

5th Annual National Conference of Association of Physiologists of India (ASSOPICON 2018):

5th Annual National Conference of Association of Physiologists of India was held from 27th to 29th September 2018 at Pramukhswami Medical College, Karamsad with the theme of “**Autonomic Neuroscience: Basic & Clinical**”. ASSOPICON 2018 was hosted by Department of Physiology, Pramukhswami Medical College, Karamsad, Anand, Gujarat. Total 170 delegates have been registered for the conference from the country and abroad. ASSOPICON 2018 has witnessed participation of 29 postgraduate students, 7 undergraduate students, 3 Phd scholars and 14 senior residents and 117 faculties across the globe. Approximately 30% participation was from students and 70% from faculties. Out of total attendees, 80% delegates belonged to be very young with age group less than 45 years and only 20% delegates were more than 45 years of age group. The conference truly represented the length and width of our country with delegates from more than 18 states of country from North to South and from East to West India. The conference was graced by about 50 Invited Guest Speakers of National and International repute.

The conference was scheduled for 2 and ½ day along with pre-conference workshops on 26th September 2018. Four pre-conference workshops were delivered very well by following trained faculties. Conference was inaugurated by Dr. Himanshu Pandya (Dean, PSMC Karamsad), Dr. Shirish Srivastava (Associate Dean, PSMC Karamsad), Dr. GK Pal (Dean, JIPMER Pondicherry & General Secretary ASSOPI), Dr. Ashok Nair (Organizing Chairman, ASSOPICON 2018) & Dr. Hasmukh Shah (Organizing Secretary, ASSOPICON 2018 & Professor & Head, Dept. of Physiology, PSMC Karamsad). The main conference was started by Key note address of Dr. G.K. Pal (Dean, JIPMER Pondicherry) on “Heart Rate Variability: Past, Present & Future”. Invited Plenary talk on “Role of micro-RNA in health and Disease” was given by Dr. Rajesh Katare, Director of Cardiovascular Division, University of Otago, New Zealand. Second invited Plenary talk on “Newer Physiologists’ concern: Image building in society” by Dr. K.K. Deepak, Professor & Head, Dept. of Physiology, AIIMS New Delhi. Third Plenary talk on “Setting up Clinical Physiology Hospital Services: Advantages, Challenges &

Future Perspective” by Dr. Latika Mohan, Prof & Head, AIIMS Rishikesh. An interesting Panel Discussion on “How to make Postgraduate medical programme in Physiology more effective” by Dr. GK Pal, Dr. KK Deepak, Dr. Asim Das, Dr. Latika Mohan, Dr. Pradnya Gokhale & Dr. Ashok Nair helped postgraduate students very well. Panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Chinmay Shah.

The main conference focused on various types of Autonomic diseases, their prevention and treatment by reputed faculties. Total 9 symposia & 2 thematic presentation were arose interest of delegates.

ASSOPICON 2018 has received sizable abstract from faculties, postgraduate & undergraduate students from all the important subfields of Physiology, namely, Autonomic Functions Testing (HRV, HGT & CPT), Neurophysiology, Yoga & Meditation, Exercise Physiology, Sleep Physiology, EMG & NCS, Pulmonary Functions Testing, Haematology, Endocrinology, Animal Experimentation, Cardiovascular diseases mainly hypertension, arterial stiffness, blood pressure reactivity, Baroreceptor reflex sensitivity & Medical Education.

5th Annual National Conference of Association of Physiologists of India was well attended, informative and energizing. The gathering allowed for dissemination of ideas, newer research trends, panel discussion, and general shared discussion among all attendees. The conference post-survey was very positive, indicating a successful meeting and strong desire among the group to meet again.



Inauguration of Conference Souvenir



Lighting the Lamp