



## **Post Conference Report**

### **Summary:**

The IV World Congress on Gerontology & Geriatrics -2016, International Conference on Healthy Ageing in Changing World is an initiative of BioGenesis Health Cluster (Not for Profit) registered under Section 25 of Company's Act 1956 and Indo-British Geriatrics Council. The conference is supported by ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research), Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Dept. of Pharmaceuticals, DBT (Department of Biotechnology), IAGG (International Association of Geriatrics & Gerontology), Department of Ayush, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, British Geriatrics Society, Bank of India, UKTI (United Kingdom Trade & Investment Group), Healthcare UK, UK Science & Innovation, Bank of India & AIIMS Bhubaneswar (All India Institute of Medical Sciences)

The conference was scheduled from 23rd - 25th of November 2016 at J.N.TATA Auditorium, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. The conference was supported by more than 40 countries and has hosted more than 140 speakers from various parts of the world.

The IV World Congress on Geriatrics and Gerontology has addressed key issues to help inform its policy recommendations to government. In the last 3 years the conference has become a national voice of India's emerging scientists and clinicians addressing critical issues including care models for elderly, education and training in geriatric medicine, Geriatrics as an emerging career opportunity for paramedics and physicians, funding for research to develop various technologies to support elderly population. Working together with other national organizations, BioGenesis Health Cluster was successful in popularizing the subject in India through education and training. The conference aims to positively contribute to India's health and economy, and the future careers of our emerging scientific experts. Importantly, the conference provided a vital connection between world's most eminent scientists and tomorrow's future scientific leaders.

### **General Information:**

The Conference was adorned with the presence of Honorable Governor of Karnataka, His Excellency Shri. Vajubhai Rudha Bhai Vala, who was the Chief Guest for the conference.

Dr.V.P.Rao, Convener, IV World Congress on Geriatrics and Gerontology welcomed His Excellency, the delegates and faculty to the IV World Congress on Geriatrics and Gerontology.

Shri. Dinesh Gundu Rao, Honorable Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Govt. Of Karnataka, Mr. Ian Felton, British Deputy High Commissioner, Bengaluru, Prof. Heung Bong Cha, International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology, Korea and Dr. Amit Arora, British Geriatrics Society, UK was accompanying the Honorable Governor of Karnataka.

Addressing the gathering of more than 2000 delegates and 200 expert speakers, His Excellency Shri. Vajubhai Rudha Bhai Vala has emphasized the importance of elders in the society and the respect that one has to show towards, them. His Excellency was also stressing upon Yoga, physical activity and healthy food, which plays an important role in ageing. Additionally, His Excellency was also sharing his ideas about creating specialized health facilities in the State of Karnataka for senior citizens.

The organizers of the IV World Congress on Geriatrics and Gerontology-2016 have taken the privilege to felicitate leaders in the healthcare industry by the His Excellency Honorable Governor of Karnataka. Padma Shri. Dr. C.N.Manjunath, Director, Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research, Padma Shri. K.S.Gopianth, Founder member of Bangalore Institute of Oncology, Dr. Vivek Jawali of Fortis Hospitals, Dr. Raajiv Singhal, group CEO of Sakra Hospitals, , Dr. Radha S Murthy, Owner, Nightingales Home Health Services, Dr. Giridhar Gyani, of AHPI, Dr. Mohini Giri, of Guild of Service, Dr. B.S. Bajaj, of FABA are some of the eminent people to be felicitated by Honorable Governor of Karnataka.

Professor Heung Bong Cha, President of International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology presented his work on the “Global population of ageing”. Ms. Claire Keatinge, Commissioner for Older People, Northern Ireland presented her work on “Role and work of the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland”, Dr. Satish Rudrappa, of Sakra World Hospital presented his work on “Reversible Brain and Spine Problems in Elderly”. Dr. Vivek Jawali, of Fortis hospitals presented his work on “CABG in the geriatric patients”. Dr. C.N. Manjunath, of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research presented his work on “Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly”,

“The present Government must adopt measures for safety and security of the elderly”

-Hon’ble Minister  
Shri. Dinesh Gundu  
Rao

“What impressed me most was being able to learn about a wide range of topics at one venue, the engaging nature of all the presenters, the common thread of wanting to better serve the individuals we work with.”

-James.L.Fozzard, Ageing-Studies, University of South Florida,



participants to think about industry collaborations, Industry Linkages, Technology for the elderly, Developing India as a geriatric friendly nation, and Thinking Innovatively.

The main learning objectives for conference delegates were the following:

- To promote best practices in Geriatrics and Geriatric care for individuals
- Recognize the multifactorial determinants of Mental Health of the aged population
- Recognize the role of traumatic experiences in Geriatrics
- Maximize health and wellbeing in order to minimize disability and improve quality of life
- Role and benefits of alternative medicine in Geriatrics
- Share knowledge and common experiences with others working in the field.

Other highly-rated presentations include, but are not limited to the following:

- Dr. Victor J. Thannickal, M.D., University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA.  
Title: Aging and the Susceptibility to Lung Disease
- Prof. Suresh Rattan, Ph.D, DSc, Aarhus University, DENMARK.  
Title: Healthy Ageing; But what is health and how to maintain it?
- Dr. Margaret Joy Dauncey, Ph.D, ScD, FSB, University of Cambridge, UK.  
Title: Nutrition and Epigenomics: A Life - Long Approach to Healthy Cognitive Ageing
- Prof. James L. Fozard, Ph.D, University of South Florida, USA.  
Title: Using advances in technology to create a healthier aging society
- Dr. Arun Garg, Ph.D, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA.  
Title: Designing, Evaluating and Integrating Technology for Independent Living: Integrating Research and Practice
- Dr. Timothy Henwood, Ph.D., University of Queensland, AUSTRALIA.  
Title: Prevalence, Risk Factors and Evidence of Reversing Sarcopenia in Residential Aged Care
- Dr. Ranieri Alberto Leocata, M.D., Santo Stefano Rehabilitation Hospital, Italy  
Title: Stroke Rehabilitation in Older Persons
- Prof. Helen R. Griffiths, Ph.D, Aston University, UK  
Title: The Importance of Nutrition for Healthy Ageing
- Dr. Efraim Jaul, M.D., MPH, Herzog memorial Hospital, Israel  
Title: Pressure Ulcers in Patients with Advance Dementia



- Dr. Hayato Uchida, Ph.D, University of Hyogo, Japan  
Title: The environmental learning program for the children in a child welfare institution offered by the senior volunteers and its influence on children's images of the elderly
- Dr. Makoto Goto, M.D., Ph.D, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Japan  
Multiple cytokine/chemokine analysis of aging-associated inflammation in healthy Japanese individuals
- Dr. Anupama Gangavathi, M.D., Appolo Hospitals, India  
Title: Delirium in Elderly
- Dr. Anand P. Ambali, M.D., BLDEUs Sri B M Patil Medical College, India  
Title: Osteoporosis-Management, Newer Drugs and Prevention
- Dr. Anil Sanghli, MBBS, DNB, Columbia Asia Hospitals, India  
Title: Complementary Form of Management in Neurogeriatric Patients
- Dr. C. N. Manjunath, M.B.B.S, M.D., Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research, India  
Title: Cardiovascular Disease in Elderly
- Dr. Dominic Benjamin, FRCP(Edin), MRCP (UK), Bangalore Baptist Hospital, India  
Title: Diabetes in Older People
- Lt. Gen. Dr. D. Raghunath, PVSM, AVSM, Rajiv Gandhi University of health sciences, India  
Title: Immunizations in the Elderly

Overall, The IV world congress has set an educative platform in the field of Geriatrics and Gerontology with 6 hrs of CME (Continuous Medical Education) providing educational and informative updates on psychiatric, behavioral and complex health components specific to individuals and showcase best practices in the field. Specifically, the conference focused on approaches to complex clinical problems in elderly, contributing medical issues and new developments in medication and treatment. In addition, the conference addressed important physical and mental health issues and reviewed common genetic syndromes. It engaged health care providers and educators from a wide range of professional disciplines in knowledge transfer and interprofessional collaboration in order to maximize health and wellbeing so as to minimize health issues and improve quality of life. The format included plenary sessions, breakout sessions and close to 150 poster & 200 oral sessions.

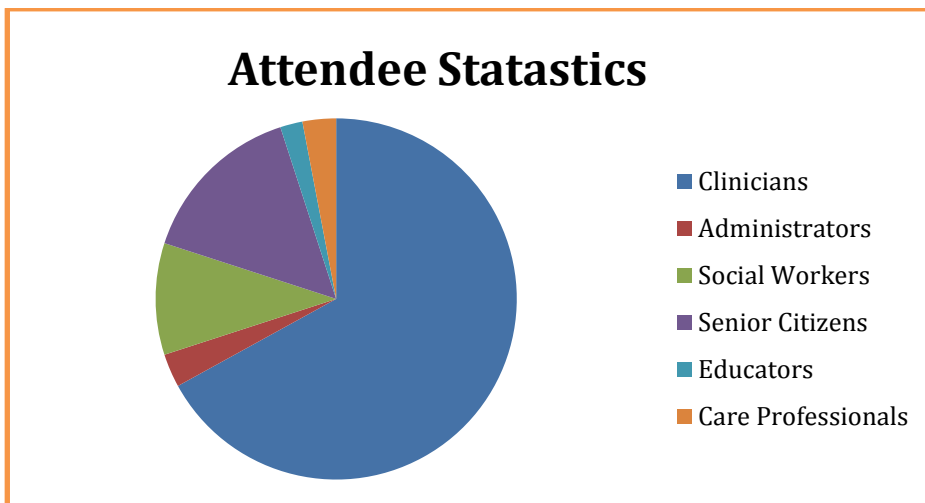
A special mention should be made regarding the first Round-Table meeting of the Indo-British Geriatrics Council evening session titled ,”Aging in India and Assisted living technologies”, which took place on Thursday, November 24. Mr. Ian Felton, British Deputy High Commissioner, Bengaluru addressed the gathering, followed by Dr. Anoop Amarnath, Director, Geriatric Medicine, Apollo Hospitals discussed a model for

Understanding Geriatric care using few case examples. Dr. Dominic Benjamin, from Baptist hospital informed that there is a great need for a comprehensive multidisciplinary assisted living facility for the public, which could help in improving the health of the elderly population, resulting in more preventive and effective care strategies. Speaking on the importance of assisted living, Prof. Mark Hawley from Sheffield University emphasized on assisted living technologies which could help in providing better health services to the elderly. Over 100 leaders from various disciplines of healthcare and research have attended this session.

The Conference ended on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 2016 with the valedictory speech of the Honorable Health Minister of the State of Karnataka Shri. U.T. Khader. Honorable Minister of State during his speech has said that the Government of Karnataka, will take the references and suggestions from all the eminent speakers who have attended the meeting to make a strong recommendations to the Government of Karnataka for making Geriatric Medicine a part of the all the primary, secondary and tertiary care centers across the state. Honorable Minister has also emphasized the need of Geriatric training centers and increasing the number of seats available for M.D. Geriatric Medicine in the State of Karnataka.

**Attendee Statistics:**

The conference was well-attended with 2000 individuals attending The main conference. The majority of participants (60%) were clinicians. Please refer to the chart in the bottom for a breakdown of attendees by category. We also welcomed international delegates from China, New Zealand, Poland, U.S.A, Australia, Korea and more than 40 countries all across the world. The conference was highly inter-professional in nature with more than 14 professions represented. Major professional groups included: Administrators/Managers, Social Workers, Registered Nurses, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Educators, Occupational Therapists, Physicians, Behavioral Therapists, Family Members, Geriatricians, Direct Service Professionals, Counselors, Researchers, and Case Managers/Planners.



**“The most valuable part of the conference was meeting professionals from other areas and discussing common challenges, information and discussion stemming from speakers/presentations.”**

### **Participants Feedback:**

We are pleased to report that the overall rating of the program was highly positive based on the responses provided by our participants in the evaluation questionnaires. This year's agenda offered a wide variety of topics. It was clear from participants' feedback that the lectures they attended enabled them to extract new ideas and innovative approaches in order to facilitate the health and wellbeing of elderly. Participants often reported that the conference inspired them to collaborate and partner with other programs in the community. Many attendees voiced their appreciation for shared knowledge, skills and resources that can be taken back to their workplace or community and applied in practice. Delegates were engaged with an array of sessions.

"I was impressed by how many disciplines and organizations were represented at this conference. Interdisciplinary collaboration needs to happen between systems, not just within them, and this conference was a great way to form connections and awareness. I also appreciated that families were included. They have the most powerful voice that speaks to the needs of people with developmental disabilities."

### **Media Coverage:**

The minutes of the conference were telecasted by Doordarshan News, Doordarshan, Prajavani, who were the Media Partners for the conference. The conference was also mentioned on All India Radio who were the Radio Partners for the conference. The conference drew considerable media attention, including NDTV, News 9, TV9, Public TV, CNN IBN emphasizing the importance and relevance of the conference themes to the public. Most conspicuously, more than 15 articles were published in various leading news papers and media on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 highlighting the conference.

### **Acknowledgments:**

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this event, especially the dedication and hard work of the conference planning committee. We would also like to thank Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research), DBT (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology), Great Britain, and other institutions and organizations for their generous financial contributions. Without the work and support of the conference committee, sponsors, speakers and the public engagement, this conference would not have been possible. We would also like to extend our thankfulness to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the offices of Indian Embassies across borders for providing timely visa support to our international delegates.