



CHHATTISGARH ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGISTS (Chhattisgarh chapter of IAMM)

CAMM (CG chapter of IAMM) organised two academic events in 2024.

1. The first event was a National CME and Workshop on Mycology, titled-“**Clinico-Mycological Update: Uncovering the unknown**”. It was organised by the Department of Microbiology, AIIMS Raipur, under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologists (CAMM)-CG chapter of IAMM, on January 30 and 31, 2024.

The then Director & CEO of AIIMS Raipur, Professor Ajai Singh, was the chief patron of the event. Dr. (Prof.) Anudita Bhargava, Head of the department of Microbiology and Secretary, CAMM & Dr. Archana Keche, Professor & in-charge Mycology section, Department of Microbiology were the organizing chairperson and the organizing secretary respectively, ably supported by Dr. (Prof.) Padma Das and Dr. Sabah Javed, CAMM President & a senior consultant Microbiologist, as the organizing Co-chairpersons. Other faculties of the department of Microbiology- Dr. Ujjwala Gaikwad, Dr. Sanjay Singh Negi, Dr. Pragya Agarwala, Dr. Abhijit Kumar Prasad & Dr. Kumar Vikram were members of the organizing committee. All the Senior & Junior Residents and technical staff of the department also contributed significantly in the organization of this event.

This was the first academic event, organised in Central India, that was solely focussed on Medical Mycology- both CME and Workshop.

There were 150 participants for CME, while workshop participation although limited to 30 candidates, but had to accommodate 38 entries on special request, who were from not only Chhattisgarh, but also from other states like Punjab, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The workshop aimed to train microbiologists from both government and private medical colleges and laboratories. The workshop aimed to equip microbiologists in the region with the knowledge and skills to upgrade their respective labs for diagnosing fungal infections. This, in turn, would better equip physicians to manage patients suffering from these conditions.

The workshop featured presentations by external experts like Dr. Tadepalli Karuna, Additional Professor, AIIMS Bhopal and faculty members from AIIMS Raipur such as Prof. Archana Keche and Dr. Rakesh Gupta.

In the hands-on sessions, participants learned the skills to identify yeast and molds, perform antifungal susceptibility testing, and conduct fungal serological tests. These sessions were facilitated by the Senior and Junior residents and technicians of the Department of Microbiology at AIIMS Raipur.

Workshop was followed by CME on January 31, 2024, which was studded with star academicians like Prof. Arunaloke Chakraborty, Director, Doodhadhari Burfani Hospital Bhupatwala, Haridwar & Ex. Prof & Head, Department of Medical Microbiology, PGIMER Chandigarh and an extremely renowned Mycologist of international repute, Dr Savitri Sharma, Ex Director LV Prasad eye Institute, Hyderabad and Dr. Shivprakash, in-charge of NCCPF & Mycology division PGIMER, Chandigarh.

In addition to the guest speakers, a distinguished faculty from various specialities of AIIMS Raipur also participated as speakers namely Dr. Ripu Daman Arora, Dr. Rupa Mehta, Dr. Satyaki Ganguly,



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Dr. Namrata Chabra, Dr. T. Ranganath, Dr. Pranita, and Dr. Amit Agarwal. Their presentations addressed various fungal infections, encompassing both their laboratory and clinical aspects.

The CME & Workshop achieved its goal of comprehensively covering fungal infections. The event raised active participation and knowledge exchange between clinicians and microbiologists.

2. The second event was a **CME on “Infection prevention and control: Break the chain and make the barriers”**, which was conducted by the Department of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Mahasamund, under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Association of Medical Microbiologist (CAMM) on 10th February 2024 at Sanskriti Bhawan, Kharora, Mahasamund (C.G.).

The guest speakers included Dr Manisha Biswal, Professor, Department of Microbiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh, who spoke on the National Guidelines on HAI Surveillance, Dr Anudita Bhargava, Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Raipur spoke about Outbreak Investigation in Hospital setting with examples from her experience and Dr Aruna Poojary, Laboratory Director, Breach Candy Hospital Trust, Mumbai, who highlighted the challenges and opportunities of HCAI Surveillance in Resource-limited health -care settings.

A Poster presentation competition was also conducted; the winner was Dr Sharja Phuljhele, Professor and Head, Department of Paediatrics, GMC Mahasamund.

Other speakers were Dr Anil Kumar Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, GMC Mahasamund, who spoke on Post Exposure Prophylaxis, Dr S. Shrinath, Chief intensivist, Department of Critical Care, Hitek Hospital, Bhilai, gave an Overview of Bundle care, followed by Dr. Satyendra Phuljhele, Professor and Head, Department of Orthopaedics, GMC, Mahasamund, who delivered a lecture on the topic Infections in Bone and Joint.

The programme concluded with Vote of thanks by organizing Secretary Dr Niza Monga

At the end of the CME a GBM of CAMM was conducted with two main agenda- Membership drive for CAMM and planning of the events for this academic calendar.
