



Friends of Ludhiana

Christian Medical College (CMC) Ludhiana
Punjab, North India

News Bulletin

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Autumn 2013

'Who is my neighbour?'

The story of the Good Samaritan



Ashok Yadav, his 21 year old wife Sulekha and his nine-month old daughter had just returned to Ludhiana after a month's holiday in his native village in Bihar. They were happy to be back in their small house in Janakpuri. The next day Ashok started working again as a daily wage worker in the ho-

sitory factory, but when he returned home, he found that his wife was looking unwell and had had several bouts of vomiting and diarrhoea. He took her to a nearby clinic where they gave her some medicines and IV fluids and sent her back home at night when the clinic closed. Sulekha continued having symptoms throughout the night and became very sick.

Ashok ran to one of the neighbours and sought her help. "His wife was sick and there was his small daughter to be taken care of". Sunita immediately came to help, took the child to her house, left her with her 12 year old daughter to take care of her and then went with the couple and got her admitted to the Civil Hospital. In the Civil Hospital Sulekha's condition deteriorated - she started becoming breathless and drowsy. When the doctors told Ashok that his wife's condition was serious, Sunita suggested that she should be transferred to CMC.

At CMC Sulekha was found to be very ill with unrecordable blood pressure and breathlessness and was admitted with a history of gastroenteritis. She had to be intubated, put on a ventilator and admitted to the ICU. Ashok deposited Rs.1,000 (around £10), the only money he had with him, and pleaded with the doctor, "please save



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Good Samaritan Fund

108 patients received assistance through the fund during 2012 and 101 patients during the first eight months of 2013

CMC Websites

www.cmcludhiana.in
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my wife, I have a little daughter at home". When he was told that the cost of ICU care would be around Rs.10,000 a day he was stunned, but Sunita boldly said, *"Doctor, admit her, by tomorrow I will deposit the money"*. She went back home and brought Rs.16,000 by next morning, collecting money from all the neighbours. Sulekha was found to have acute kidney failure and had to be dialysed twice in the ICU after which her condition stabilised.

On the third day Sulekha's father, who was working as a driver, arrived from Delhi with some money which was used for medicines. Ashok was asked to deposit more money and then he, along with his father-in-law, made the painful decision to get her discharged from hospital. With tears running down his cheeks, he told the doctors, *"please discharge her – we just can't pay any more money. I do not know what I will do with my daughter"*. Sulekha's father said, *"even if we work our whole life we will never be able to pay this money. Please discharge her, even if my daughter has to die."* The doctors assured them that Sulekha would be taken care of as she was already getting better. The antibiotics and IV fluids were bought for her from the Department of Medicine and in another two days she was breathing on her own and was discharged from the ICU. Two days later she was ready to be discharged from hospital. Sunita once again collected Rs.15,000 from the neighbourhood going from house to house. Sulekha's bill had come to 75,000 (around £750), but hearing Sulekha's story CMC's Director waived the balance amount and she was discharged.

The life of Sulekha was saved because a neighbour cared and did not give up hope. She did whatever she could and even took care of the couple's daughter for nine days.



Good Samaritan Fund

The Good Samaritan Fund assists patients, in needy circumstances, through a number of CMC's departments. Some of those recently helped include –

- a 48-year old vegetable seller from Ludhiana, the only earning member of his family, who had suffered a MCA infarct and whose bill amounted to three times his monthly salary
- a 16-year old girl (living with her widowed mother in Himachal Pradesh) who had previously suffered from osteosarcoma and was admitted for investigation of lung metastasis
- an eight year old son of a pastor suffering from enteric fever, caused by Salmonella typhi, who needed treatment with IV antibiotics and who stayed in hospital for 15 days
- a three hour old baby boy, born at 32 weeks gestation to a migrant labourer and his wife, who was diagnosed with intrauterine pneumonia and septicaemia
- a 15-month old child, the son of an autodriver with three older daughters, suffering from acute bronchopneumonia and who showed signs of vitamin deficiency and had failed to thrive
- the 12-year old son of a labourer with chronic kidney disease, nephrotic syndrome, under-nutrition, hypertension and mild anaemia
- a 47 year old mother of six and wife of a woodcutter living 120 miles from Ludhiana in Punjab, who had been ill for two years and was found to be suffering from hydatid cyst liver disease

Each of these patients' families faced bills well outside of their ability to pay, yet CMC did not turn them away, but treated them and many others and bore costs through the Good Samaritan Fund.

There are many untold stories of families staying away from debt, preserving their livestock/livelihood, keeping children in schools and avoiding hunger and exploitation as a result of the fund. Knowing that someone cares for them in their hour of deepest need is priceless.

You can make a real difference

Can you be a Good Samaritan? Can you help CMC in its ministry of providing healthcare to the poor and needy, those unable to afford the cost of their treatment?

All the funds so far transferred to CMC for the Good Samaritan Fund have been used entirely for the direct benefit of patients (men, women and children) in need and CMC has given regular news of those who have been helped.

In the past 20 months, the Fund has given concessions totalling £20,000 to 209 patients. Thank you for your help so far. The need is still great as the number of patients seeking assistance is increasing.

Jesus Christ, in his birth and throughout his life, identified himself with the poor. This Christmas we are asking you to continue to support the Good Samaritan Fund as a practical expression of Christian concern.

Donations can be made –

Online by credit/debit card, Paypal or CAF Charity Account at
<https://www.cafonline.org/charityprofile/Friends-of-Ludhiana>
By post cheques payable to 'Friends of Ludhiana' – details on the back page

Department of Gastroenterology

Endoscopy has been used as a diagnostic tool at CMC since the 1970s. A Gastroenterology Unit was set up as a separate unit of the Department of Surgery in 1991 and became a department in 2002.

It has been one and a half years or more since Dr. Anish Chopra joined as Consultant, Gastroenterology and Hepatology. He observes that they have made tremendous improvements in the quality of care being provided to patients and have also had the opportunity to provide much discounted or free services to needy patients. The numbers of procedures done has increased exponentially and the revenue generated has also increased many fold. They continue to aspire to provide equal care to anyone one who walks into the department irrespective of their economic status, religion, caste or gender. Their hope is for the health and early recovery of every patient who seeks their services and that each staff member in the department is given wisdom to make the most appropriate decisions for the betterment of patients and the progress of the department.



Dr. Keith Hine, Consultant Gastroenterologist and President and Chairman of Friends of Ludhiana, has visited the department on several occasions and has encouraged and helped to take the department forward academically and identify the need for new equipment. Friends of Ludhiana has made, through a generous legacy for restricted funds, a grant to enable CMC to buy new Olympus quality endoscopes, which will enable CMC to provide highest quality patient care at a level with international standards.

The department recently held a community camp in a remote village in Punjab and is also planning to hold an international conference, opportunity and resources permitting, in Community Hepatology in near future.



News from the Colleges

Dental College

Dental Council of India – Periodic Inspection.

After a gap of more than 10 years we had the periodic inspection from the Dental Council of India for our undergraduate course as per the new regulations on 6th - 7th August 2013. We are yet to know the full outcome of the inspection report but we were told that our faculty and patient numbers are satisfactory, but there is lot of improvement required on the equipment front. We solicit your prayers and support in keeping this mission going.

New Post graduate courses

We have applied for postgraduate courses in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and in Prosthodontics and we have two inspections and we are awaiting final inspection any moment and we request your earnest prayers and support.

Liberia Dental Clinic

We started the Liberia Dental Mission in response to a request from the United Methodist Church (USA) to work along with the Ganta Methodist Hospital, Liberia since September 2009. There are only 3-4 qualified dentists in the whole of Liberia and infrastructure facilities like electricity, running water, roads, health care facilities, etc. are very poor. With this background we were able to run a dental clinic at Ganta and to start the dental nurse assistant training programme (two year course). So far, Dr. Ashwin Zachariah, Dr. Prashant Prasad and Dr. Renju Kunjumon (pictured here with staff from Ganta Methodist Hospital) from the Christian Dental College



worked for different periods in spite of the many difficulties they faced. From November, Dr. Sandeep Franklin is going for a one year posting. We thank the Methodist Church for facilitating this programme. We will be happy to start similar ventures in needy areas.

New Batch of BDS Students

Classes for the 2013 batch of BDS students started on 1st August 2013. There are 35 girls and 5 boys in this batch from various parts of India and abroad.

DR. ABI M. THOMAS, PRINCIPAL

College of Nursing

Academics

In the academic year 2013, 20 MSc(N), 60 BSc(N) and 50 General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) students were admitted.

Forty six GNM and 51 BSc(N) candidates passed out in September 2013 and many of them have joined CMC.

Dr. Usha Singh, Professor, has been appointed as Vice Principal of the College of Nursing.

SNA Conference

Along with academic activities, students observed various days of national importance – WHO Day, Nurses' Day, Alzheimer's Day, Mental Health Day – and also participated in institutional picnics, retreats and inter-class tournaments. They have participated in the Punjab State Branch of the Trained Nurses Association of India XV Student Nurses Association (SNA) Biennial State level Conference on 21st September 2013 and won the following prizes -

SNA Diary of College of Nursing, CMC Ludhiana (3rd prize)

Mr. Solomon Thapaliyal, BSc(N) 2012 batch student – poster competition (1st prize and selected for national level conference)

Ms. Madhu, BSc(N) 2011 batch student – poster competition (3rd prize)

Mr. Abhishek O. Thomas – 100 metre sprint sports competition (2nd prize)

Obituary

With profound regret, we inform you of the sad demise of Dr. (Mrs.) Margaret Dean, former Principal of the College of Nursing from 1982 to September 1993. She died on 26th September 2013 at the age of 92 years at her home in New Delhi.

She was a stalwart in nursing and contributed a lot to the profession. She was an alumna of Indiana University, awarded 3M Fellow Scholarship from International Council of Nursing and worked as Principal of the College of Nursing at PGI Chandigarh.

After her retirement she joined the College of Nursing at CMC Ludhiana as Principal from 1982 to September 1993. The College of Nursing is blessed with her rich experience. She worked as Nursing Superintendent in addition to her responsibilities as Principal. She developed the Nursing Procedure manual and created new posts of professors, readers and lecturers. Under her great leadership the CMC faculty achieved a high standard, the MSc Nursing programme commenced in 1996 and Operation Theatre Room Technique Course in 1987, CMC celebrated the Centenary of Nursing Education at CMC where many alumni participated, an Endowment Fund was created for the College and a strong faculty was developed by encouraging and sponsoring them for higher studies.

After leaving CMC Ludhiana she worked with the Synodical Board of Health Services, New Delhi as consultant. She was the Vice President of the Trained Nurses Association of India (TNAI) at national level and was a life member of the professional organisations in India and abroad. Her motto was, 'Truth Shall Make You Free'.

Thank you for your constant support. Uphold us in your prayers.

PROF. (MRS.) PONNAMMA R. SINGH, PRINCIPAL

Medical College

New Super Specialty Courses

Under the able leadership of the Director, Dr. Abraham G. Thomas, and Principal, Dr. S.M. Bhatti, CMC has been successful in starting new Super Specialty courses in Paediatric Surgery (1 MCh seat), Neurology (1 DM seat) and Nephrology (1 DM seat). Students in each of these Departments have been admitted.

Hostels

CMC is planning new hostel accommodation for male medical and dental students in the Ross Hostel area; dental students do not currently have a hostel so there is a great need.

Betty Cowan Research and Innovation Centre



The 1st International Symposium and Workshop on Spectral Imaging: Applications in Basic Sciences and Biomedical Research, organised by BCRIC, was held 18th-20th October in Ludhiana and is the first attempt at a symposium and workshop to bring together people from multiple disciplines and applications in basic sciences and biomedical research. The event presented a unique platform for teaching current applications while allowing the participants to get hands-on experience at working with samples. Further details are available at www.iswsi.in.

Dr. Neeta Kang has written an article for India Medical Times which focuses on an emerging technology - Hyperspectral Imaging - <http://www.indiamedicaltimes.com/2013/10/09/hyperspectral-imaging-a-colourful-future-in-biomedical-applications/> in which she says, 'India has many talented people in the biomedical sector. Instead of playing 'catch-up', I think Indians have the potential of being leaders in the field of spectral imaging. It is time to be global players in emerging technologies for biomedical applications!'

Speakers included Dr. Yuval Garini and Nir Katzir from Israel, Dr. T. Pradeep and Prasanth Perugupalli from India, Dr. James Burger from Latvia and Dr. Steve Smith from USA.

Alumni Matters

Best All Round Graduate 2013

Gayatri Bhatia (Batch of 2008), who shared this year's Best All Round Graduate award with her classmate, Elizabeth Wilson, shares her thoughts.



'Remember today, for it is the beginning of a new time.' – Dante Alighieri.

Five and a half years and 17 subjects later, that first day in CMC, 21st July 2008, is still treasured. And almost forgotten is the 80 something kg schoolgirl who thought she'd made it.

Yes, it has been quite a journey. And looking back, I fall painfully short of words trying to put down on paper the many bitter sweet moments I lived here. Moments that I forever carry with me as memories.

CMC, my sanctuary, where I found more than my calling, I found my role models. I found friends - some for life. Bonds that no amount of distance or time can weaken. I found humility. I found dedication. I witnessed many a maestro at work. I learnt how to work while you work and play while you play. Speaking of which, it has been my honour to work alongside some immensely talented people in the musicals, Systole, the Christianos Medicos and Vox Populi; and to represent CMC in quite a few intercollege events.

Soon, we would be receiving our medical degrees, thanks to the academic knowledge and skill inculcated in us by the best faculty a student could hope for; but still insufficient to commemorate the loving care, the acceptance

and the peace of being at home, also showered on us in selfless amount.

Today, as an intern, months away from attaching what is required of me as a doctor, I can't help but think; CMC, what would I be without you?

International Reunion at CMC

There was a small gathering in Ludhiana on the 13th October when alumni from the North America Alumni Association – Drs. Joy (Batch of 1959) and Elizabeth (Batch of 1964) Paul, Dr. Ananthkrishnan (Batch of 1962) and Dr. Susan Sawhney Amazon (Batch of 1974) – visited CMC after a trip to Kerala made by quite a few of the US alumni. Dr. Ninan Mathew (Batch of 1972) from the UK was also at CMC at that time. Alumni from the city and nearby also joined up for the dinner. It was a wonderful time catching up with old friends.



Reunions

Reunions for the batches of 1964 (50 years since admission) and 1983 (25 years since graduation) will take place at CMC in March 2014. An opportunity to visit your alma mater and to catch up with classmates, put the date in your diary now and plan to be there.

The batch of 1988 is also planning a small reunion - 25 years of joining CMC - in November this year (2013).

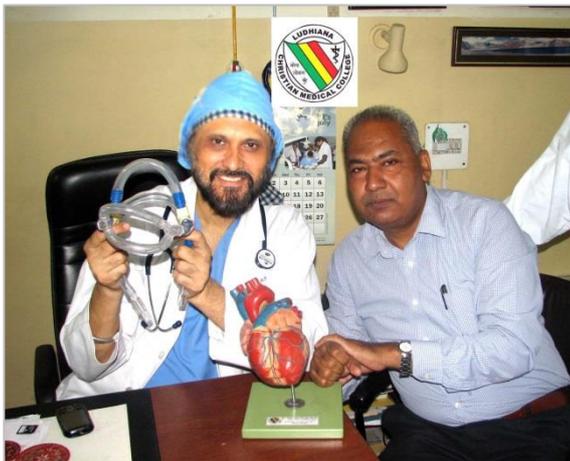
The July 2013 edition of *Alumni Xpress* is available on the Friends of Ludhiana website.

Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery continues pioneering treatments

'CMC-BEDI TURBAN' DESIGN HELPS IN SAVING CRITICAL PATIENT FROM BRAIN INJURY

Kuljeet Kaur (name changed) of Sarabha Nagar Ludhiana suffered from a rare disease – a massive swelling (aneurysm) of the arteries in the neck going to her brain and right hand. She had previously suffered a stroke and was now in imminent danger of rupture of the swollen arteries.

She was referred to Dr. Harinder Singh Bedi, Head of Cardio Vascular and Thoracic Surgery at CMC Ludhiana. On investigation it was realised that treatment itself could cause a stroke as the repair of the artery would need a five minute time of clamping which would not have been tolerated as the brain was already in jeopardy. Dr. Bedi's training in Australia had included operating on cases with cooling of the whole body (hypothermia) to preserve organ function. It is a well-known fact that any injury is better tolerated if the temperature of the injured organ is lowered, but here the problem was unique as the patient was elderly and whole body cooling would not have been tolerated.



So, Dr. Bedi then thought of cooling just the brain. He designed a unique cooling turban which he then constructed with senior cardiac anaesthetists and chief perfusionists. Using their vast experience they were able to put the idea into practice - they made a turban like coil with plastic tubes which were placed around the patient's head after anaesthesia. Cold sterile water was then pumped into these coils so that the head alone was cooled. The surgery was then done with the brain temperature low; additionally Dr. Bedi re-implanted a major vessel of the brain – the vertebral artery - so that as much blood as possible was given to the brain – this is a specially tricky and challenging part of the operation and is done very rarely. Kuljeet Kaur did well and her

brain function was preserved.

The device has now been used in seven more cases with full preservation of the brain. It is with such innovations that Indian surgeons are able to tackle otherwise hopeless cases. Dr. Bedi said that they would patent the technique and publish it so that it could be used all over the world to help similar cases.

CHERUBIC ANGEL WITH HEART DISEASE FROM THE VALLEY GREETES HER DOCTORS ON DOCTORS DAY

Rakina, aged 2 years, daughter of Mr. Mohd Hanif and Mrs. Noorbano of Kupwara, Srinagar (in the state of Jammu and Kashmir – J&K) had major heart surgery at CMC Ludhiana. She was discharged in a healthy condition and was doing well. On Doctors Day (1st July 2013) she and her parents decided to come specially and thank all her treating doctors - she brought special sweets for all the staff from the valley.

Mohd Hani and Noorbano thanked CMC and all its doctors who took such good care of their baby. Rakina had a major heart defect (a large hole in the heart)



which was damaging her heart and lungs. She was not growing according to her age and would get recurrent infections. She would land up in the emergency room of the hospital in J&K time and again. The parents were told that Rakina needed early heart surgery; however her father, a labourer, was unable to raise the money required. He was then referred to Dr. Bedi who, on investigation, realised that only major open heart surgery could save Rakina as her heart was close to its terminal condition and, if untreated, the lungs could be damaged beyond repair. In co-ordination with the Director, Dr. Abraham G. Thomas, and Dr. Jugesh Chattwal, Professor and Head Paediatrics, it was decided to perform the high risk case under the *Gift of Life* scheme funded by the CMC Alumni USA and the UMSF USA. Major heart surgery was done - Rakina's body was placed on a heart lung machine, the heart stopped and put on ice and the hole in the heart repaired. By God's grace Rakina's heart recovered immediately.

Dr. A.G. Thomas, Director, said that on Doctors Day the Faculty and Heart Team of CMC rededicates itself to look after patients with the humility, selflessness and compassion for which CMC is so well known. Dr. Bedi said that it was very gratifying when such patients do well with major open heart surgery. The smiling face of the patient and her family is the greatest satisfaction for any doctor. Dr. Bedi said that the greatest compliment he has received so far was when Noorbano said that the Heart Team took care of Rakina with motherly love.

A Performance from the Heart



On 15th August, as part of CMC's Independence Day celebrations, the Cardio Thoracic and Vascular Surgery team performed a dynamic and patriotic dance followed immediately by a lively Bhangra. This was enjoyed by a jam-packed audience in the main auditorium Assembly Hall at CMC.

Then in October the Heart Team performed an energetic lungi dance as part of CMC's Onam celebration.

Both dances were choreographed and directed by Mr. Kunal Kumar and can be enjoyed on the internet –

Independence Day
Onam

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dOI3BN6NN0>
<http://youtu.be/XoLi5Dt5Hol>

A Taste of India

The Stewardship Foundation and the Ludhiana Christian Medical College Board USA sponsored a fundraising event called 'A Taste of India' which raised \$25,000 to pay for open heart surgery for five children born with heart defects. The event, held in a restaurant in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, included a gourmet Indian dinner, classical Indian dances and a presentation on CMC. The impetus for the event was a visit to Ludhiana where some of the children in need of open heart surgery had been met.

The paediatric heart surgeries are performed for \$5,000, around 5.5% of the cost in USA (patients' families are asked to pay a fee of only \$900) under CMC's *Gift of Life* programme.

Other News from CMC

Cancer Awareness



The Medical Oncology Unit organised a Cancer Awareness Walk on 26th October 2013 when around 350-400 people gathered for this event including the district mayor and other politicians, CMC's Director, Associate Director, Medical Superintendent and other senior faculty. Nursing staff from haematology - oncology, students and teachers of a higher secondary school, cancer survivors and their families and other volunteers comprised the bulk of the crowd. The walk started at 6.30am and took about 40 minutes to cover a distance of around 1.5km and was followed by a short interactive session.

ADR Monitoring Centre

The Department of Pharmacology has been selected as an ADR (Adverse Drug Reactions) Monitoring Centre of the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) under the aegis of the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. As part of that, the department has access to the vigiflow ADR data entry programme of WHO and a technical associate is being appointed. The department has contributed 40 ADRs to the national database until now and the department has conducted a CME on Advanced Pharmacovigilance Workshop where Dr. Bikash Medhi, Coordinator of the Pharmacovigilance Centre PGI Chandigarh, explained case series examples and Dr. Dinesh Badyal, Professor and Head of the Department and organising secretary, outlined PvPI and explained the need and importance of reporting adverse drug reactions for all doctors.

Absorbable Coronary Stents Implanted

A major advancement in coronary stent technology has been the development of bio-resorbable stents. The first such stent implantation in the region was performed on 2nd April 2013 in the Department of Cardiology. The advantage of this stent is that it keeps the artery open like a metallic stent (the commonly used stent) but is completely absorbed from the body within a two year period, leaving the artery as a normal artery without any disease. Mr. Mukhtiar Singh, a 69 year old gentleman on coronary angiography, was found to have a long segment of blockage in his right coronary artery. Dr. Rajneesh Calton, Professor and Head of the Department of Cardiology, and his team performed coronary angioplasty on him and implanted BVS stents.

Structural Heart Disease Workshops

Structural Heart Disease Workshops were conducted by the Department of Cardiology in January and May 2013. Dr. Rajneesh Calton, Professor and Head, along with a team of CMC doctors and visiting cardiologist, Dr. Radhakrishnan, successfully performed 20 interventional procedures including ASD closures, PDA closure, pulmonary balloon valvuloplasty and mitral balloon valvuloplasty procedures. All the patients did well and were cured of their heart problems.

Dr. Vijay Obed

Dr Vijay A.E. Obed, Professor and Head of the Department of Plastic, Cosmetic, Hand and Microsurgery, and Burns, was invited by the American Burn Association to speak at the Annual Meeting of their International Forum, held in Palm Springs, California, and also as Visiting Professor to Burn Centres at Salt Lake City, Washington DC and Boston and delivered a talk at the Grand Rounds at SLC and DC.



Fellowship Department



Rev. Alex Peter has been appointed Chaplain and joined in May 2013. Immediately before coming to CMC he had been working as a Youth Chaplain in Chicago. A video introducing himself can be viewed at –

<http://youtu.be/HSr85l8SdQ8>;

He says, 'it is amazing to be here' and is looking forward to God's presence during his time of ministry at CMC. Please pray for him in his new responsibilities and for all the staff of the Fellowship Department in their work with patients, their relatives, staff and students.



Pictured from left to right –
 Mr. Samuel C. (Attendant)
 Mrs. Renuka Prim (Sr. Evangelist)
 Rev. Eugene Scaria (Asst. Chaplain)
 Rev. Alex Peter (Chaplain)
 Rev. Samson G. Masih (Asst. Chaplain)
 Rev. A. Rogers (Chaplain & Administrative Head)
 Mr. Rajendra S. G. (Sr. Evangelist)
 Mr. Amar Lal (Attendant)
 Mr. Peter Masih (Attendant)

Ambicon 2013

The Department of Biochemistry is organising AMBICON 2013, the Annual National Conference of the Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI) from 15th to 17th November, 2013. AMBI is the national body with around 1,500 members having MD Biochemistry. The Conference will be preceded by a pre-conference workshop on 14th November 2013. Around 600-700 delegates are expected to attend the conference and details can be seen on the conference website www.AMBICON2013.in.

CMC Ranks 15th in Survey

CMC has again been ranked in the top 15 medical colleges of the country (among 360 colleges) by the India Today and Outlook surveys –

http://indiatoday.intoday.in/bestcolleges/2013/reedyrecnor_directory_list.jsp?Y=2013&ST=Medical

CMC Ludhiana is only one of three Colleges in the top 15 (the others being AIIMS New Delhi and CMC Vellore) that have an annual intake of under 80 students.

Grand Round

Prof. Frans M.J. Debruyne and Prof. Vinod H. Nargund were speakers at a Grand Round at CMC in July 2013. Prof. Debruyne from The Netherlands is formerly Secretary-General of the European Urological Association [EUA], President of the Genito-Urinary Group of European Organisations for Research and Treatment of Cancer [EORTC] and President of the European Society of Urological Research [ESUR]. Prof. Nargund is Lead Consultant Uro-Oncologist at the St Bartholomew's, Royal London & Homerton Hospitals, London.

The lecture topics were:

- Men's Health in 2013: Global Urological Perspective [Prof. Frans M.J. Debruyne]
- Credit Crunch and Stress in Men's Health [Prof. Vinod H. Nargund]

The Guest Lectures were followed by an Interactive Panel Discussion on the Difficult and Challenging Cases in Urological Oncology.

Paediatric Surgery

The MCI (Medical Council of India) inspection was completed last year and CMC was given approval to start MCh course for one seat in the Department of Paediatric Surgery and there is presently one MCh resident.

The department is grateful that in December 2012 they received new high definition laparoscopic equipment. So from January 2013 onwards the department have progressed in the field of minimal invasive surgery. In March 2013 they performed total thoracoscopic repair of oesophageal atresia with tracheoesophageal fistula in a new born baby weighing just 2.4kg. The baby was just seven hours old when admitted; after various investigations surgery was performed on the infant at just 24 hours old. Feeds were started after 24 hours and the child was discharged 10 days after surgery.

This was the first time this surgery had been performed in North India and CMC's effort was acknowledged by the Paediatric Endoscopic Society of India. Now, CMC is routinely performing thoracoscopic and laparoscopic procedures for different congenital problems of children related to the oesophagus, kidneys and gastrointestinal tract.

Clinical Haematology, Haemato-Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit

Clinical Haematology has witnessed tremendous growth over the past six years; from 124 patients seen in the year 2007/08, figures for 2012/13 show a 3600% increase to 4,434. Tumour Registry statistics for 2012 show 183 men (66%) and 95 women (34%) seen, with 55% suffering from leukaemia and 22% from lymphoma, many acutely or chronically ill.

The first bone marrow transplant was perfor-

med in 2008 and CMC has now completed 48 transplants up until March 2013, 63% of them related sibling allogeneic transplants and 25% autologous stem cell transplants.

The Haemophilia Registry shows that 131 patients are registered, 87% of those are from Punjab state. The majority are below the age of 50 years, whilst 57 of them have not reached their 21st birthday. Ten patients suffering from haemophilia have undergone major surgery at CMC including one knee replacement and three amputations.

Comprehensive records are being kept on a database by a haemophilia nurse coordinator. In 2013 CMC organised two two-day workshops on Haemophilia basic training for doctors and technicians with the aim of discussing the basics of haemophilia care and management and its various complications. They were attended by a total of 43 participants from eight different states.

The Unit is one of the fastest growing and successful units at CMC and seeks professional excellence. It has recently considered its core values by which it seeks to carry out its mission.



The Haematology-Oncology Team

'The outcome of any treatment whether it is chemotherapy or stem cell transplant is the sum total of efforts put together by all members of the team to provide comfort and joy to the patient and his/her family.'

FUNDRAISING FOR FRIENDS OF LUDHIANA – GOSPEL CARDS

Please consider ordering and using Gospel Cards, as 20% of the cost of the cards sold will be donated to Friends of Ludhiana and other Christian societies.

Please visit www.GospelCardsEtc.com or write to Gospel Cards, 15 Brackla Street Centre, Bridgend CF31 1DD (Tel: 01656 647551).

In Memoriam

Dr. John Lowther

Dr. John Lowther died on 21st June 2013 at the age of 80. John was a retired psychiatrist and had been the Salvation Army representative on Council of Management from June 1994 to June 1998.



Dr. L.B.M. Joseph

Dr. LBM Joseph was born on 1st March 1927. He served as the Director of CMC Vellore from 1974-1987. He joined CMC Ludhiana on 1st December 1986 and worked as Professor of Surgery till 8th March 1988 and later as the Director from 13th March 1993 to 19th December 1994. He died at Vellore on 5th December, 2012 and a memorial service was held at CMC Ludhiana on 10th December, 2012.

We convey our sincere condolences to the families and friends of these who gave many years' faithful service to CMC Ludhiana.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: ALL ARTICLES AND PICTURES IN THIS BULLETIN HAVE BEEN REPRODUCED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE AUTHORS. IF YOU WISH TO REPRODUCE ANY ITEMS EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART, PLEASE CONTACT THE FRIENDS OF LUDHIANA.

To: **Friends of Ludhiana, Westerlands, Clayton Road, Ditchling, Sussex BN6 8UY**

- Enclosed is a donation of £_____ for
- the Good Samaritan Fund for the treatment of poor patients at CMC Ludhiana
 - general support
- (Please make cheques payable to Friends of Ludhiana)*
- I/we* wish to support on a regular basis. Please send a Bankers Order form.
- Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made
- today in the past 4 years in the future
- (Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.)*

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I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

- I/we* require an acknowledgement for my/our* donation.

Signed _____ Date _____

* Please delete as appropriate.

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