



AVTAR News Letter

AVT Institute for Advanced Research

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MoU with Dr. SD-ACARTS, BYL Nair Ch. Hospital, Mumbai



The Ayurvedic Trust, Coimbatore with its Advanced Research Institute (AVTAR) has entered into a MoU with Dr. Sharadini Dahanukar Advanced Centre for Ayurveda Research, Training & Services, BYL Nair Ch. Hospital, Mumbai (Dr. SD-ACARTS).

The MoU would lead to joint research programs in Ayurveda and herbal products including studies on the mode of action of Ayurvedic Medicines, efficacy, safety profiles and other closely related aspects. The agreement would foster attempt on studies on correlation of ‘Prakriti’ and human genomics between the institutes. Formulation of Ayurvedic medicines and design of appropriate tools and instruments for application in

Ayurvedic industry is also an agenda of the MoU. The centers jointly would submit joint research proposals to proper funding agencies like AYUSH, DST, DBT, etc.

Two sides have also decided to organize conferences / symposiums / seminars and conduct training programs / workshops / courses in Ayurveda and Biotechnology. The understanding that would lead to more advanced researches was inked by the P.R. Krishna Kumar, Managing Trustee and the current Head of the Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Dr. Renuka Munshi, Associate Professor & In-charge, on either side respectively, early this December.

AVTAR Advisory Board Constituted

AVTAR Advisory Board has been constituted with eminent scientists and policy makers from field of Indian Medicine and Modern Biology. The panel would guide the activities of the institute in its research and related programs. The advisory board includes Emeritus professor R.H. Singh, a veteran academician and former Vice-Chancellor of Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Amb. Swashpawan Singh, permanent representative of India in WHO, Dr. D.B.A. Narayanan, Head of Herbals Research in Hindustan Lever Research Center, Dr. Urmila Thatte, a renowned pharmacologist, Dr. Nandini Kumar, an epidemiologist of national repute, Dr. M.R. Vasudevan Napoothiri, Director at Directorate of Ayurveda, Government of Kerala and Dr. M.U.R. Naidu, a veteran in clinical researcher at Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences.

The international panel includes Dr. Madan Thangavelu, Molecular Biologist at Medical Research Council, Cambridge University, Dr. Christian Kessler from Berlin, Germany and Dr. Antonio Morandi from the Ayurvedic Point, Italy.

The Research Advisory Board would be the expert consultants of the key research programs at AVTAR. The board would be expanded in the due course.



DHARA has Indexed about 50,000 citations



DHARA (Digital Helpline for Ayurveda Research Articles) is the first comprehensive online indexing service for research articles published in the field of Ayurveda has now indexed about 50,000 citation making it worlds largest database on research related to traditional medicine. The first phase of the DHARA project was funded by Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India from August 2010 to July 2011, which was executed by AVTAR successfully. DHARA database has facilities for 1. Wild Keyword Search Option, 2. Advanced Search with Boolean Operators, 3. Search Field Tags, 4. Limiting Search with Controlled Vocabulary, 5. Journals Area for listing journals by keyword search or in alphabetical order to access basic information on journals, 6. Authors area for listing authors by keyword search or in alphabetical order to search articles by author names, 7. Building URLs that can be stored for future use, 8. Options for sorting search results and 9. Exporting the search results as text file.

A detailed information on how to use this database and its functionalities is available at

<http://dharaonline.org/Forms/Quickstartnew.aspx>

INSA Meeting, Bangalore – 14, 15 October 2011

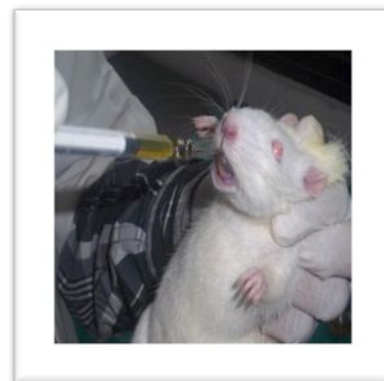
Dr. P. Ram Manohar attended the meetings of the National Commission for History of Science and the Editorial Board of the Indian Journal for History of Science organized by Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru on 14 and 15 of October 2011. He also attended a one-day seminar on “The History of Science and Technology in 20th Century India” organized by Indian National Science Academy and the Centre for Contemporary Studies, IISc, Bengaluru. During this seminar, the eminent National Research Professor Dr. M.S. Valiathan, Manipal University, Karnataka spoke on the topic “Clinical Medicine



CDB Project, Animal Study Concluded

The animal studies on the different forms of coconut oil blended with Ayurvedic herbs has been successfully completed. All the varieties of the blends of coconut oil exhibited curative and preventive activity compared with animal study on hyperlipidemia induced wistar rats.

The oil blends of herbs produced with traditional copra processed coconut oil mixed with coconut milk showed significant HDL increasing property. All blends of oil were able to lower the Total Cholesterol and Low Density Lipoprotein. The formulation is found viable enough to proceed for further stringent scientific explorations to become a potent lipolytic and atherosclerosis protective medication for obese.



The animal study was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Sudhir Rajurkar at the Animal House facility of Department of Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University, Parbhani.

National Seminar, Kottakkal, 16 October 2011

A one-day national seminar on the theme 'Ayurveda in 21st Century' organised by Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala was held at Tagore Centenary Hall, Kozhikode on October 16, 2011. The seminar is part of various academic events being held to celebrate the 90th birthday of Dr. P. K. Warriar, Managing Trustee and Chief Physician, Arya Vaidya Sala, whose contribution to development of ayurveda is widely recognized. The seminar showcased recent trends in ayurvedic development and provided a platform for ayurvedic professionals and students to interact with subject experts. Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Union Government inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Ashok B Vaidya, Research Director, Kasturba Health Society, Mumbai presided. Dr. M S Valyathan, National Research Professor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal delivered the 'Navati oration'. This was followed by presentations on topics including multi disciplinary approaches in ayurvedic research-the cases of Rasayana and Prakriti studies' by Dr. K Satyamoorthy, Professor and Director, Manipal Life Sciences Centre, Manipal University and 'clinical research in ayurveda-the scope and challenges' by Dr. P Ram Manohar, Director of Research, the Ayurvedic Trust, Coimbatore. Dr. Ramesh Babu Devalla, Director General of CCRAS, Govt. of India delivered a talk on Research in Ayurveda.

Saadhana 2009, Nangeliil, 28 October, 2011

PACTO (Private Ayurveda College Teachers Organization) in association with Nangeliil Ayurveda Medical College conducted a National Seminar on Clinical Aspects called Saadhanaa 2011 at the college campus in Kothamangalam, Kerala on 28, 29 and 30 of October, 2011. Dr. Muralidhar Sharma, Dr. L. Mahadevan, Dr. Gopakumar, Dr. G. Vinod Kumar, Dr. Prakash Mangalasseri and Dr. K.S. Dinesh were amongst the experts who delivered talks during the seminar. Dr. P. Ram Manohar, Director of Research, AVTAR delivered a talk on “Good to Great: Empowering Clinical Practice in Ayurveda”.

Hepatic Disorders, Pandalam, 9 November 2011

Mannam Ayurveda College, Pandalam organized a one day State Level Seminar on Hepatic Disorders at the College Campus on 9th November 2011. Dr. S. Gopakumar, Dr. Murali Raghavan, Dr. Latha and Dr. TG Vinod Kumar delivered lectures. Dr. P. Ram Manohar delivered an invited lecture on “Hepatic Disorders: The Ayurvedic Perspective”.

Talks on Doshadhatumala and Hepatic Disorders, SNA, Thrissur, 24 November 2011

Dr. P. Ram Manohar delivered two invited lectures at SNA Aushadhashala, Thrissur in connection with the visit of the students of Ayurvedic Point, Milan, Italy on 24th November 2011. He gave talks on “Doshadhatumala Siddhanta – The cornerstone of the Ayurvedic Thought Process” and “Hepatic disorders and their Ayurvedic management”.

French Film Crew – Interview 13 December 2011

The cultural and educational channel ARTE France is producing a 90 minutes feature documentary entitled Indian **Summer**, to be broadcast on ARTE network in the summer 2012. The Director of the documentary Mr. Simon Brook and his assistant Ms. Marie visited the Ayurvedic Trust for the shooting schedules from 5th to 18th of December, 2011. “*Indian Summer is an entertaining road movie through South India, between Coimbatore and Palakkad aimed at discovering Ayurvedic medicine: a five thousand years old traditional medicine which may represent today new hope in the fight against the endemic pathologies of the 21st Century, and against cancer in particular. The film will follow the journey of a surprising and unusual couple; a world famous French oncologist, Dr. Thomas Tursz who has the desire to discover other medical approaches and to question his own knowledge; and one of his former patients, Mrs. Nella Banfi, who chose traditional Indian medicine instead of following her recommended treatment, and who joins Dr. Thomas Tursz in retracing her personal path against cancer that had a happy ending*”. The team interviewed the physicians, experts and patients at the Ayurvedic Trust, including AVTAR to be included in the documentary.

Ashtanga Hridaya Satram, Pala, 29 October 2011

Vagbhata Sarani organized the 5th Ashtanga Hridaya Satram at Pala from 23rd to 30th of October 2011. About 40 students participated. Chanting of the original texts under the guidance of eminent teachers was one of the main features of this event. Dr. P. Ram Manohar delivered a lecture on “Personality Development from the Ayurvedic Perspective” on 29th October 2011.

Bappa Ray Video Interview 21,22 November 2011

Bappa Ray and his team visited the Ayurvedic Trust, Coimbatore for an extended interview with Dr. P. Ram Manohar for the documentary titled “Journey of Ayurveda” being filmed under the auspices of the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India. The team spent two days in Coimbatore on 21st and 22nd of October 2011.

Consultative Meeting with Antonella De Fave, IAIM, Bangalore, 15 November 2011

Dr. P. Ram Manohar was one of the resource persons during the consultative meeting on evaluation of effectiveness of Ayurveda intervention on Spastic conditions and Cognitive deficits in childhood and adolescence. The other resource persons for the meeting were Dr. Antonella De Fave, Dr. G.G. Gangadharan, Dr. Vivek Sankar, Dr. M.U.R. Naidu and Dr. M.R. Vasudevan Nampoothiri. Faculty of the Centre for Clinical Research, I-AIM also actively participated in the deliberations.

ATRI Consultative Meet – 18 December 2011



The ATRI Brainstorming Meet was held on 18th December 2011 at the Seminar Hall of the Ayurvedic Trust Coimbatore. Sri. P. R. Krishna Kumar,

Amb. Swashpawan Singh, Dr. G.G. Gangadharan, Dr. T.S. Krishna Kumar, Dr. Ramesh R. Varier, Dr. Gourisankar, Dr. P.M.S. Raveendranath, Dr. P. Ram Manohar, Dr. T.G. Vinod Kumar and Dr. A.R. Prasad participated in the meeting. The key issues and challenges in the field of Ayurvedic education were discussed and it was decided that a working document elucidating the action plan for the future would be drafted by the members in the next three to four weeks.



CBSE Consultative Meet – 20,21 December 2011

Dr. P. Ram Manohar attended the meeting of the Advisory Committee to introduce a new course "Intellectual Traditions of India" in the CBSE Curriculum at the CBSE office, Shiksha Sadan, New Delhi on 20th

December 2011. The Committee was led by Prof. Kapil Kapoor, Former Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University. Prof. Jagbir Singh. Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Michel Danino, Dr. Srinivasa Murthy. Prof. A.K. Singh were the other members. The committee met and drafted a summary proposal to be submitted to the Curriculum Committee of the CBSE. On 21st December 2011, the proposal for the elective course was presented before the Curriculum Committee at CBSE Office, Preet Vihar, New Delhi. The proposal was unanimously accepted with a resounding applause. The name of the course has been suggested as "Knowledge Traditions and Practices of India". The two year course modules will give the students a wide range of exposure in traditional knowledge that includes social ethics, grammar, philosophy, poetry, science, medicine, management and the like.

Dr. P. Ram Manohar, Director of Research, AVTAR

1. INSA Meeting at Bangalore on 14th & 15th October 2011
2. National Seminar at Kottakkal on 16th October 2011
3. National Seminar on Clinical Aspects Saadhana 2009, Nangelil, on 28th October, 2011
4. A lecture on "Personality Development from the Ayurvedic Perspective" on 29th October 2011 at Pala.
5. State Level Seminar on Hepatic Disorders, Pandalam on 9th November 2011
6. Talks on Doshadhatumala and Hepatic Disorders, SNA, Thrissur on 24th November 2011
7. Consultative Meeting with Antonella De Fave, IAIM, Bangalore on 15th November 2011
8. ATRI Consultative Meet on 18th December 2011
9. CBSE Consultative Meeting at New Delhi on 20th & 21st December 2011
10. Talk at SVYASA, Bangalore on 23rd December 2011.

Dr. Anita Mahapatra, Asst. Chief Research Officer, & Mr. Sujith Subash, Senior Research Officer, AVTAR

1. Attended Training on drug standardization meeting on 1st November 2011 at CCRAS Headquarters, New Delhi
2. Attended a hands on Training - Standard Operative Procedures at PLIM, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh on 2nd November 2011.

Ayussutram 2012 Announced

Call for selection to participate in Ayussutram a seven-day training on core concepts of Ayurveda which could be conducted at Ayurvedic Trust from 4th March 2012 has been announced. The selection is through an all India application process. Only Twelve students will be allowed to participate. For more details please [click here](#)

Talk at SVYASA – 23 December 2011

Dr. P. Ram Manohar gave a talk on "Evidence based Ayurveda for Global Health" during the 19th International Conference on Frontiers in Yoga Research and its Applications on 23rd December, 2011 at SVYASA Campus, Bengaluru. The theme was global health, education and peace. He also participated in the Combined Panel Discussion, which was moderated by Dr. H.R. Nagendra and attended by all the invited speakers for the day.

ASL Published

Ancient Science of Life, has released the Issue Number: 3 & 4 of Vol. 30



Visitors at AVTAR

Adv. Jorphin Pettah, Director, NIBH I corporate Solutions, Kerala

Dr. Badra, NIBH I corporate Solutions, Kerala

Mrs. Padma Venkat, FRLHT, Bangalore

Mr. Vijaya Kumar, Airport Director, Coimbatore

Mr. Siman Brook, France

Ms. Marie, France

Mr. Giles Brooker, New Zealand

Mr. Vinay, California

Mr. Rambabu, New Delhi

Dr. M R Vasudevan Nampoothiri MD (Ayu), State Programme Manager, AYUSH, Kerala

Bappa Ray, Film Maker, New Delhi

Ms. Anette Colling, Germany

Ms. Gabrielle Thiemann, Germany

Amb. Swashpawan Singh, New Delhi