

## **Conference Report MPAICON 2023, 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

MPAICON2023, the 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Molecular Pathology Association of India (MPAI), was organized by the department of Hematology, SGPGIMS from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The venue for the main conference was convention Centre, SGPGI, which took place on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> of February. It was preceded by six parallel pre-conference workshops on 17<sup>th</sup> of February, most of which being a hands on. Five of these workshops were organized at different venues at SGPGI, while one workshop which dealt with the whole genome sequencing for infectious diseases was hosted by the Microbiology department, at KGMU. There were almost 30 faculty and 150 delegates for these workshops.

The main conference was organized during the subsequent two days at Convention Centre, SGPGI. It was attended by approximately 250 registered delegates, 110 faculty members along with about 60 corporate/trade partners.

There were a total of nine international speakers. Six speakers namely Dr Federico Monzon; USA, Dr B R Das; Germany, Dr Megha Joshi; USA, Dr Shrihari Kadkol; USA, Dr Poluru Reddy; USA, Dr Asghar Naqvi; Canada, were present physically, while Dr Keyur Patel; USA, Dr Ashraf Khan; USA and Dr AnnMarie Block; USA joined the meeting virtually.

The conference had 30 didactic lectures and 4 panel discussion from the different areas namely Hematopathology, Solid tumors, Genetic/hereditary disorders, infectious diseases, Immunology/Immunogenetics and translational biology. To facilitate the attendance of registered candidates who could not attend the program physically, it was telecasted in a hybrid mode through zoom.

The inauguration of this program was conducted on Day 1. The people on the dais included Dr B R Das-Chief guest, Dr Raj Kumar-Acting Director of SGPGI, Dr D K Mishra- President MPAI, Dr Neeraj Arora – Secretary MPAI, Dr Rajesh Kashyap- Organizing Chairperson and Dr Khaliqur Rahman-Organizing Secretary. There was the release of program book/Souvenir during the inauguration.

There was active participation from students who submitted the scientific abstracts. A total of 124 abstract were submitted. These abstract were sent for review to a panel of reviewers. The top scoring 13 abstracts were chosen for the oral presentation (during two parallel sessions) and 103 abstract were taken up for the poster presentation.

The valedictory function included the distribution of certificates and cash prizes to 4 students for best oral presentation, 6 students for best poster presentation and 8 travel awards. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Ruchi Gupta, Co-organising secretary.

