

## **Christian Medical College Vellore**



## Newsline November 03, 2025

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17

## Farewell to a Trailblazer in Community Medicine: Honouring Dr. Shantidani Minz



On September 13, 2025, the Christian Medical College Vellore, bid a heartfelt farewell to Dr. Shantidani Minz, Senior Professor of Community Medicine, who retired after an outstanding 37-year association with the institution. A stalwart in public health and community development, Dr. Shanti leaves behind a legacy of compassionate service, academic excellence and transformative leadership. Dr. Shanti's journey with CMC began in 1988 when she joined the MBBS programme under Madras University. Even as a student, her sincerity, compassion and dedication to the ideals of service stood out. Her growing passion for public health led her to pursue an MD in Community Medicine at CMC (1995) under The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University. These formative years laid the foundation for her lifelong commitment to community-oriented healthcare.

## 125 Years of CMC Vellore





At CMC Vellore, Dr. Ida B. Scudder ingeniously used curtain strings and bedsprings to design an early film-changing device for angiocardiograms; an inventive solution that helped capture the heart in motion.

In pursuit of broader public health expertise, she earned her Master of Public Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA, in 2007. This international exposure enriched her perspective and further deepened her impact upon returning to India and extended her Lifelong Commitment to Healing and Service.

Dr. Shanti's professional path within CMC is a testament to both her academic rigour and dedication. Beginning as a Registrar (MD Trainee) in 1992, she steadily progressed from Tutor in 1999 to Professor in 2010. She was elevated to Senior Professor in 2022 and throughout her tenure, she remained a constant force for good in the field of community health and public health.

In 2018, she transitioned from CHAD to RUHSA, serving as the Head of the RUHSA Department until 2023. Over her seven-year tenure at RUHSA, she exemplified visionary leadership, steering numerous initiatives that strengthened both institutional capacity and community well-being. As Head of RUHSA, Dr. Shanti demonstrated a rare blend of decisiveness and empathy. She believed deeply in inclusivity, ensuring that every voice — from staff to students to community members — was heard and respected. Her transformative leadership impact at RUHSA reflected the very heart of CMC's motto: "Not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

Under her guidance, RUHSA's Community College received NSDC accreditation through ICRDCE and two new vocational courses — Self-made Tailor and Fashion Design, and General Duty Assistant (GDA) were introduced — equipping local youth, particularly women, with employable skills and economic independence.

She was the brain behind the Annual K.V.K. Run from 2022, a spirited event fostering physical wellness and community bonding, which has since become a beloved tradition and an health promotion initiative. Among her many achievements, Dr. Shanti's leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic stands out as a defining chapter. At a time of global uncertainty, she remained a steady and compassionate presence — ensuring vaccine access, public health education and support for families facing economic hardship. Her efforts extended deep into remote villages, reaffirming RUHSA's commitment to those most in need.

Beyond her administrative and clinical roles, Dr. Shanti has been a beloved mentor and guide to countless students and colleagues. Her ability to inspire, nurture leadership and champion innovation has had a lasting impact on the RUHSA community and beyond.

She has always reminded us that true success lies not in accolades, but in the lives we uplift. Her values — integrity, justice, service, and compassion — have shaped the ethos of the departments she has worked /led and will continue to inspire future generations of public health professionals. We extend our deepest gratitude to her spouse Dr. Atul Tigga, Medical Superintendent of BHEL Hospital, Ranipet — a humble, approachable and firm pillar of support to Dr. Shanti.

Her elder son, Anurag is currently pursuing hospital management, while second son, Arpan, a gifted fine arts student, has already made his mark as an artist. His striking mural on the wall of this training hostel at RUHSA Campus stands as a vibrant testament to his creativity and talent.

As Dr. Shanti steps into a new chapter, the CMC and RUHSA family express profound gratitude for her extraordinary service. Though she retires from her formal role, her vision, spirit and legacy remain firmly embedded in the work we continue. We thank her for the years she has devoted to uplifting communities, empowering women and youth, and mentoring the next wave of healthcare leaders. We wish her continued peace, fulfilment and joy in the years ahead.

## World Trauma Day - First Responder in Trauma



On October 17, 2025, in commemoration of World Trauma Day, the Department of Trauma Surgery organised a special training programme titled "First Responder in Trauma" at the Ranipet Campus for the hospital's housekeeping staff. The session commenced with a Bible reading and prayer, setting a reflective and positive tone for the day. The course was conducted under the guidance of the course coordinator, Dr. Shona Rachel Mathuram, Assistant Professor of Trauma Surgery, who welcomed the gathering and set the premise for the programme.

Mr. Arun Prasanth, Trauma Nurse Coordinator, conducted a session on Introduction to Trauma and Biomechanics of Trauma, sensitising the audience about the burden of trauma and its implications.



Ms. Sheeba Paul, Nurse Manager, delivered an insightful session on First Aid, highlighting simple yet critical interventions that can be performed at the scene of an incident. Dr. Subbulakshmi, PG in General Surgery, spoke on Road Safety, creating awareness about preventive measures to mitigate road traffic injuries. The skill stations covered key trauma care practices: airway management, haemorrhage control, and safe patient transport. A total of around 100 housekeeping staff actively participated in the programme, which was well-received. The event successfully enhanced trauma awareness and preparedness among the hospital's support staff, aligning with the department's mission to improve early trauma care and safety.













## **World Mental Health Day-2025**



The Department of Psychiatry organised a programme on October 10, 2025, at the Town Campus to commemorate World Mental Health Day. This year's theme, "Access to Services – Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies," highlighted the importance of ensuring mental health care during crises, when access to support is often most difficult.

Following the invocation song and prayer by Rev. Joseph Devaraj, Sr. Chaplain, Dr Arun R, Head of Psychiatry Unit-III, welcomed the gathering. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Rajesh I, Medical Superintendent, who highlighted the need for mental health promotion, and prevention of mental illness among all sections of society, including healthcare professionals. Prof. Shandrila Gnanatheebam, Dean, College of Nursing, and Prof. Anne Jerome, Associate Nursing Superintendent, offered felicitations. Prizes were distributed to the winners of various related competitions by the chief guest and Dr. Satya Raj, Head, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. Swetha Madhuri, Associate Professor from Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, introduced the activities planned for the day. The vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. Santhi Lithiya Johnson, Acting Head, Department of Psychiatric Nursing.

A multidisciplinary team from the Mental Health Centre, comprising psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists and social workers, served as resource persons for the activities carried out through the day. Nurse-led psychoeducation was provided using posters and audio-visual aids in English, Tamil and Hindi. Information leaflets on mental health promotion and prevention of mental illness were distributed to visitors to the stall. Assessment of emotional well-being was conducted using brief questionnaires, activity-based educational sessions on recognising and managing emotions, and discussions about overcoming barriers to accessing mental health services were carried out as part of the programme.

#### **Winners of the Poster Competition:**

1st – Ms Parimala S., II Year PBBSc (N) student

2nd – Ms Elakiya E., Staff Nurse, B Ward

3rd – Ms Bhavani, Staff Nurse, Paediatric Emergency Services

#### Winners of the Slogan Competition:

1st – Ms Gayathri. V, B.Sc. Tutor, College of Nursing

2nd – Ms Jemimah Evangeline Steffi. V, Staff Nurse, A4 Ward

3rd – Mr Dinesh. T, Staff Nurse, K Ward.



## Symposium: Social Responsibility and Health

In commemoration of World Bioethics Day 2025, the Department of Bioethics conducted a symposium on the theme "Social responsibility and Health", held on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025, in the CMC Bagayam campus. The speakers and topics were carefully selected to give the participants a comprehensive and wide idea of the role of social responsibility in different aspects of health and health care.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Vinod Abraham, Vice Principal (UG). He spoke on the importance of having dialogues in bioethics within the institution and congratulated the department on conducting this symposium. The symposium started with a prayer and blessing by Rev. Deepak Gnanaprakash. The keynote address set the tone for the workshop and was excellent in its content and delivery by Dr. Vinod Shah, who drew from his vast experience in the mission field and work in many parts of rural India. Following this, Dr. Anand Zachariah, Dr. Anuradha Rose, Dr. Thomas Ram, Dr. A.T. Prabhakar, Dr. Reena George, and Rev. Fr. Vinodh Amala delivered informative and thought-provoking talks on different aspects of the theme. Apart from the discussion during the individual talks, a panel discussion at the end highlighted the importance of social responsibility and its varied dimensions and implications. A total of 100 participants attended the symposium in person, and 25 attended online.



## **CME on Chronic Kidney Disease**

The Department of Nephrology and Department of Continuing Medical Education organised a CME on Chronic Kidney Disease on 18th October, 2025. The programme was moderated by Dr. Anamika Das, Asst. Professor, Department of Nephrology. The speakers, Dr. S.M. Assad, Dr. Akshaya J., and Dr. Phaneesh Bharadwaj, from the Dept. of Nephrology, and Dr. Chikala Rajesh, Consultant, KIMS-Sunshine Hospital, Hyderabad, discussed the prevalence of CKD in India, slowing CKD progression, mineral and bone disorder correlation and optimising anaemia management. The programme was attended by over 110 participants from 16 states and several CMC departments. The CME Department thanks Dr. Anamika Das, Dr. Vinoi George David, Professor and Head, Department of Nephrology, all the faculty and the Telemedicine Department for making the CME possible.

## Special Prayers: November 02 - 08, 2025

Rural Unit for Health and

Social Affairs (RUHSA): Dr. Biswajit Paul and Staff

**Plastic Surgery:** Dr. Ashish Kumar Gupta and Staff Mrs. Sasikala Umesh and Staff

International Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention Council Members: Dr. Spurgeon Rachaprolu

Dr. Philip Thomas

Hospital: Bangalore Baptist Hospital Society.



## **Laurels & Recognitions**

• **Dr. John Jose Erungaren,** Professor & Head, Cardiology Unit-II was awarded Best Clinical Case Award (third place) for, 'Coronary-cusp balloon-assisted laceration and transcatheter aortic valve implantation', at the AICT- Asia PCR which took place in Singapore from 23<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.

#### **Obituaries**

- Mr. V. Devaraj, father of Ms. Deepa, Staff Nurse in CBOR on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2025. Let us uphold his daughter-in-law Mrs. Sheeba, Staff Nurse in Accident and Emergency, son-in-law Mr. D. Aldrin Joel, Staff Nurse in Main OR and all the bereaved family members in our prayers.
- Mr. V.J. Thangaraj, Retd. Sr. Asst. Engineer & former In-charge, Equipment Maintenance Department (now MED), father of Mr. T. Ramesh, St. Gr. Asst. Engineer, Mech. Engg. Department, CMC Town campus and Mrs. T. Latha, Sr. Lab Technician, CMC, passed away on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2025. Let us uphold all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

## **Upcoming Events**

Medical Super Specialty and Fellowship Graduation: November 3rd, 2025.

Chief Guest for the Graduation: Padma Shri Dr. Nikhil Tandon

Professor and Head

Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

Medical Super Specialty and Fellowship Postgraduate Graduation Programme on 3rd November 2025 begins with the taking of official group photographs of the Faculty, Super Specialty and Fellowship Graduates of 2025 between 4.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. in the New Examination Hall. Buses have been arranged for the Super Specialty and Fellowship Graduates and Faculty to leave the hospital campus at 2.45 p.m.

The Graduation procession will commence sharp at 5.00 p.m. and all guests are expected to be seated inside the Scudder Auditorium. All are requested to strictly adhere to the time stated above.

Venue for the Graduation Day Dinner

1. Medical Super Specialty and Fellowship Graduates & their guests }

2. Ph.D. Graduates and their guests

Scudder Hall, College Campus.

Medical Undergraduate Graduation: November 10th, 2025.

Chief Guest for the Graduation : Prof. Govindan Rangarajan

Director

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.

Graduation Programme on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 begins with official group photographs of the Faculty and Graduates of 2025 at 4.00 p.m. in the **Ground Floor, New Examination Building.** Buses have been arranged for the graduates and faculty to leave the hospital campus at 2.00 p.m., 2.15 p.m. & 2.30 p.m.

The Graduation procession will commence at 5.00 p.m. and all guests are expected to be seated inside the Scudder Auditorium by then. All are requested to strictly adhere to the time stated above.

Venue for the Graduation Day Dinner - Scudder Hall / New Examination Building, College Campus.

#### **Notification**

#### **Institutional Support For Super Specialty Courses 2025**

We would like to invite requests from eligible faculty for institutional support for Super Specialty courses.

The categories of staff eligible for institutional support are:

- Confirmed faculty
- Candidates eligible for confirmation (worked in the institution as faculty for 3 years)
- Candidates completed the broad specialty obligations in CMC and not confirmed but continuing to work in CMC.
- Candidates completed the broad specialty obligations outside CMC but wishing to be supported by CMC for higher education, after acceptance by the department.
- Candidates without a PG obligation and have completed a UG obligation and wishing to be supported by CMC for higher education.
- Candidates eligible for sponsorship (worked two years in the mission network or in CMC, but not towards a MCI or University recognized degree or fellowship).

Note: For candidates who are fulfilling service obligation for broad specialty courses in the Institution, the following criteria apply:

Candidates fulfilling broad specialty service obligation in the institution may be allowed to apply and join for super specialty courses after 2 years of obligation with re-sponsorship after permission from the broad specialty department and acceptance by the super specialty department for which the candidate is being sponsored. This applies only for super specialty admissions to CMC and NOT for institutions outside CMC\*.

Under special circumstances, to meet institutional needs, the candidate may be re-sponsored for super specialty course prior to the two-year period (at least one year in the broad specialty is desirable) PROVIDED permission is obtained from the broad specialty where the candidate is doing the obligation AND the super specialty department to which the candidate is seeking admission AND administrative approval PRIOR to applying for NEET. This applies only for super specialty admissions to CMC and NOT for institutions outside CMC\*.

\* In exceptional circumstances for institutional need (particularly if course not in CMC), training in other institutions may be considered (during obligation) ONLY with PRIOR approval from admin and broad /super specialties).

#### **Under the Mission network:**

If mission (sponsorship bodies) permits re-sponsorship, candidate can be re-sponsored by the same mission for the super specialty course; permission letter should be obtained from the mission organization and approved by the Administration.

Candidates will be sponsored for one course only at a time

#### **Eligible institutions:**

- Candidates should carefully select the institution for training. The eligible institutions would be reviewed by the institution every year prior to sponsorship.
- Christian Medical College, Vellore
- MCI recognised central and state government colleges who have no service obligation
- Christian Medical College, Ludhiana
- Other Christian Institution with prior approval from Administration.

#### **Privileges:**

- Institutional support entitles salary and housing privileges.
- Those candidates enrolled for courses outside CMC would be eligible for annual tuition fee support to a maximum of 5 lakhs per year from the department special fund.
- Confirmed faculty and faculty eligible for confirmation would get salary support as is the practice in the institution when they pursue courses outside the institution.

#### **Service Obligation:**

The service obligation for the institutional privileges offered would be one year for each year of the course, with cumulative addition of any pending service obligation

Last date for sending the request to <u>dir.hr@cmcvellore.ac.in</u> through HOD (both broad specialty and super specialty) is 15/12/2025.

## **Situations Vacant**

# Click the following link to view the vacancies <a href="https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx">https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx</a>

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

#### 1. Associate Professor (NM) for the Department of Bioengineering

**Qualification:** Ph.D. in Bioengineering.

Expertise in Biomedical Signal and Image Processing, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Healthcare, Personalized Medicine, Computational Medicine, or Causal Inference. Other areas will not be considered.

At least 10 years of post-doctoral experience in academia or the industry.

Age Requirement: Below 45 years.

#### **Job Description:**

The Department of Bioengineering at CMC Vellore is seeking candidates with strong expertise in computational techniques including modern signal and image processing, AI / ML, and causal inference o tackle healthcare problems at scale.

The ideal candidate will be a motivated and visionary academic with a strong track record of high-impact research, teaching excellence, and collaborative spirit. Preference will be given to candidates showing evidence of translational potential and societal impact in healthcare.

**Salary:** As per institutional Rules. **Accommodation:** Not Provided.

Applications to be done only through an online application system.

Please log on to <a href="https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx">https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx</a>

Hard Copies and Emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by November 15, 2025.

#### 2. Project Scientist II (NM) for the Department of Community Health – Chittoor Campus

*Job Code* : 1625

**Qualification:** PhD in a relevant health science discipline (Public Health / Social Work / Health Systems / Health management) or 1st Class PG Degree (MSW / MPH (Public Health Management / Health Systems / Med Soc) + 3 years' Experience.

**Experience :** 2-3 years.

External Salary: Consolidated Salary Rs.73,030/- (With HRA).

Age Limit: 35 Years.

**Job Description:** To Coordinate project activities at public health facilities in Chittoor District. This ICMR project aims to improve the service delivery and care for persons with NCDs in the public health system. The role will involve liasoning with teams in public health delivery system. The project coordinators will also need to supervise a team of filed staff that will do data collection and motivate teams for implementation at the health facilities.

**Job Condition:** Implementation Research Project in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh.

**Job Preference:** Those with fluency in Telugu will be given preferences. Experience in managing research projects, research methods, qualitative research, health systems and familiarity with the government public health delivery system is desirable.

**Mode of Appointment :** Project Mode. **Accommodation :** Not Provided.

Applications to be done only through an online application system.

Please log on to https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx

Hard Copies and Emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by November 07, 2025

#### Vacancies under the office of Medical Superintendent-for queries contact the mentioned office

#### 3. Staff III Critical Care Therapist for the Department of Cardiology (CMC Vellore, Ranipet Campus)

**Qualification :** B.Sc., Critical Care Technology (B.Sc., with One year Internship) from any recognized University and those who have completed 4 years of experience as Jr. Critical Care Therapist or equivalent only need to apply.

**Salary Scale :** Rs.12762 - 510 – 25512 + DA & HRA as per rules.

**Age Limit:** 35 years.

Note: Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

Applications to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to <a href="https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx">https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx</a>

Note: Only online applications will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted.

Applications will close on November 10, 2025.

#### 4. Jr. Dental Hygienist (Term Appointment) for the Department of Dentistry

**Qualifications :** H.Sc. + Pass in Dental Hygienist Course (2 years course) with State Dental Council registration (should be eligible for Tamil Nadu State Dental Council Registration).

Age Limit: 30 years.

Consolidated Pay: Rs.23,680/-

Note: Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

**Job Description :** Chairside Assisting, Scaling etc.,

Applications to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to <a href="https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx">https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx</a>

Note: Only online applications will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted.

Applications will close on November 17, 2025.

# 5. Jr. Emergency Care Technician (Term Appointment) for the Department of Emergency Medicine Overlification P. So. (Accident & Emergency Care Technician Course)

**Qualification :** B.Sc., (Accident & Emergency Care Technician Course).

Note: Only Recognized University / Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

Consolidated Pay: Rs.28,400/- Age Limit: 30 years.

Applications to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to <a href="https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx">https://clin.cmcvellore.ac.in/cmcapp/listapplication.aspx</a>

Note: Only online applications will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted.

Applications will close on November 17, 2025.