



2nd Annual Science Symposium on HIV/AIDS 2009



Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the second Annual Symposium "HIV SCIENCE 2009" that builds on the success of the HIV SCIENCE 2008, offering expanded scientific programme.

This symposium will draw attendance from leading professionals, scientists and policy makers representing government, industry, academia and research centres. They will present and discuss contemporary and prospective science, focusing on strategies, experiences and techniques covering a range of topics that include basic science, advances in treatment, emerging drug resistance, exciting translational research goals, vaccine strategies, and an update on the giant strides made in the national context both in prevention of infections and expansion of treatment access.

It is my honour to be involved with the organizing committee and to extend a warm welcome on their behalf, to all our colleagues and young scholars alike, to this enjoyable and informative event.

Prof. Suniti Solomon, MD
Organizing Chair

Background

HIV disease identified over 25 years ago has become one of the deadliest epidemics in human history, killing more than 25 million people around the world, making HIV among the leading causes of death. With the recent estimate of 2 to 3.1 million infections, India has the third largest HIV infected population after South Africa and Nigeria.

The fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic is currently facing major challenges in achieving goals of "prevention and cure". Hence, there is a need for young professionals and students to understand scientific aspects on HIV/AIDS and recent developments in this ever advancing field.

Vision and Objectives

The purpose of this national science symposium is to provide knowledge on the biology and epidemiology of HIV disease. After this symposium, the participants will be able to identify key areas of research in HIV/AIDS and will be encouraged to initiate collective efforts in the fight against the HIV epidemic in India.

Who Should Attend?

- Microbiologists/Biotechnologists /Other Life Science Specialists
- Scientists
- Researchers (basic, clinical & social sciences)
- Post-Graduate students from medical, paramedical, science colleges / universities / research institutions

About the Symposium

This annual HIV symposium will bring together leading faculties, experts and scientists who will provide updates on HIV/AIDS research.

The symposium will cover various topics encompassing HIV epidemiology, pathogenesis, host-virus interactions, immune responses to infection, disease progression, opportunistic infections, current treatment strategies, natural history of HIV disease in India, vaccines, sexually transmitted diseases, and co-infections with TB and hepatitis. This will provide a forum for young people to address key scientific issues and gaps in knowledge. This will also form an opportunity to identify priorities for future action. The variety of sessions planned for this symposium is to meet the needs of various participants.

Registration

The registration for the symposium is open and the registration fee is Rs.750 (Rs.500 for students). The registration details and form is available on our website, http://yrgcare.org/Science_symposium/index.html. The completed registration forms should be sent to the symposium secretariat along with the DD for registration fees before the deadline. This is a limited audience (about 400) symposium and the registration will be done on a first-come, first-served basis. The registration does not cover accommodation, however, assistance will be provided for the arrangement of accommodation on request.

Scholarships will be provided to a limited number of selected students with good track records. The application for the scholarship will be available on the website.

Abstract submission for poster presentation

Abstracts of research related to HIV, STDs, TB and viral hepatitis can be submitted and selected abstracts are eligible for poster presentation on the day of symposium.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 14th August, 2009.



'*American Medical Journal*' (Science Publications, New York, USA) is dedicating a special issue for publication of all accepted articles presented at **HIV SCIENCE 2009** Symposium for more citation and worldwide readership.

Symposium Venue

Vigyan Auditorium, SERC, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Campus, Taramani, Chennai 600 113.
(Adjacent to Taramani Post Office; Opposite to Ticel Biopark/ Ascendas IT Park)

Important Dates

Standard Registration

On or before 14th August, 2009

Late Registration

After 14th Aug & until 26th August 2009

Abstract Submission

On or before 14th August, 2009

Scholarship Application

On or before 14th August, 2009

Organizing Committee

Organizing Chair

Prof. Suniti Solomon, MD.
Director, YRG CARE

Organizing Secretary

Dr. K. G. Murugavel, PhD.

Joint Organizing Secretaries

Dr. S. Saravanan, PhD.
Dr. M. Sundaram, PhD.
Dr. M. Vidya, PhD.
Mr. R. Vignesh, MSc.

Other organizing Committee Members

Dr. P. Balakrishnan, PhD.
Dr. C.N. Srinivas, MD.
Dr. S. Uma, PhD.
Dr. Sunil S. Solomon, MBBS, MPH., PhD.
Dr. N. Kumarasamy, MBBS, PhD.

Treasurer

Mr. A.K. Ganesh, ACA.

Contact Us

The Symposium Secretariat

2nd Annual Science Symposium on HIV/AIDS 2009
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Taramani, Chennai 600 113

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Web: http://yrgcare.org/Science_symposium/index.html

Tel: 044- 39106800, 39106801, 39106802, 39106803; Fax: 044- 22542939

Hours of Operation: 9 am - 6 pm IST

About Us



Prof. Suniti Solomon, MD., Founder-Director of the YR Gaitonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education (YRG CARE) and her team documented the first evidence of HIV infection in India in 1986, when she was a Professor of Microbiology at Madras Medical College and Government General Hospital. She subsequently established the institution, which currently provides medical and psychosocial care for more than 12,000 persons with HIV disease and is involved in conducting several international clinical trials and educational/training programmes.

YRG CARE is a non-profit medical and research institution, located at Voluntary Health Services, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani, and Chennai and is one of the premiere institutions to provide comprehensive medical care for persons with HIV disease in Southern India. It is one of the first centres to provide antiretroviral medications in the country. YRG CARE conducts several biomedical research programmes especially in the field of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STD) with focus on psychosocial, clinical and laboratory sciences in collaboration with National Institute of Health (USA) and several national and international research institutes and Universities

YRG CARE is one of the international multi-sites of US-NIH multicentric clinical trials for International AIDS Clinical Trial Group (ACTG) and HIV Prevention Trial Network (HPTN) programmes. YRG CARE has contributed more than 100 original scientific research papers to HIV medicine literature and its scientists /experts have contributed to developing several treatment/laboratory guidelines of World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland, and World Health Organization-South East Asia Office (WHO-SEARO), New Delhi.

YRG CARE is also conducting academic and training programmes for clinicians, nurses and social workers with national and international faculties. The organization is affiliated to the University of Madras for conducting PhD programmes in Medical Microbiology.