



Christian Medical College Vellore



Newsline

March 03, 2025

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6*

Rehab Mela 2025



Dr. Mary Verghese, a trailblazer in the field of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PMR) in India, established the Rehabilitation Institute in Bagayam, Vellore. Her pioneering contributions, along with the efforts of Dr. Suranjan Bhattacharji, who initiated the Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Mela in 1994 and the Brain Injury Mela in 2004, have significantly impacted rehabilitation services in India. This year, the PMR family proudly celebrates the centennial year of Dr. Mary Verghese, marking the occasion with innovative enhancements to the Rehab Mela.

As part of this special celebration, the 22nd Brain Injury Mela was organized on February 8th, followed by the 32nd SCI Mela from February 14th to 16th. These events served as a vital platform for individuals with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and SCI to receive comprehensive medical assessments, including blood tests, ultrasound, cystoscopy, and CMGs. A total of 61 ABI followup patients and 210 SCI individuals benefited from these evaluations. The Psychiatry team also played a crucial role in assessing and planning interventions for neuro-behavioral sequelae following brain injuries.

The mela was enriched with vibrant peer interactions and professional guidance from physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, psychologists, and social workers. Participants shared their challenges and successes, offering mutual encouragement. The Prosthetic and Orthotic team, in collaboration with the Worth Trust organization, provided essential maintenance for mobility aids and orthotic devices.

A unique feature of the event was the residency of several SCI individuals and their caregivers at the Mary Verghese Trust campus. Additionally, an exhibition on employment opportunities for persons with disabilities (PWDs) was held. The first day concluded with a talent show by SCI alumni, featuring a keynote address by Dr. Vinitha Ravindran, Dean, College of Nursing, CMC.

On the second day, formal sports competitions engaged SCI alumni, caregivers, staff, and students. Mr. Subramani T, District Sports & Youth Welfare Officer, Vellore, distributed prizes to the winners. In the afternoon, Mr. Rajinikanth R, Inspector of the Cybercrime team, Vellore, conducted an informative session on cybercrime awareness for individuals with disabilities. A wheelchair basketball match at the CMC Bagayam Campus further highlighted the skills of athletes with disabilities. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director, CMC, and Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar, Principal, CMC, who felicitated the players with an inspiring keynote address. Simultaneously, various competitions, including drawing and rangoli, were conducted at the mela premises. The day concluded with a valedictory program and cultural performances by SCI alumni and the PMR family. Keynote addresses were delivered by Dr. Balamugesh, Associate Medical Superintendent, and Dr. Ebby Simon, Associate Director (Admin), while Mr. Reni Charles, General Superintendent, CMC, distributed prizes for various competitions.

The final day of the SCI Mela focused on medical report distribution, psycho-spiritual activities, and health education sessions for participants.

Both the Brain Injury and SCI Melas provided a significant opportunity for individuals with brain and spinal cord injuries, along with their caregivers, to gather, create bonds, share experiences, renew friendships, receive quality medical care, discuss socio-economic challenges, connect to vital resources, and showcase their talents. The successful execution of these events stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of Dr. Mary Verghese and the continued commitment of the PMR family toward holistic rehabilitation and empowerment.





Dedication of X-Ray Machine (Fujifilm FDR Smart X)

Department of Radiology inaugurated the X-Ray Machine (Fuji Film FDR Smart X) at CMC Rehabilitation Institute on the 12th of February, 2025. The multi-function digital X-Ray system by Fujifilm with ceiling-suspended & floor-mounted tube options, is equipped to provide instant, high-quality digital imaging, resulting in faster diagnosis, and higher workflow and patient throughput. The added facility will ease the flow of patients between the CMC Bagayam campuses (Community Health & Development, College, & Rehabilitation) and the Main Hospital (Town Campus).



Inauguration of Master Health Check-up Clinic (MHCC), Chittoor Campus

The Master Health Check-up Clinic (MHCC) was inaugurated at CMC Vellore, Chittoor Campus, on 12th February 2025 by Dr. Vikram Mathew, Director of CMC Vellore. The programme commenced with a prayer by Rev. Giftus Joshua.

Dr. Leah Thomas extended a warm welcome to the gathering. Dr. Vikram congratulated the Chittoor team for their dedicated efforts in starting the clinic. Dr. Rajesh, Medical Superintendent of CMC Vellore, highlighted the significance of the clinic and the potential benefits it would bring to the Chittoor community.

He also praised the success stories of similar programmes in Ranipet and the CMC Town Campus and Dr. Uday Zachariah, Assoc. Director of the Chittoor Campus delivered the vote of thanks.

The clinic officially began its services on 14th February 2025. It will be managed by the Department of Medicine, Chittoor Campus, under the guidance of Dr. Samuel Hansdak, Head, Department of Medicine, and the Wellness Team.



CME on Common Ear Diseases

The Department of Continuing Medical Education and the Department of ENT organised a CME on Common Ear Diseases on 22nd February 2025. The programme was moderated by Dr. Rita Ruby Anbuselvi A., Professor, Department of ENT Unit-V. The speakers, Dr. Habie Thomas Samuel, Dr. Naina Picardo, Dr. Ann Mary Augustine, Dr. Achamma Balraj, Dr. Ajay Philip, Dr. Anjana Juanita Job, and Dr. Manju Deena Mammen covered the approaches to ear discharge, otalgia, hearing loss, vertigo, facial palsy, tinnitus, and otological emergencies. The programme was attended by 198 participants from 18 states and several departments in CMC. The CME Department thanks Dr. Roshna Rose Paul, Dr. Rita Riby Anbuselvi A., moderator, Dr. Suma Susan Mathews, Head, Department of ENT, Mrs. Hasna Rajesh from the Telemedicine Department, and all the faculty for making the CME possible.

Social Worker's Workshop



A Workshop for social workers was held at the Kuttumbiah hall at on Saturday, 22nd February 2025. There were 46 enthusiastic participants who were enriched by the two-and-a-half-hour workshop. The sessions began with a word of prayer by Ms. Shirley after which she gave a brief introduction. Dr. Selvamani B, Associate Director – Finance welcomed the group.

Dr. Guru shared his rich experiences in the Department of Rehab through his talk - Bridging Gaps: A social worker's journey in Resource Management. His presentation was inspiring and challenged us to help our patients transform from 'Resource Burners to Resource earners. The next session was Sharing stories – making an impact. Mr. Pavan Kumar, LCECU shared stories on the importance of patient stories and how they can have a long-lasting impact on donors - to stay connected and nudge them to contribute again. Mr. John Leeson, Pulmonary Medicine took us through the steps to identifying patients who can and are willing to share stories and the key points to remember when patient stories are shared.

Ms. Josephine, Medical Oncology spoke on - Learnings as a Fundraiser for patients. She shared the challenges she faced when having to fundraise for patient care. She shared about the agencies that have been empanelled with CMCV and how their contributions have made a difference to the treatment costs for a patient. Mr. Sandeep George, Development Office spoke about the support we can also get from CSR funds. Ms. Philoshiya, Development Office shared about the IP campaign and how we can sensitise our private patients about CMC's Charity. Today, many of them support patient care through the PTP fund and the Emergency Fund.

The participants were split into 5 groups and were asked to present takeaways from the session & topics or areas for future workshops. The groups shared that they were inspired by the talks and have ideas they would like to begin or implement. They enjoyed the fellowship and meeting their fellow colleagues from across the institution. Some topics they would like to hear about are on proposal writing, more details on funding agencies, funds in CMCV and updating skills.

In closing, Dr. Selvamani encouraged the social workers to engage with other foundations and organisations that can support their area in terms of patient care for their departments. She thanked Ms. Reena Kingsley for making arrangements for the day.

The next workshop is planned for Saturday, the 26th of April 2025.

Special Prayers - March 02 - 08, 2025

Biostatistics : Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar and Staff

Bioengineering : Dr. Sivakumar Balasubramanian and Staff

Biomedical Engineering : Mr. Arockiaraj Arul Prakash and Staff

Anatomy : Dr. Tripti Meriel Jacob and Staff

Physiology : Dr. Vinay Timothy Oommen and Staff

Kristiya Seva Sansthan Sarenga, West Bengal and others

Christian Services Society of Bengal, Orissa & Bihar Baptist Convention

Christian Mission Service Germany

Council Member : Dr. S.R. Banerjee Jesudason



Laurels & Recognition

- **Dr. Lallu Joseph**, Quality Manager & Assoc. General Superintendent has been awarded as the Most Influential Speaker in the Arab Health 2025 held at Dubai, UAE between 27th and 30th January, 2025.
- The following PGs won the prizes for PESICON 2025 conference held in Kochi between 14th to 16th February, 2025.
Dr. Jayakrishna MG, final year resident. : Best paper - First prize in the Robotic prize video session - *Robotic Sleeve Bronchoplasty +/- Lobectomy in children.*
Dr. Dennis Darren David, 2nd year resident: Best paper - Runner up in the Karl Storz prize video Session - *Thoracoscopic lung resection in infants.*
- **Dr. Jeenu Ann Jose**, Postgraduate Registrar, Department of Anaesthesia has won third place for poster presentation in the 26th Annual conference of Indian Society of Neuroanaesthesiology and critical care held from 24th to 26th January 2025, at Kerala.

Retirement

Mrs. Victoria Shanthakumari, Multi Purpose Health Worker retired on 25th January 2025, after 35 years of dedicated service to the institution. She joined the Community Health and Development [CHAD] department in 1990. She is a calm, hardworking, and God-fearing staff member who maintains strong interpersonal relationships with her team. She is skilled at assisting with procedures and effectively coordinates her work with her colleagues. Her husband, Mr. Issack Dhamodharan, is a retired Special Sub Inspector. Their daughter, Ms. Angeline Kiruba, works as a B.Sc. [N] Tutor at the College of Nursing, and their son, Mr. John Samuel, has completed his Master's in Hospital Administration.

CMC wishes her a blessed and peaceful retirement.



Obituaries

- **Mr. Nelson A.L.** father of Dr. Rosemol Nelson, MD Microbiology Post Graduate (MBBS batch of 2013), Department of Clinical Microbiology, passed away on 21st February, 2025. Let us uphold all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.
- **Mr. P. Anandha Raj**, father of Mr. Elanthirayan, Speech Technician in the Department of ENT, passed away on 24th February 2025 in Vellore. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. Jeyanthi, elder son Mr. Vasantha Raj, younger son Mr. Elanthirayan, grandchildren and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.



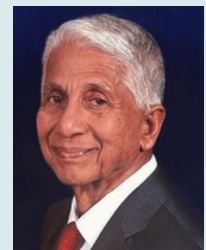
Dr. Tara Talwar (nee Radhakrishna) (MBBS batch of 1974) passed away on 13th January, 2025, in Miami, Florida. She was born on 28 July 1958. She was the oldest of 3 children, born to Lt. General Y.V. Radhakrishna, and Premila Radhakrishna, a school teacher; she did her schooling in Delhi. She joined the Christian Medical College Vellore, in the MBBS batch of 1974. She was studious and hardworking; and she excelled in debates. She was General Secretary of Women's Hostel, and a Cochrane House captain.

After internship she married Mr. Rajesh Talwar, an engineer, and left for California. She completed an Internal Medicine Residency and GI Fellowship at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. Mr. Rajesh and Dr. Tara settled in St. Louis, Missouri where she had a GI solo practice for 25 years. Even as health problems appeared, she continued working part-time until 2022. In 2024 Mr. Rajesh and Dr. Tara moved to Miami to be close to their son Nikhil, his wife Winnie and their two children, Lela and Jai. Suffering from a progressive neurological illness for the last 5 years, Dr. Tara faced it with grace and courage; she passed away on 13 January 2025 in Miami, Florida. Dr. Tara was a loving wife and mother, a devoted grandmother, and a caring friend. She is survived by her husband Mr. Rajesh Talwar, who retired as Technology Director of The Boeing Company, and son Nikhil who works in finance, and his family.

For those who would like to get in touch with the family, contact details of her husband Mr. Rajesh Talwar are given below: Mr. Rajesh Talwar, Email: rajtalwar50@gmail.com Phone: +1-314-677-7528

Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved members of the family at this time.

- **Dr. Mike Sundar** (MBBS batch of 1961), passed away on 19th February 2025 in his home in Tampa. Dr. Mike Sundar was born on 12th February 1945. He joined for his MBBS course in CMC in the year 1961. He was an exceptional man, leaving behind a legacy of love, loyalty, generosity, wisdom, quiet strength and laughter.



He lived by the belief that a meaningful life is built in the small, steady moments of care and kindness. As Dr. Atul Gawande wrote: "Our ultimate goal, after all, is not a good death but a good life to the very end." Mike embodied this sentiment, embracing each day with quiet grace, deep thoughtfulness, and an unwavering love for his family and friends. His colleagues said that "he never said anything cross to anyone and his smile never faded."

A hardworking and dedicated doctor, Dr. Mike was deeply committed to his profession. Throughout his life, he continued to maintain the friendships from his medical school, Christian Medical College Vellore, and continues to support their charity initiatives. As his school motto reads "not to be ministered unto but to minister," he fulfilled this motto by continuing to share his knowledge and skills whenever he could. He was always striving to help others, not for recognition, but because it was who he was, a follower of Christ.

Dr. Mike's international background led him to multiple countries over the course of his life and he loved to share those experiences with his family. During the 45 wonderful years of marriage to his wife they traveled to many countries and raised two devoted children, in whom he instilled the same values of kindness, love, laughter, and generosity.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce: his son, Christopher Sundar and his wife, Kara and 3 children and his daughter, Dr. Michele Sundar and her husband, William R. Quattlebaum. He also leaves behind two brothers, Alan Langham and Thiravialingam Murugesu and a sister, Praymah Kailasapillai who will forever carry his memory in their hearts.

Dr. Mike Sundar's presence will be deeply missed, and his impact will live on in our hearts forever. For those who would like to get in touch with the family, the contact details of his wife Mrs. Joyce Sundar is given below: Mrs. Joyce Sundar, Email: joyce.sundar@gmail.com

Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved members of the family at this time.

Admission Notice

	<p align="center">Christian Medical College VELLORE, TN - 632 002 Email: registrar@cmcvellore.ac.in CERTIFICATE & POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP COURSES ADMISSIONS NOTICE 2025</p>
<p>Applications are invited for the Certificate courses & Post-Doctoral Fellowship courses (Medical / Dental) commencing in August 2025.</p> <p>Details regarding online application procedure, available courses and eligibility: refer respective Bulletins available at our website http://admissions.cmcvellore.ac.in</p> <p>The last date for online application submission for Medical Certificate courses & PDF courses with payment is 7th May 2025</p> <p><u>Important Information:</u> The admission process contained in the Bulletins shall be subject to any order that maybe passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court / High Court / any other statutory enactments that maybe passed by the Central or State Government.</p> <p align="right">REGISTRAR</p>	<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>The General Public are CAUTIONED not to be lured by any person offering admission to any of the courses conducted by CMC Vellore. The college will not be responsible for any candidates or parents dealing with such person / persons.</p> <p>Civil and a criminal court proceeding will be taken up against any person who holds out promises and also uses the institutions intellectual properties.</p> <p align="center">PLEASE NOTE: WE DO NOT ADMIT STUDENTS THROUGH AGENTS OR AGENCIES.</p> <p align="center">CMC VELLORE ADMINISTRATION</p>

Situations Vacant

Click the following link to view the vacancies
<https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Vacancies under the Principal's Office - for queries contact the mentioned office

1. Senior Resident / Assistant Professor with MD (Anatomy) for the Department of Anatomy

Experience : Should have at least one year teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognised teaching institution for applying Assistant Professor post.

Salary Scale : As per institutional rules.

Accommodation : Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to: <https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmccapp/listapplication.aspx>

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **March 15, 2025.**