IIHMR New Delhi, works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management.

IN THIS ISSUE:
- Hospital and Health insight
- Global news
- Recent researches
- Upcoming conferences
- Events at IIHMR, New Delhi
- Do you know??

UPCOMING CONFERENCES
1) 3rd IGC-ISI India Development Policy Conference
   Date: 19th - 20th July 2012
   Venue: New Delhi, India
   Website: http://www.theigc.org/events/third-annual-igc-isindia-development-policy-conference

2) National Conference on Renewable Energy & Climate Change
   Date: 27th July 2012
   Venue: Jaipur, Rajasthan, India
   Website: http://www.cii.in/EventsDetails.aspx?id=E000011589&sectorid=0&catid=CT0000006&StateID=0&conid=0&regionid=

3) Conference on Malnutrition and Food Adulteration in India - 1st Annual Meet, IAPEN
   Date: 4th August 2012
   Venue: Bangalore, Karnataka, India
   Website: http://www.iapen.co.in/iapen-conference.html

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

Funds allocated under NRHM to be based on performance

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) funds from now on are to be linked to states’ performance. These funds will be cut by almost fifteen percent if the states fail to place doctors and health workers in districts with the worst health indices. Different parameters have also been set to ensure great returns from this intervention. For instance programmes like Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) have received a massive push under it. This is the first time that incentives are being introduced for states to perform better. The mission steering group of NRHM has approved setting aside ten percent of its funds to incentivize good performance by states. Meanwhile, to ensure transparency in spending of funds by states, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India will audit their spending under NRHM.

India unites with us on diabetes research

India and the United States have signed an agreement on collaboration in Diabetes research. This agreement was signed between Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Ms. Kathleen Sebelius, US Secretary, Health and Human Services. The main aim is to initiate a health research relationship between the two countries to generate a better understanding of Diabetes. Focus will be on etiologic and pathologic mechanisms and to identify innovative approaches for improving prevention and treatment of this disease. A Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will be formed to evaluate progress and ensure that the joint programme functions smoothly. This agreement is the eighth of its kind between the two countries in the field of health and medicine.

Who evolves mechanism to define counterfeit drugs

In what is being considered a victory for India and China, the World Health Organization (WHO) has put in place globally acceptable definitions of sub-standard, spurious, falsely labeled, falsified and counterfeit products. This decision was taken at the World Health Assembly, the WHO’s policymaking body. The meeting also pointed out that the WHO should not concern itself with Intellectual Property Rights enforcement. India backed this move stating that the WHO’s basic mandate is public health. Countries that were rooting for these standardized definitions were India, Brazil, Thailand, Russia, China and South Africa, besides the South East Asia Region Organizations’ nations.
NEW REGULATIONS PROPOSED FOR HEALTH COVER UP TO 65 YEARS OF AGE- IRDA

According to the new regulations by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), all health insurance companies will now have to provide health insurance to citizens up to the age of 65 years and settle all claims within a month. There will be no exit age for policy renewals and all policies will enable treatment across India. The draft also mentions about portability, under which a policy holder can migrate to another health insurance providing company, without losing any benefit. It has also proposed special provisions for senior citizens. The IRDA had asked all stakeholders to send in their feedback by June 30.

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT, INDIA MET US SECRETARY, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO FIGHT AGAINST MALNUTRITION

Mrs. Krishna Tirath, Minister of Women and Child Development along with Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, met the US secretary of Health and Human Services with an agenda of combating malnutrition among children. The meeting discussed Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Multi-Sectoral Programmes which are doing a great job in combating malnutrition in India. Mrs. Tirath informed that she would soon be sending a delegation to get firsthand knowledge of the functioning of the ‘Head Start’ programme in USA which was learnt to be of similar kind of community outreach programme for early childhood care. In addition to it, the US secretary shared that a programme is running regarding nutrition support for pregnant and lactating mothers by US Agricultural Ministry which would be of great help to strengthen the nutrition component of ICDS in India.

GLOBAL NEWS

$1.5 BILLION UNSPENT IN AIDS PROGRAMME

President Obama had promised in December 2011 that the number of US-supported AIDS patients on treatment would rise to six million by the end of 2012, from the then four million. Yet, the administration of the Government submitted the fiscal year 2013 budget that called for a $550 million reduction, an eleven percent cut in its global AIDS programme. US officials replied that the Government did not need more money because there has been nearly $1.5 billion stuck in the pipeline for the last eighteen months. Eric Goosby, Global AIDS coordinator, explained the reasons for the unused funds as inefficient bureaucracies, major reductions in the cost of AIDS treatment, delays due to long negotiations on realigning programmes with recipient country’s priorities and a slowdown in a few countries.

RIO+20 DECLARES HEALTH KEY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) has adopted a series of measures that have the potential to contribute to a more equitable, cleaner, greener, and more prosperous world – and recognizes the important linkages between health and development. The outcome document agreed upon by member states attending the 20–22 June conference emphasizes the importance of universal health coverage to enhancing health, social cohesion and sustainable human and economic development. It acknowledges that the global burden and threat of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) constitutes one of the major sustainable development challenges of the 21st century. Health-related development issues such as access to better energy services including sustainable cooking and heating solutions, focus on
urban planning measures including more sustainable, energy-efficient housing and transport – which can significantly reduce many NCD risks, sustainable food systems that combat hunger, sustainable water usage meeting basic needs for safe drinking-water, and assurance that all jobs and workplaces meet minimum safety and health standards were covered in detail.

SAME GENE BEHIND DIABETES AND ALZHEIMER’S: STUDY

In a study published in the journal ‘Genetics’, researchers from the City College of New York found out that a known Alzheimer’s gene plays a very vital role in the way insulin is processed. They claim it could pave the way for treating and preventing Diabetes if appropriate measures are taken. It has been known earlier that people with Diabetes have a much higher risk of developing Alzheimer’s, but the reason was unknown. However, experts have cited that more work is needed to probe this potential link and its effects further.

HIGH FAT DIETS CAN BE BEHIND BOWEL DISORDERS

In a study published in the journal ‘Nature’, researchers at the University of Chicago found that high-fat diet changes the way food is digested. This causes increased level of harmful bacteria which is responsible for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBDs) such as Crohn’s and Ulcerative Colitis. These saturated fats are hard for the body to digest and it responds by pumping more bile into the gut. This changes the gut environment and leads to a change in the bacteria growing there. According to researchers, diets rich in saturated fat, found in processed foods, confectionery and sweets should be avoided.

OXYGEN CAN LEAD CANCEROUS TUMOURS TO DEATH

According to a study by Jawaharlal Nehru University’s School of Biotechnology in collaboration with Department of Internal Medicine, Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, Ohio State University, repeated oxygenation can result in an eight-fold increase in malignant cell death and significant regression. The research paper has been published in the “Journal of Cell Death and Disease”. The degree of hypoxia in tumours is variable. Tumour Xenografts were grown in mice and the tumours were treated with Cisplatin (breast cancer drug) for 20 days. These tumours were then exposed to 30-50 percent oxygen for three hours per day. The results showed that re-oxygenation induced around 77 percent regression in breast and colon tumours. Interestingly, re-oxygenation also activated genes that cause cell death. However, scientists say it may take some time before the remedy can be tried on humans.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. ‘Sunshine’ Vitamin Vital For Health
2. Diesel Exhaust Fumes Can Cause Lung Cancer
3. A Blood Test To Spot All Strains Of Bird Flu In Just 2 Hours
4. Govt. Plans Stricter Implementation Of Anti-Tobacco Laws In Odisha
5. Anti-Tobacco Drive In Mumbai Schools Makes Its Mark
6. Awareness Could Prevent 80 Percent Of Strokes
7. Hypertension On Rise In Urban India
8. Assessment Board To Evaluate New Health Technology In India
9. Drinking Too Much Tea Can Cause Prostate Cancer

RECENT RESEARCHES

SAME GENE BEHIND DIABETES AND ALZHEIMER’S: STUDY

In a study published in the journal ‘Genetics’, researchers from the City College of New York found out that a known Alzheimer’s gene plays a very vital role in the way insulin is processed. They claim it could pave the way for treating and preventing Diabetes if appropriate measures are taken. It has been known earlier that people with Diabetes have a much higher risk of developing Alzheimer’s, but the reason was unknown. However, experts have cited that more work is needed to probe this potential link and its effects further.

HIGH FAT DIETS CAN BE BEHIND BOWEL DISORDERS

In a study published in the journal ‘Nature’, researchers at the University of Chicago found that high-fat diet changes the way food is digested. This causes increased level of harmful bacteria which is responsible for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBDs) such as Crohn’s and Ulcerative Colitis. These saturated fats are hard for the body to digest and it responds by pumping more bile into the gut. This changes the gut environment and leads to a change in the bacteria growing there. According to researchers, diets rich in saturated fat, found in processed foods, confectionery and sweets should be avoided.

OXYGEN CAN LEAD CANCEROUS TUMOURS TO DEATH

According to a study by Jawaharlal Nehru University’s School of Biotechnology in collaboration with Department of Internal Medicine, Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, Ohio State University, repeated oxygenation can result in an eight-fold increase in malignant cell death and significant regression. The research paper has been published in the “Journal of Cell Death and Disease”. The degree of hypoxia in tumours is variable. Tumour Xenografts were grown in mice and the tumours were treated with Cisplatin (breast cancer drug) for 20 days. These tumours were then exposed to 30-50 percent oxygen for three hours per day. The results showed that re-oxygenation induced around 77 percent regression in breast and colon tumours. Interestingly, re-oxygenation also activated genes that cause cell death. However, scientists say it may take some time before the remedy can be tried on humans.
A BRIEF REVIEW ON THE CONVOCATION CEREMONY FOR BATCH-C OF IIHMR-NEW DELHI: 09 JUNE 2012

IIHMR New Delhi’s third batch (2010-12) graduated with flying colors from the post graduate program in Health/ Hospital / Healthcare IT management. The convocation ceremony was held in the campus on 9th June, 2012. The event was chaired by Honorable Dr. V. M. Katoch, Secretary to Government of India, Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) & Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Dr. Katoch, while addressing the gathering, stated that the work which the graduate students are going to do, will help them evolve not just as professionals but also as original thinkers, given the challenges of social evolution they face. He congratulated the students for choosing the field over stereotyped jobs for earning good salary and enjoying a good life. Dr. Katoch also encouraged the graduates to take the pledge of succeeding in life and leaving a mark in society. He expressed assurance that the work of graduates will lead to better patient care and better performance of public health systems in the future.

The evening was co-chaired by Guest of Honor, Dr. J K Das, Director, National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW). Dr. Das in his speech recognised the repute and contribution of IIHMR for spearheading health management programme in India. He encouraged the graduates to carry out research work in the field of infant and maternal mortality. He motivated the students and expressed his will to work for collaboration of IIHMR and NIHFW.

Dr. Ashok Agarwal, Founder Trustee of IIHMR also enlightened the ceremony with his presence. He has to his credit the establishment of many academic and non academic institutions in the country. He is also a part of the project, Apni Yojana, which supplies user fee based drinking water to half a million rural population.

Other guests included IIHMR staff and faculty, and parents of the passing out students.

Shri P D Agarwal Memorial Gold Medals were awarded to students in Health, Hospital and Healthcare IT streams in recognition of academic excellence to honor and revere the memory of our beloved founder. The students who won the much coveted medals are as follows:

- Dr. Shilpa Jain (PT) - Healthcare stream
- Dr. Manika Sharma - Hospital stream
- Mr. Anindam Basu - Health IT stream
- Dr. Aman Rana - All round performance

NOTE: The newsletter is open for inclusion of any information or advertisement; however selection of information will be governed by the SYNAPSE Team, IIHMR, New Delhi

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FURTHER ISSUES, KINDLY MAIL US.