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# 14<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STUDENTS' MEDICAL RESEARCH 2024

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## Post Conference Report



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE  
GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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## **NATCON'24: Post Conference Summary Report**

Name of the Event: 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Students Medical Research 2024

Date of event: 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Location: Government Medical College Thiruvananthapuram

Contact Details: Dr Ramiz Raja A: 8547 054 770 (General Convenor)

### **Conference Summary**

14th National Conference on Students' Medical Research 2024 (NATCON'24) was co-organised by Department of Community Medicine, GMC Thiruvananthapuram, and Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS).

NATCON'24 National Conference is a forum for undergraduate and postgraduate medical students for showcasing their research work and to also provide them with the unique opportunity to take advantage of the formal and informal discussions with the experts.

This year's NATCON'24 was joined by 399 registered participants (283 Undergraduates, 90 Postgraduates, 16 Faculty/SR/MPH & 10 Interns) from 9 states including Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Pondicherry, Goa, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Punjab and Telangana. 27 participants were from the Dental stream. Overall attendance of the conference was more than five hundred including registered participants, guest, jury members, and volunteers.

Hundreds of attendees, paper and poster presenters and students have benefited in many ways from this conference. More than two hundred scientific papers were presented by authors from thirty-six medical colleges. Invited, 'Keynote and Panel' Speakers from different sectors addressed the audience and shared knowledge and their experience in the field of medical research.

The theme of the conference was, "Breaking barriers for building health: collaborative approaches in public health research".

As a result, Theme based presentations was arranged to include One Health, Climate Change, Population Ageing and Cutting Edge Technologies in Research.

Panel Discussion Session has been prepared to discuss the Challenges, Opportunities and Need of Undergraduate Medical which was in accordance with the aim of the conference i.e., to promote Undergraduate Medical Research.



*Dr Anuja U  
Professor & HOD  
Community Medicine*

## Day 1 of the Conference (05.05.2024)

As the sun rose on the inaugural day of our conference, the opening ceremony was a vibrant tapestry of anticipation, marking the auspicious beginning of our collective journey for knowledge and more. The day one of the conference started with welcoming address by Dr Anuja U, Professor & HOD Community Medicine, GMC Thiruvananthapuram.



## Theme Presentations (9:00 – 11:00 AM)

- One Health – Dr Ajit D Shewale  
Deputy Director Centre for One Health, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)  
Directorate General of Health Services, MoHFW, GOI
- Population ageing - Dr S. Irudaya Rajan  
Chairman The International Institute of Migration and Development (IIMAD)  
Thiruvananthapuram
- Climate change - Dr Sekhar Lukose Kuriakose  
Member Secretary (ex-officio), Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, Head  
(Scientist), State Emergency Operations Centre Thiruvananthapuram



*Dr Ajit D Shewale*

*Dr S. Irudaya Rajan*

*Dr Sekhar Lukose  
Kuriakose*

*Dr Santhosh Babu*

*Dr Amogh Bhaskaran  
Jayaprasad*

- Cutting edge technologies in Research - Dr Santhosh Babu IAS (VRS)  
Principal Secretary & MD of Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL) MD of Kerala Fiber Optic Network (KFON) CMD & ED of Information Kerala Mission (IKM) Government of Kerala
- The Enigmatic Horns of Ammon; Perspectives from a Medical Graduate at the Bench - Dr Amogh Bhaskaran Jayaprasad  
Junior Research Scholar in Neuroscience Department of Biological Sciences  
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai



### Opening Ceremony (11:15 – 12:00 PM)

Ceremony started with KUHS Anthem. Dr Linette J Morris, Principal, GMC Trivandrum addressed the gathering with a short welcoming speech. Presidential address given by Dr Thomas Mathew, Director of Medical Education, Government of Kerala.

Dr Mohanan Kunnummal, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Sciences inaugurated the conference with lighting of the lamp followed by inaugural address. He also presided over the *NATCON'24 Souvenir Book* unveiling ceremony.

Dr Shaji K S, Dean research KUHS; Dr Sreenath S, Vice Principal GMC Thiruvananthapuram; Dr Sunil Kumar B S, Superintendent MCH; Dr Bindu S, Superintendent SATH addressed the gathering with felicitation speeches. Opening ceremony ended with 'Vote of Thanks' by Dr Anuja U, Professor & Head, Department of Community Medicine, GMC Thiruvananthapuram.



*Dr Linette J Morris  
(Welcome Address)*



*Dr Thomas Mathew  
(Presidential Address)*



*Dr Mohanan Kunnummal  
(Inaugural Address)*



*Lamp Lighting Ceremony*



*NATCON'24 Souvenir Book unveiling  
ceremony*



*Dr Shaji K S  
(Felicitation Speech)*



*Dr Sreenath S  
(Felicitation Speech)*



*Dr Sunil Kumar B S  
(Felicitation Speech)*



*Dr Bindu S  
(Felicitation Speech)*

## Orations (12:00 – 1:00 PM & 2:00 – 3:00 PM)

### **1. Kerala University of Health Sciences**

*“The Role of Reliable Evidence in Informing Contextualized Health Decisions”*

**Dr Prathap Tharyan**

Adjunct Professor, Clinical Epidemiology Unit, CMC Vellore.

Former Director of Cochrane, South Asia



Dr Prathap Tharyan



*Dr Anil Kumar TV*

*Professor & HOD Psychiatry, GMC Ernakulam  
Presenting our token of gratitude*

### **2. Thiruvananthapuram Alumni (MRS Menon Research Foundation)**

**Dr Santhosh John Abraham**

MBBS, MS, DipNB (Surg), FRCS (Edin), FRCS (Glas), FRCS (Eng),  
FACS, FAIS, FIAES, FMASI Senior Consultant & Head Department of  
Surgery, Lourdes Hospital



Dr Santhosh John Abraham



*Dr Madhu Mohan*

*Former Professor & HOD, Surgery  
Presenting our token of gratitude*



### Panel Discussion (3:00 – 4:00 PM)

The scope of the panel discussion was, ‘Early Research in career – Future and Opportunities’. Dr Indu P S, Professor & Head, Department of Community Medicine, GMC Kollam chaired the session.

- ◆ Breaking Barrier in UG Research  
Dr Biju Soman  
Professor & Head  
Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies,  
Sree Chithra Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology
- ◆ Need of the Hour of UG Research  
Dr C. Kesavadas  
Professor Senior Grade & Head  
Department of Imaging Sciences and Interventional Radiology,  
Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology
- ◆ Funding Opportunities for UG Research  
Dr Shrinivasa B. M  
Scientist C (Medical) National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR)  
Department of Health Research, MoHFW, Government of India
- ◆ My Journey as a UG Researcher  
Dr Amogh Bhaskaran Jayaprasad  
Junior Research Scholar in Neuroscience Department of Biological Sciences  
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai



From the left: Dr Biju Soman, Dr C Kesavadas, Dr Amog Bhaskaran Jayaprasad, Dr Shrinivasa BM



Dr Indu P S: Moderating the panel discussion



## NatQuiz Odyssey

As part of the conference a quiz competition was held on day 1 evening (7.30 – 8.30 PM).

Topics for the quiz included: Public Health, Tuberculosis and General Knowledge. In total there were 5 rounds for the quiz. Quiz master was Dr Binu Areekal, Professor & Head, Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College Ernakulam.

In total 18 teams participated in the prelims round. After the screening round 5 teams were selected for the final Quiz competition. Teams from GMC-TVM, GMC-Kollam, Dr Somervell Memorial CSI Medical College Hospital-Karakonam won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions respectively.



From the right:

Team A: Adarsh Narayanan & Jan B Mohan (Government Medical College Kollam)

Team B: Kripa Susan Jacob & Lavya Lins (Dr. Somervell Memorial CSI Medical College, Karakonam)

Team C: Abhishek Chandran & Snehalekshmy (Sree Narayana Institute of Medical Sciences, Ernakulam)

Team D: Abhay Sasi Baiju & Gautham G (Government Medical College Thiruvananthapuram)

Team E: Civan Oli AS & Noganram Kumar (Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences)



*"Behind every great quiz is a mastermind, orchestrating curiosity, sparking intellect, and turning knowledge into an exhilarating journey."*

**Our Quiz Master: Dr Binu Areekal**



*"An audience at a quiz isn't just spectators; they're the heartbeat, the collective wisdom, and the fuel that ignites the pursuit of knowledge"*



## Cultural Events

*"Cultural events are not just moments in time; they are the threads that weave the vibrant tapestry of our shared human experience, connecting us across time, geography, and ideology."*





## Day 2 of the Conference (06.05.2024)

### Scientific Sessions

(9:00 – 10:30 AM; 11:00 – 12:30 PM & 1:00 – 2:30 PM)

228 scientific papers were presented on nine different venues in three sessions arranged in GMC Thiruvananthapuram Campus, including one hundred eighty-five oral & forty-three poster presentations. Out of twenty-three sessions, fourteen sessions were solely for Undergraduate paper presentations. All accepted papers had been categorized into the following sessions:

- Non communicable diseases
- Communicable diseases
- Maternal and child health
- Mental health
- Attitude and behaviour
- Health technology
- Special health issues

Sixty-nine jury members judged the sessions and ‘Best paper’ in each category was awarded with cash prize and certificate.





### Workshop on EZR (1:30 – 3:00 PM)

A workshop on EZR was held for postgraduates as part of the conference. Dr Libu G K, Professor (CAP), Department of Community Medicine, GMC Thiruvananthapuram led the session. Twenty-two participants attended the workshop.

### Oration (3:00 – 4:00 PM)

Pranamam '94 MBBS Batch Alumni, Thiruvananthapuram Medical College

*“From Bench to Bedside: Unveiling breakthroughs in Clinical Haematology”*

Dr Neeraj Sidharthan

Professor & Head, Department of Clinical Haematology, Division of stem cell transplant and Cellular Therapy, Hemophilia & Bleeding Disorders Comprehensive Care Centre, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences.



Dr Neeraj Sidharthan



*Dr Linette J Morris, Principal GMC Thiruvananthapuram presenting our token of gratitude.*

### Closing Ceremony (4:00 – 5:00 PM)

As the curtains draw to a close on the symphony of ideas, connections, and associations that defined our conference, we gathered once more for the closing ceremony – a poignant reflection of gratitude, celebration, and anticipation for the future.

Ceremony started with a prayer song. Dr Linette J Morris, Principal, GMC Trivandrum addressed the gathering with a short welcoming speech.

Dr Mini S S, Professor, Department of Community Medicine, presented a report on the NATCON'24 National Conference.

Keynote Address was delivered by Dr Rajan N Khobragade IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, KSEB; (Former Health Secretary).

Felicitation speeches were given by Dr Viswanathan KV representing Trivandrum Alumni Association and Dr Libu G K representing the Pranamam '94 MBBS Batch Alumni.

Best scientific paper on each session was announced and prizes distributed.

Winners of NatQuiz Odyssey was also awarded cash prize and certificates during the ceremony.

UG Convener Mr. Savin Philip and PG Convener Dr Sebin Sebastian talked about Students' Perspective on National Conference.

Closing ceremony ended with 'Vote of Thanks' by Dr Ramiz Raja A, Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine, GMC Thiruvananthapuram (General Convener, NATCON'24).



*Dr Linette J Morris  
(Welcome Address)*



*Dr Mini S S  
(Report on  
NATCON'24)*



*Dr Rajan N  
Khobragade IAS  
(Keynote Address)*



*Dr Viswanathan KV  
(Felicitation Speech)*



*Prize Distribution Ceremony*



*Dr Libu G K  
(Felicitation Speech)*



*Mr Savin Philip  
(Students' Perspective  
on NATCON'24)*



*Dr Sebin Sebastian  
(Students' Perspective  
on NATCON'24)*



*Dr Ramiz Raja A  
(Vote of thanks)*













# Organising Team

## Patrons

**Smt. Veena George**  
*Health Minister*  
*Government of Kerala*

**Dr Mohanan Kunnummal**  
*Vice Chancellor*  
*KUHS*

**Dr Thomas Mathew**  
*DME*  
*Government of Kerala*

**Dr Shaji K S**  
*Professor & Dean Research*  
*KUHS*

## Chairperson

**Dr Linette J Morris**  
*Principal*  
*GMC Thiruvananthapuram*

## Co-chairperson

**Dr Sreenath S**  
*Vice Principal*  
*GMC Thiruvananthapuram*

## Organizing Secretary

**Dr Anuja U**  
*Professor & HOD Community Medicine*  
*GMC Thiruvananthapuram*

## General Convener

**Dr Ramiz Raja A**  
*Assistant Professor, Community Medicine*  
*GMC Thiruvananthapuram*

## Joint Conveners

**Dr Libu G K**  
*Professor (CAP)*  
**Dr Tony Lawrence**  
*Associate Professor (CAP)*

## PG Conveners

**Dr Anu Antony**  
**Dr Sebin Sebastian**  
**Dr Zajil Nizar**  
**Dr Sarath R**

## UG Convener

**Mr. Savin Philip** (2020 MBBS Batch)

## Organising Conveners

*Dental Convener – Dr R Rajeev*  
*Pharmacy Convener – Dr Aravind A P*  
*Nursing Convener – Mrs. Aseela S*

## Our Team

Dr Anuja U  
Dr Mini S S  
Dr Asha K P  
Dr Althaf A  
Dr Chintha S  
Dr Libu G K  
Dr Tony Lawrence  
Dr Siju N S  
Dr Soumya Gopakumar  
Dr Devraj R  
Dr Anitha Abraham  
Dr Ramiz Raja A  
Dr Ajith Chakravarthy  
Dr Bini M  
Mrs Sreelekha K R  
Mrs Rethika S  
Dr Bilal S R

Dr Prathibha Raj M R  
Dr Rahul Suresh  
Dr Navya A  
Dr Amala P Saju  
Dr Ajithalakshmi A S  
Dr Bhagyalakshmi M  
Dr Vikram J  
Dr Adhila K M  
Dr Jishnu Krishnan  
Dr Archana P S  
Dr Sebin Sebastian  
Dr Neena Mary Dominic  
Dr Akshay K R  
Dr Marie J Naina  
Dr Aparna S S  
Dr Anu Antony  
Dr Sarath R

Dr Neeraja M  
Dr Vinitha T V  
Dr Zajil Nizar  
Dr Sreeresmi M S  
Dr Arunima B S  
Dr Achu Jeena Jacob  
Mrs Sheejathampy  
Mrs Usha P  
Mrs Jayasree G  
Mrs Sushama G P  
Mrs Sindhu C R  
Mr Ramesh Chandran Nair  
Mr Prasanth F  
Mr Shajahan A  
Mrs Lathika P  
Smt Retnakumari S  
2020 MBBS Batch

## Our Supporters

Parent-Teachers Association  
GMC Thiruvananthapuram

Trivandrum Medical College Alumni  
MRS Menon Research Foundation

Pranamam'94 MBBS Alumni  
GMC Thiruvananthapuram

A photograph of a building facade at night, illuminated with blue light. The building has a textured, stone-like appearance and several tall, narrow vertical openings. In the foreground, large white 3D letters spell out "NATCON 24". The ground is paved with dark stones. A tall, thin pole stands in front of the building. The overall scene is dark, with the blue and white lights providing the main illumination.

# NATCON 24

Report prepared by:

Dr Ramiz Raja A (Assistant Professor)

Dr Sebin Sebastain, Dr Anu Antony, Dr Zajil Nizar (Junior Residents)

Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College Thiruvananthapuram