 7-3-2022



Sharda Vidhyalay School, Isanpur, 7-3-2022



Sharda Vidhyalay School, Isanpur, 7-3-2022



F.D. Girls High School, Jamalpur, 7-3-2022



F.D. Girls High School, Jamalpur, 7-3-2022



F.D. Girls High School, Jamalpur, 7-3-2022

Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



Rahekher Girl High School, Jamalpur 7-3-2022



Rahekher Girl High School, Jamalpur 7-3-2022



Rahekher Girl High School, Jamalpur 7-3-2022



Sharda Girl High School, Meghaninagar, 7-3-2022



Sharda Girl High School, Meghaninagar, 7-3-2022



Pulkit Vidhyalay, Memco, Saijpur, 7-3-2022



Pulkit Vidhyalay, Memco, Saijpur, 7-3-2022



Pulkit Vidhyalay, Memco, Saijpur, 7-3-2022



Revaba School, Sardarnagar, 7-3-2022



Revaba School, Sardarnagar, 7-3-2022



Revaba School, Sardarnagar, 7-3-2022

Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



St. Kabir School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



St. Kabir School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



St. Kabir School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



Saint Xavier's School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



Saint Xavier's School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



Saint Xavier's School, Stadium, Navrangpura, 7-3-2022



Vinay Mandir Shala, Gandhinagar, Vadaj, 7-3-2022



Vinay Mandir Shala, Gandhinagar, Vadaj, 7-3-2022



Vinay Mandir Shala, Gandhinagar, Vadaj, 7-3-2022



Excellent School, Saijpur, 7-3-2022



Excellent School, Saijpur, 7-3-2022



Excellent School, Saijpur, 7-3-2022

Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



Anandwadi UHC, 8-3-2022



Anandwadi UHC, 8-3-2022



Shreeji Vidhyalay, India Colony, Bopunagar, 8-3-2022



Shreeji Vidhyalay, India Colony, Bopunagar, 8-3-2022



Shreeji Vidhyalay, India Colony, Bopunagar, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Isanpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Shayana Vidhya Mandir, Megharinagar, 8-3-2022



Shayana Vidhya Mandir, Megharinagar, 8-3-2022



Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



Saijpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Saijpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



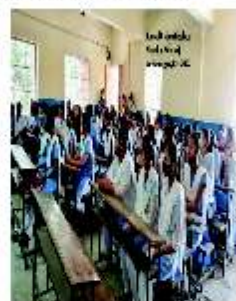
Saijpur, UHC, 8-3-2022



Hansol Gujarati School (Shashtri School) Saranagar, 8-3-2022



Hansol Gujarati School (Shashtri School) Saranagar, 8-3-2022



Hansol Gujarati School (Shashtri School) Saranagar, 8-3-2022



Stadium UHC, 8-3-2022



Stadium UHC, 8-3-2022



Rudra Centre, Manav Sadhana, Juna Vada, 8-3-2022



Rudra Centre, Manav Sadhana, Juna Vada, 8-3-2022



Rudra Centre, Manav Sadhana, Juna Vada, 8-3-2022

Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



Amrawadi UHC, 9-3-2022



Amrawadi UHC, 9-3-2022



Amrawadi UHC, 9-3-2022



Indla Colony, UHC, 9-3-2022



Indla Colony, UHC, 9-3-2022



Indla Colony, UHC, 9-3-2022



Isanpur UHC, 9-3-2022



Isanpur UHC, 9-3-2022



Jamalpur UHC, 9-3-2022



Jamalpur UHC, 9-3-2022



Jamalpur UHC, 9-3-2022



Meghaniagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Meghaniagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Meghaniagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Social Activities with reference to International Women's Day



Sai, pur UHC, 9-3-2022



Sai, pur UHC, 9-3-2022



Sai, pur UHC, 9-3-2022



Sardarmagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Sardarmagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Sardarmagar UHC, 9-3-2022



Stadium UHC, 9-3-2022



Stadium UHC, 9-3-2022



Stadium UHC, 9-3-2022



Vadaj UHC, 9-3-2022



Vadaj UHC, 9-3-2022



Vadaj UHC, 9-3-2022



Programme : Doctor as an entrepreneur on 13-03-2022



Programme : Doctor as an entrepreneur on 13-03-2022





CON'22
AHMEDABAD
9 & 10 APRIL 2022

5th ANSHCON 2022 with new attractions.

Venue:
Hyatt Regency
Ashram Road, Ahmedabad

Attractions

QUIZ

LECTURES

LIVE SURGERIES

HANDS-ON TRAINING

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M.D, D.M. (Gastroenterology)

Director, ANSH CLINIC

HEAD, ANSHCON 2022



Dr. Radhika Chauhan

Dr. Varun Tadkalkar

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Dr. Ravi Bokarvadia

Dr. Vatsal Bachkaniwala

Dr. Chaittee Gandhi

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A-1, Jaisinghbhai Park, Nr. Divine Buds School,
Hirabhai Tower Cross Road, Maninagar, Ahmedabad

Scan for Registration



For any query please contact on **+91 97268 21923**

Kindly Register your name at AMA Office

Scientific Programme on 20-03-2022



Scientific Programme on 20-03-2022



Ladies Club Programme



Ladies Club Programme



**A.M.A. BULLETIN INDEX**

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AHMEDABAD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION YEAR : 2021-2022

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DR. SHAH VISHAL RAJESHBHAI GHODASAR 9979607072	DR. SHAH JAYESH CHINUBHAI NARANPURA 9426274536

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AMA members can now update their profile online

You need to follow the simple steps

1. Open the website
www.ahmedabadmedicalassociation.com
2. Goto -> Member Login
3. Login to your profile by entering your AMA Membership number or Your Registered Mobile number
4. Enter the OTP received on your registered Mobile number
5. Once logged in. Goto -> My Profile
6. You can Edit your Profile information and update it
7. You can also download your AMA I Card Soft Copy



GUJARAT STATE COUNCIL FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Established by the Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Gujarat
5th Floor, Bhanubhai Bhawan, Manjivkar Mill Compound, Nr. Gandhinagar Bridge,
Ahmedabad-380014

Phone: 079-22680211-12-13

Email: bscgt@gmail.com

Fax: 079-22680214

Website: www.gscbt.net



No. GSCBT/NOC/Est. Blood Bank/AMA/Ahmedabad/1202-014/2022-22

Date: 25/03/2022

To

Messrs. Ahmedabad Medical Association Blood Centre
PPS House, Besides Sakar V
Nr. Mithakhall Railway Crossing
Navrangpura
Ahmedabad

Sub: Issuance of "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) for establishment of a new blood centre (blood bank)

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

The Gujarat State Council for Blood Transfusion (GSCBT) is pleased to inform you that it has no objection to obtaining of a valid drug license by M/s. AMA Blood Centre, PPS House, Besides Sakar V, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad as per the mandatory provisions as below:

This NOC is being specially issued in accordance with the requirement of the amendment of the Food & Drugs Act as per Gazette notification of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Dept. of Health) No. GSR 733(E) dated 21/12/2005 and DCGI letter dated 08/06/2006.

It would be in the fitness of things that your blood centre follows the instructions in the letter and spirit of the National Blood Policy, the directives/rules/regulations/guidelines/ circulars and policies of the GSCBT, GSACS, FDCA, Government of Gujarat, the Drugs Controller General of India and the Directorate General of Health Services, as issued from time to time.

Considering the long term goal of ensuring 100 % non remunerated voluntary blood donation, the organization needs to be directed to work to achieve the current voluntary blood collection of the national average of voluntary blood donation of 80% in near future.

The blood and its components should be provided to the needy patients. Under no circumstances, charges (if any) should exceed the maximum permitted charges laid down by the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC).

The GSCBT has every right to cancel or revoke the NOC if the blood centre (blood bank) fails to comply with the requirements as provided under the act, without any notice.

Yours faithfully

Director

Gujarat State Council for Blood Transfusion
Ahmedabad.

Copy forwarded with compliments to:

- The Commissioner, Food & Drugs Control Administration, Block No-8, 2nd Floor, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhawan, Gandhinagar for necessary action.



Entertainment programme

A tribute to Lata Mangeshkar, "Nightingale of India"

AHMEDABAD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

A UNIQUE MUSICAL PROGRAMME

“નારીનું જીવન સંગીત.... લતાજીના કંઠે”

PRESENTATION : DR. GURUDATT THAKKAR
 ANCHOR : RESPECTED DR. G.G. OZA
 MEDLEY AND VIDEO : DR. URMAN DHUV
 PLACE : Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall,
 Ahmedabad Medical Association
 DATE : 16-04-2022 (SATURDAY)
 TIME : 8.30:PM ONWARDS
 DINNER : 7.30 PM TO 8.30 PM

REGISTRATION FEE (FIRST COME FIRST SERVE) RS. : 50/
 UPTO 14-04-2022 (THURSDAY) AT AMA OFFICE :
 PHONE : 079 26587370

Courtesy by : Dr. Dilip Gadhavi, President - AMA

Dr. Dilip Gadhavi
 President - AMA

Dr. Gargi Patel
 Hon. Sec. - AMA

Dr. P P Mehta Scientific Programme

A scientific programme on Allergy is organised on 17-4-2022 (Sunday) at Ahmedabad Medical Association Hall. Eminent pulmonologists like Dr. Parthiv Mehta & Dr. Tushar Patel will be the resource persons. Further details will be intimated.

OBITUARY

We send our sympathy & condolence to the bereaved family.
 May their soul rest in eternal peace.



DR. MAHENDRASINGH P. RAJ
 L-1356 M.B.B.S.

Date of Birth : 26-09-1943
 Date of Death : 17-02-2022



DR. SINGH RAVINDRAKUMAR N.
 L-3279 M.B.B.S.

Date of Birth : 25-09-1957
 Date of Death : 05-02-2022



DR. SUVARNA H. SHAH
 L-1097 DGO., M.D.

Date of Birth : 30-03-1946
 Date of Death : 10-11-2021



Congratulations!!

Ms. Maitri Patel, daughter of Dr. Mukund V. Patel for being awarded Prof B A saiyed & Prof. Y M Bhende gold medals for securing highest marks in subject of Pathology of 2nd MBBS exam held in March 2021 at Gujarat University. We congratulate Ms Maitri & her proud parents.

Dr. Pushpa P Multani for getting highest marks in YCB yoga exams (by yoga certification board ..for yoga)

WE WELCOME FOLLOWING NEW LIFE MEMBERS

12157	L	DR. SHAH RIDDHI KETAN
12158	L	DR. GOHEL ABHISHEK BHARATBHAI
12159	L	DR. PARMAR JIGNESH K.
12160	L	DR. KARELIA BHARTI NIRAV
12161	L	DR. AGARWAL SHRUTI M.
12162	L	DR. DIWAN FARHEENBANU JAKIRHUSEN
12163	L	DR. PANCHAL MALAV ARVINDBHAI
12164	L	DR. THAKOR MOHAK A.



Report of International Women Day Celebration

Woman Doctors Wing, Ahmedabad Medical Association and Ladies Club of AMA celebrated International Women's Day with bang bang on 6th March 2022 at Ahmedabad Medical Association Hall. Dr. Dhruvi Hasnani delivered lecture on “સ્રીઓમાં જીવનશૈલીથી થતા રોગો” & Dr. Darshana Thakkar nicely delivered talk on “લાગણીઓનું મેનેજમેન્ટ અને સ્ત્રી સશક્તિકરણના ઓવારણો”. Both the talks were wonderful & interesting. They were followed by wonderful entertainment programme including skit with good social message, two dance performances & housie. The event was participated by more than 240 Women & ended with wonderful memory & delicious food.

Report on Social activities with reference to International women's day

A 5-day celebration program highlighting awareness on menstrual hygiene, sanitation and problems associated with puberty was undertaken by IMA GSB & under the patronage of the UHCs. Doctors from AMA also enthusiastically participated in the program and were quite enterprising in educating the children and spreading awareness about regular sanitation and hygiene at various levels.

Monday 7-3-2022 : the team of doctors visited various schools and institutions in the areas surrounding the UHCs of Ahmedabad. Educational seminars and interactive

sessions were undertaken & girls were made aware about menstrual hygiene, cleanliness and problems associated with puberty. As a gesture of care and cognizance, sanitary pads were given free of cost to each of the children. Almost 2013 girls from various 12 schools were benefited.

Tuesday 8-3-2022 : Celebrated as National Anemia day & International Women's day. The faculties dealt on points of importance like nutrition, hygiene, disease control to diagnose & help eradicate Anemia. Total 11 Centres of UHC participated & almost 853 girls & women were benefited.

Wednesday 9-3-2022 to Friday 11-3-2022 : The event were then conducted to educate the anganwadi workers, social health workers at the primary level about the early detection and diagnosis of Breast and Cervical Cancer. A multitude of seminars and demonstrations were arranged for methods of self-detection and diagnosis of breast cancer. Under the patronage of IMA, simultaneous health awareness programs were also organised at SEWA for all its employees and staff and at various centres in the industrial area in Changodar. On 9th March, Almost 400 Anganwadi Workers from 9 UHCs participated. On 10th March, Almost 163 females from 2 Centres participated. On 11th March, it was conducted in a School where 106 girls were present.

A special word of appreciation for Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation who supported all these programs and made this event see the light of day

Following members contributed for these social activities
 on 7-3-2022 to 11-3-2022

CENTER	School	Name of Doctor
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, JAMALPUR	RAHE KHER GAIKLS HIGHSCHOOL, VAISHYA SABHA ROAD,	Dr. Amit K. Shah, Dr. Shaily Pathak
	F.D. GIRLS HIGHSCHOOL, JAMALPUR CHAKLA, HEBAT KHANI MASJID,	Dr. Manish Shah, Dr. Nahid Ansari
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, ISANPUR	SHARDA VIDHYALAY, ISANPUR.	Dr. Brijan Choksi Dr. Kiran Shah
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, AMRAIWADI,	VIVEKANAND SCHOOL, JANTA NAGAR, AMRAIWADI,	Dr. J.P. Darbar Dr. Leena Gadhavi
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, INDIA COLONY, BAPUNAGAR.	INDIA COLONY,UPHC	ANAEMIA WORKUP
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SAIJPUR BOGHA, SAIJPUR.	PULKIT VIDHYALAY, MEMKO	Dr. Dhiren Mehta Dr. Harsha Panchal
	EXCELENT SCHOOL, SAIJPUR.	Dr. Dhiren Mehta Dr. Darshana Yadav
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, MEGHANINAGAR.	SHARDA GIRLS MADHYAMIK SCHOOL, MEGHANINAGAR.	Dr. Nayna Pandya Dr. Satish Pandya
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SARDARNAGAR.	REVABA SCHOOL, SARDARNAGAR.	Dr. Kalpita Dave Dr. Lalita Kothari
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, STADIUM, USMANPURA,	SAINT XAVIERS LOYELA SCHOOL,	Dr. Maulik Sheth Dr. Riddhi Shukla
	SAINT KABIR SCHOOL.	Dr. Hetal Shah Dr. Praful Panagar
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, VADAJ.	VINAY MANDIR SHALA, TORAN HOTEL NI GALIMA, GANDHI ASHRAM.	Dr. K.C. Gadhavi Dr. Falguni Patel Dr. Gargi Patel Dr. Anuya Chauhan

CENTER	URBAN HEALTH CENTRE	Name of Doctor
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, JAMALPUR	JAMALPUR U.H.C.	Dr. Vaibhav Patel
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, ISANPUR	ISANPUR U.H.C.	Dr. Rajiv Doshi
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, AMRAIWADI,	VIVEKANAND SCHOOL, JANTANAGAR, AMRAIWADI	Dr. Azad Jain
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URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SAIJPUR BOGHA, SAIJPUR.	SAIJPUR U.H.C.	Dr. Jigar uperia
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, MEGHANINAGAR.	SHAYONA VIDHYA MANDIR, MEGHANINAGAR.	Dr. Harsh Padya
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SARDARNAGAR.	HANSOL GUJARATI SCHOOL (SHASHTRI SCHOOL)	Dr. Shraddha Gadhavi,
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, STADIUM, USMANPURA,	STADIUM U.H.C.	Dr. Shantilal Shah
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, VADAJ.	RUDRA CENTRE MANAV SADHANA, GORA KUMBHAR, VADAJ.	Dr.Mittal patel
SEVA SANSTHA, ELLISBRIDGE		Dr. Gargiben Patel Dr. Anuya Chauhan
CHANGODAR,		Dr. Astha Mashkaria



CENTER	Name of Doctor
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, JAMALPUR	Dr. Kruti Deliwala
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, ISANPUR	Dr. Mittal Parikh
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, AMRAIWADI,	Dr. Leena Gadhavi, Dr. Morvi Devda, Dr. Amrisha Bhola, Dr. Juhi shah
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, INDIA COLONY, BAPUNAGAR.	Dr. Vijeta
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SAIJPUR BOGHA, SAIJPUR.	Dr. Dhruv Patel, Dr. Bindeeya, Dr. Kinjal kothari
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, MEGHANINAGAR.	Dr. Chirag Agrawat
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, SARDARNAGAR.	Dr. Vidit Sisodiya, Dr. Dhruvi, Dr. Neha
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, STADIUM, USMANPURA,	Dr. Deepak Rao, Dr. Ishani, Dr. Prachi, Dr. Purvi
URBAN HEALTH CENTRE, VADAJ.	Dr. Dhruv Patel
RAMKRISHNA VIDHYALAY, KHOKHRA	Dr. Mittal Parikh
SEWA, ELLISBRIDGE	Dr. Anuya V. Chauhan
SARASWATI SCHOOL, L.G. CORNER	Dr. Shaily Pathak



Report of programme on “Doctor as an entrepreneur”

A very useful programme “Doctors As Entrepreneur” was organized on 13th March 2022 at AMA hall. The much needed topics, which are really beneficial for doctors in current era, were well taken by Nitin Parekh, Parthiv Shah, Dipam Patel, Mayank Patel, Dr. Jignesh Shah and Manthan Patel. Program was coordinated by Dr. Jitendra Patel, Dr. Pragnesh Vachharajani, Dr. Hetal Shah and Dr. Maulik Sheth. More than 150 members actively participated the event.

Report of Scientific Programme

Every year, 24th March is observed as world Tuberculosis day, with its reference, AMA organized a CME on 20th March 2022 in collaboration with Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation at Hotel 4 point by Sheraton, Opp Gujarat College. Dr. Sagar Panchal, medical officer for TB at AMC, briefed about National tuberculosis elimination programme (NTEP). Dr Neha Patel chaired the session. Following this session, there was very informative & interactive panel discussion on extra pulmonary tuberculosis. Dr Jay Mehta, Dr Dhyanes Desai & Dr. Divyesh Panchal were the panelists. Dr. Hetalbhai Shah moderated the panel discussion. Almost 60 members participated in the CME.



LET US KNOW AUTISM BETTER

- Introduction :

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are one of the most common groups of neurodevelopmental disorders associated with significant long-term impacts on the quality of life of affected individuals if not identified and intervened timely. At the same time, early diagnosis and timely intervention improve the outcomes significantly, especially if the intervention starts before the age of 3 years. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), 1 in 160 children, on an average, have ASD. However, the prevalence varies substantially across the world. Recent estimated prevalence of ASD in India ranges from 0.15% to 1.01% in various studies depending upon the screening method used, and the areas surveyed. Additionally, the prevalence of ASD appears to be increasing globally. For these reasons, it is important for all of us to become more and more aware about this condition. "World Autism Awareness Day" is celebrated each year to remind ourselves about the need to increase awareness about this condition.

- What is Autism ?

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are a group of neurodevelopmental conditions characterized by social and communication deficits, stereotyped interests and repetitive behaviours. These disorders begin in the childhood and tend to persist into adolescence and adulthood.

- Why does ASD occur ?

The exact cause of ASD is not yet known. There are genetic and environmental factors which determine the risk of having ASD in a particular individual. Pre- and perinatal events like disorders of pregnancy, labor complications, fetal distress, low birth weight, and premature birth have been implicated in ASD. It is also found that advanced maternal age, fetal distress and gestational respiratory infections are associated with higher risk of having ASD. Perinatal and neonatal factors associated with increased risk of ASD are labor complications, pre-term birth, neonatal jaundice, delayed birth cry and birth asphyxia. While there are no clear biomarkers or diagnostic laboratory measures to diagnose this condition, genetic evaluation can be done as a part of initial medical assessment e.g. checking for Fragile X syndrome in boys and MECP2 mutation in girls with ASD.

- Clinical Features and Diagnosis :

Autism Spectrum Disorders are characterised by deficits in social communication across multiple contexts like abnormal social approach, failure of normal back-and-forth conversation, reduced sharing of interests, emotions, or affect, failure to respond to social interactions, poor eye contact, lack of pointing and/or joint attention, difficulties in sharing, poor pretend play/imaginative play, difficulties in making friends, etc. Another core abnormality is restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour, interests or activities manifested in various

ways like simple motor stereotypies, lining up toys or flipping objects, echolalia, extreme distress at small changes, strong attachment or preoccupation with unusual objects, hyper- or hyporeactivity to various sensory inputs, etc. As it is rightly said, it is a spectrum of symptoms and severity. So different individuals with ASD have different features of ASD with varying severity, making the diagnosis challenging. For these reasons, ASDs are diagnosed based on specified criteria mentioned in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). In the latest version of DSM criteria i.e. DSM-5, the core symptoms of ASD are divided into 2 domains (social communication and social interaction; and restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviours). To fulfil diagnostic criteria for ASD by using the DSM-5, all 3 symptoms of social affective difference need to be present in addition to 2 of 4 symptoms related to restrictive and repetitive behaviours.

- Consequences :

As the name suggests, the symptoms vary in severity- from being able to live an independent life to severe disabilities requiring life-long care and support. The affected individual may face difficulties in conducting daily activities and participate in society, which can eventually affect the educational and social attainments and employment opportunities. This can in turn lead to significant emotional and economic burden on the affected people and their family members.

- Early identification :

Recent evidence suggests presence of the symptoms of ASD by 18 months. Some of the early red flag signs of ASD are:

- o Does not respond to name: by 12 months
- o Does not point at objects to show interest: by 14 months
- o Does not pretend play: by 18 months
- o Avoids eye contact; prefers to stay alone always
- o Delayed speech and language skills
- o Repeats words or phrases over and over (echolalia)
- o Repetitive movements like flapping hands, rocking or spinning in circles
- o Unusual reactions to the way things sound, smell, taste, look or feel

Reliable tools for early screening of ASD are also available e.g. Modified Checklist of Autism in Toddlers-Revised with Follow up (M-CHAT R/F), Trivandrum Autism Behaviour Checklist (TABC) etc. Screening provides a standardized process to ensure that children are systematically monitored for early signs of ASD to promote earlier diagnosis. Screening in children aged 18 to 24 months can assist in early detection. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends screening all children for symptoms of ASD through a combination of

developmental surveillance at all visits and standardized autism specific screening tests at 18 and 24 months of age in their primary care visits.

- Importance of early identification :

Early identification leads to early intervention and it is seen that intervention during early childhood is important to promote the optimal development and well-being of people with ASD. For many children aged < 3 years, early intervention can improve outcomes, including core deficits of ASD (i.e. social attention), IQ, language and symptom severity. Therefore, it is crucial to identify ASD early and start the intervention well on time!

- TAKE HOME MESSAGES :

- o ASD is NOT a disease; it is a DISORDER- people with Autism are NOT abnormal; they are DIFFERENT!
- o ASD does NOT mean mental subnormality- there are many examples of people having ASD who were and are extraordinary achievers in their respective fields e.g. the great scientist and mathematician of all times Albert Einstein; Charles Darwin- the famous naturalist, geologist, and biologist; Michelangelo- Sculptor, painter, architect, poet; Sir Isaac Newton- Mathematician, Astronomer and Physicist; Leonardo da Vinci- Artist; Thomas Edison- Scientist; Greta Thunberg- young and world famous environmental activist- just to name a few!

- o Early diagnosis of ASD is one of the most important factors determining outcome and long term prognosis
- o Early Screening for symptoms of ASD in all children at 18 and 24 months is recommended

LET US ALL KNOW AUTISM BETTER, TO UNDERSTAND OUR FELLOW HUMANS WITH AUTISM BETTER! TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THIS WORLD BETTER...

- REFERENCES/ FURTHER READING :

1. American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fifth Edition (DSM-V). Washington DC: American Psychiatric Association
2. [https:// www.who.int / news-room / fact-sheets / detail / autism-spectrum-disorders](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/autism-spectrum-disorders)
3. Early Screening of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Recommendations for Practice and Research. Lonnie Zwaigenbaum, MD,^a Margaret L. Bauman, MD,^b Deborah Fein, PhD,^c Karen Pierce, PhD, Timothy Buie, MD,^e Patricia A. Davis, MD et al. Pediatrics 2015;136:S41-S59

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RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENT IN AMA BULLETIN

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AHMEDABAD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HALL DONATION AND DEPOSIT CHART

Effect from 1-4-2016 Phone : 26588775 Office Time : 2 to 6 p.m.

Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall (capacity 248 Seats)

	Others	members
Hall Deposit (Refundable)	Rs. 5,000-00	Rs. 5,000-00
Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall (For 3 hours) Non A.C.	Rs. 4,500-00	Rs. 3,500-00
Extra Charges for 1 hour (Extra charges limit upto 3 hours)	Rs. 800-00	Rs. 700-00
A.C. Charges (For 3 hours)	Rs. 4,000-00	Rs. 3,500-00
(Extra Charges 1 hour) A.C.	Rs. 1,200-00	Rs. 1,000-00
Dr. R.M. Fozdar Hall Full Day (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.) Non A.C.	Rs. 11,000-00	Rs. 9,000-00
A.C. Full Day - Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall	Rs. 11,000-00	Rs. 9,000-00

OPEN GROUND WITH Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall

For Lunch / Dinner	Rs. 5,000-00	Rs. 4,000-00
For Refreshment	Rs. 1,200-00	Rs. 1000-00
Cleaning + Electric	Rs. 700-00	Rs. 600-00

JAGMOHAN PARIKH HALL 1ST FLOOR (Capacity 100 Chairs)

Hall Deposit (Refundable)	Rs. 4,000-00	Rs. 4,000-00
J. P. Hall (For 3 hours) Non A.C.	Rs. 3,000-00	Rs. 2,500-00
Extra charges for 1 hour (Extra charges limit upto 3 hours)	Rs. 700-00	Rs. 600-00
A.C. Charges (For 3 hours)	Rs. 2,000-00	Rs. 1,500-00
(Extra charges 1 hours) A.C.	Rs. 600-00	Rs. 500-00
J. P. Hall Full day 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Non A.C.)	Rs. 7,000-00	Rs. 6,000-00
J. P. Hall A.C. Full Day	Rs. 6,500-00	Rs. 5,500-00

OPEN GROUND WITH DR. J. P. HALL

For Lunch / Dinner	Rs. 2,500-00	Rs. 2,000-00
For Refreshment	Rs. 700-00	Rs. 600-00
Cleaning + Electric	Rs. 500-00	Rs. 400-00

Dr. R. M. Fozdar Hall, J.P. Hall & Open Ground is not permitted for following purpose.

- Political programme Music programme (Professional) Marriage & Reception Event

Token Rates applicable for :

- GSB • IMA • S.S.S. • P.P.S. • N.S.S.S. Health Scheme Ladies Club