

Post Conference Report

The 9th National Biennial GISICON2023 was hosted by Department of Microbiology under the aegis of Gastro Intestinal Infections Society of India (GISI), at Sri Guru Ram Das Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, Sri Amritsar on 1st & 2nd September 2023. The two day conference titled “Gut Pathogens: Old Players, New Games” aimed to provide medical professionals an excellent platform for exchange of clinical and scientific knowledge on the latest developments and challenges in the diagnosis & management of infections of the gastrointestinal tract particularly in healthcare settings and in specific populations viz newborns/infants, immunocompromised or elderly populations in whom these are potentially serious. In the comprehensive and dynamic scientific session, tailored meticulously to cover all aspects of gut infections from pathotype to role in malignancy, distinguished speakers of international repute enhanced the knowledge of over 250 attendees (Microbiologists, Pharmacologists, Clinicians & Gastroenterologists) on efficient diagnostics & effective therapeutics of infective disorders of the GIT and related organs. Also, known for its rich cultural heritage and hospitality and being well connected by air, rail and road, the holy city of Amritsar offered a perfect weekend getaway to soak in the blissful serenity of the Golden Temple; witness the beating retreat ceremony at Atari-Wagah Border; tingle taste buds with authentic cuisines of Punjab besides a vibrant market experience.

The mammoth task was accomplished with the unstinting support of management and the dynamic leadership of Dr. A.P. Singh, Dean, SGRDUHS who has always been supportive of our initiatives and motivated us to strive for excellence.



Schedule

Date : Sri Guru Ram Das Institute of Medical Sciences and Research
(AC Hall: Main Session)
(Biochemistry Hall: Oral Presentations)

Venue : 08:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Day 1)
08:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Day 2)

Introduction

The conference began after evoking Waheguru's blessings with a "Shabad" recital and ceremonial Lamp Lighting, followed by introduction of dignitaries. Aim of the conference was to provide in-depth knowledge and insights into pathogenesis, diagnosis and management of gut infections including antimicrobial resistance and various other aspects related to the role of microbiota in causation of disease and usage of the same for treatment and care of gut infection including gut malignancies.



Welcome Address

Dr Anupama Mahajan, worthy Director Principal of SGRDIMSAR, extended a warm welcome to Chief Guest of the day Dr. Amita Jain, Dean KGMU, Lucknow, UP; Guest of Honor Dr. M.S. Uppal, Vice Chancellor, SGRDUHS; Member PMC, Dr. Ashok Uppal; Founder GISI, Dr. Chetna Vaishnavi; Vice President GISI, Dr. Ritu Garg; Secy GISI, Dr. Veenu Gupta and all the invited Speakers, Chairpersons and over 215 delegates from all over India attending the conference. In her opening remarks, Dr Mahajan updated the audience on importance of gut infections and the need of bringing Microbiologists, Pathologist, Clinicians and Gastroenterologists on a common platform for the benefit of doctors and patients both. She further emphasized the importance of continuous medical education in the field of gut infections and highlighted the significant impact of collaborative efforts in addressing the challenges posed by the same. Dr. Mahajan declared the conference open after release of the souvenir by dignitaries. Dr. Sarbjeet Sharma, Organizing Chairperson GISICON2023, proposed the vote of thanks to all who had contributed in one way or the other in making the conference a huge success.



Eminent speakers on Hybrid mode

Dr. Shiv Rajan, Associate Professor, Surgical Oncology, KGMU, Lucknow, fascinated the audience by giving insights on “Dysbiosis and Colorectal Cancer: The Inside Story” an emerging hot topic in pathogenesis of many GI and non-GI Diseases through zoom. Chaired by Dr. M.S. Uppal, Vice Chancellor, SGRDUHS and Dr. Bella Mahajan, Prof. and Head Microbiology, ASCOMS, Jammu, the pertinent talk fetched maximum no of questions. Dr Varsha Gupta of GMCH32& Dr Malini Capoor of VMMC, New Delhi were other 2 speakers on the virtual mode. Dr BR Mirdha (AIIMS, New Delhi), Dr Neelam Taneja, Dr Usha Dutta/Dr Pardu B Neelam Dr Kusum Sharma, Dr Sumeeta Khurana Dr Vishal Sharma, Dr Jimil Shah & Dr. Sapna Pahil (PGIMER, Chandigarh), Dr. Sridhar Sundram (Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai). Dr Vikrant Sood (ILBS, New Delhi) and our own alumni Dr Aakash Aggarwal (MMIMSR, Ambala) enthralled the audience by their brilliant talks on live mode.



Oral and Poster Presentations

Dr. Jharna Mandal of JIPMER Puducherry, Dr. Saurabh Sharma of GMC Kota and Dr. Parminder Singh SGRDIMSAR, Amritsar were judges for 23 oral presentations by post graduates while Dr. Shiwani Das of PIMS, Jalandhar, Dr. Nonika Chatterji of JIPMER Puducherry and Dr. Shailpreet Sidhu of GMC Amritsar judged over 30 poster presentations. Best poster winner Dr Naveen Chaudhry (PGIMER Chandigarh) & Runner up Dr Arushi Gupta (AIIMS Rishikesh) & Best Oral Presentation winner Dr. Abhishek (AFMC, Pune) & Dr. Arpita (PGIMER, Chandigarh) were given trophies.



PG Quiz on AMR in gut infection

In this session, Dr. Venu Gupta of DMC Ludhiana and Dr. Lipika Gautam of GMCH 32, Chandigarh selected 4 Teams from the preliminary round and conducted a quiz. The participants were all post graduates and interns of SGRDUHS besides the post graduate delegates. Prizes were given away to the winner team and the 1st runner up after an hour of mind-blowing session.



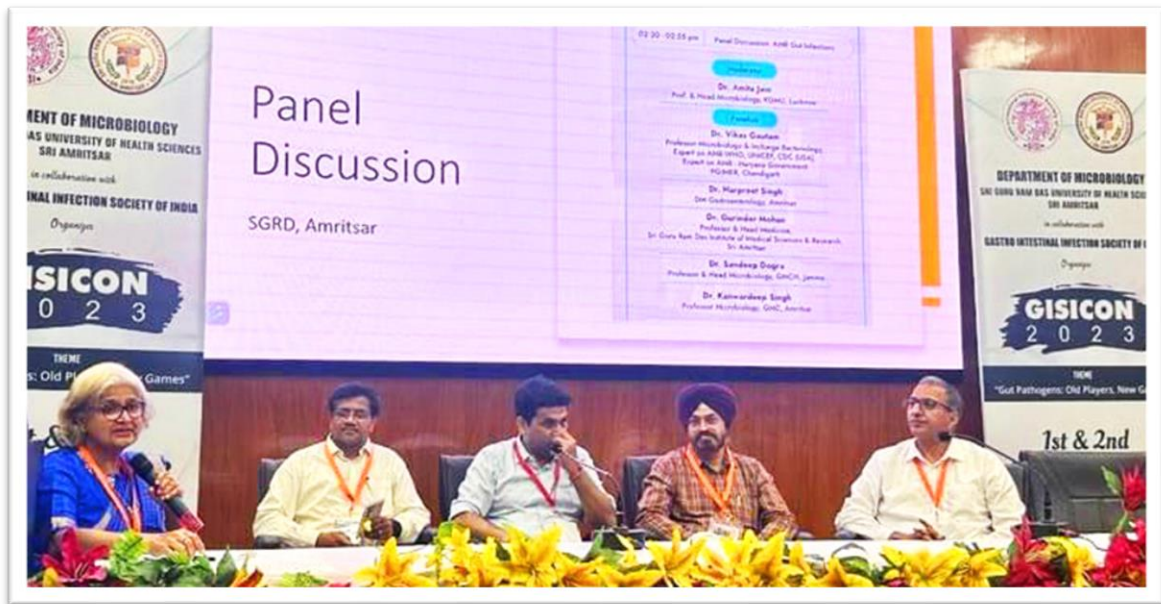
GBM and Banquet Dinner

GISI office bearers and heads of faculties present participated in the GBM in which Dr. Sarabjeet Sharma Organizing chairperson and Dr. Poonam Sharma Organizing chairperson GISICON 2023 were given certificates of appreciation for their commendable work for the success of this conference. GBM was followed by Banquet Dinner and the traditional Punjabi folk dance by students of nursing college.



Panel Discussion

A High voltage Panel Discussion was conducted by moderator Dr. Amita Jain, Dean KGMU, Lucknow, UP. Panellist were Dr. Vikas Gautam of PGIMER Chandigarh, Dr. Kanwardeep Singh, Director PIMS Jalandhar, Dr. Sandeep Dogra, PHOD, Microbiology, GMC Jammu, Dr. Gurinder Mohan, PHOD Medicine (Represented by Dr. Manish Chandey), SGRDIMSAR and Dr. Harpreet Singh, DM, Consultant Gastroenterologist.



Valedictory Function

As Director Principal Dr. Anupama Mahajan busy on an urgent assignment, the valedictory function was presided over by Dr. Kanwardeep Singh, Prof I/C VRDL, GMC Amritsar & Director PIMS Jalandhar. The work force of GISICON 2023 namely Dr. Sarbjeet Sharma Organizing chairperson; Dr. Poonam Sharma, Organizing Secretary; Dr. Manmeet Gill, Scientific Secretary; Dr. Pavneet Kaur Sood, Scientific Secretary; Dr. Charanjeev Kaur, Finance Secretary and Dr. Shweta Chitkara & Dr. Gurpreet Kaur, Stage Secretaries were given token of appreciation. Student volunteers and ground staff were also given mementos. Finally, Dr. Chetna Vaishnavi, Founder GISI declared the conference closed.



Forever in our Hearts

Valedictory function would be incomplete without the mention of late Dr Ashish Khanna, Professor Microbiology, Accommodation and Catering in-charge, who will always be remembered fondly for his polite mannerisms and contribution in the conference although unfortunately only in the initial phase.

