IBS 2022 Virtual Symposium

BBIF and NLDB, INDIA are hosting one day virtual symposium for the Indian and international biobanking community on February 22, 2022. The symposium will include interactive educational sessions, round table discussion and networking opportunities.

BBIF Awards and Honours



Prof. N.K. Ganguly BBIF PIONEER AWARD IBS 2022



Prof. S.K. Sankar BBIF PIONEER AWARD IBS 2022



Dr. Chhagan Bihari BBIF Outstanding Achievement Award IBS 2022

Meet Our Speakers



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Daniel Catchpoole has over 30 years fulltime laboratory research experience into the molecular basis of paediatric malignancies and has extensive experience with the analysis of gene expression as well as cellular and molecular applications associated with research into acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Since completing his undergraduate degree in 1987, his scientific achievements and publications have centred on paediatric malignancy, specifically acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and neuroblastoma, as well as cancer prone syndromes in children, namely Beckwith Wiedemann syndrome. He has significant expertise in the field of biobanking, is a founding member of the Australasian Biospecimens Network Association and has served as President of ISBER (2019-2022). Assoc. Prof. Catchpoole is a member of the Biobanking Accreditation Advisory Committee, National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) Australia as well as the Technical Committee HE-023 Biotechnology for Review of ISO/TC 276 Biotechnology, Standards Australia. He is a member of the BBIF International Advisory committee.



Prof. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly, M.D. is the former Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).He has received 118 Awards, including 7 International and 111 National Awards. He has been honoured with the prestigious Padma Bhushan Award by Her Excellency, the President of India on 26th January, 2008 in the field of "Medicine".He was formerly President of the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), as well as that of the Asian Institute of Public Health, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, New Delhi; former Director, PGIMER (Chandigarh); and former Director, National Institute of Biologicals (Noida). He has been General President, Indian Science Congress Association, 2004-05 and Former President, National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. He has recently been appointed as Commissioners – Lancet Commission for intervention of Aedes-transmitted viral diseases since February' 2019 and as a Member – Advisory Board, Post-Polio World – supported by Sanofi-Pasteur since 2019. Dr. GangulyFunded / established the brain biobank of NIMHANS as ICMR Chief and actively involved in the establishment of many biobanks in India. Prof. Ganguly has published more than 775 research papers and has supervised 130 Ph.D. theses as Supervisor/Co-Supervisor.



Dr. Zisis Kozlakidis is the Head of Laboratory Services and Biobanking at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC/WHO). He is responsible for one of the largest and most varied international collections of clinical samples in the world, focusing on gene– environment interactions and disease-based collections. This WHO infrastructure supports multinational efforts in making treatments possible and delivering those to resourcerestricted settings. He has significant expertise in the field of biobanking and has served as President of ISBER, and is part of the ISO/TC276- Biotechnology.



Dr. Georges Dagher, Senior investigator at Inserm accomplished most of his career in pathophysiological and clinical research at Necker Hospital (1979-1984), College de France (1985-1993) and Faculty of medicine Broussais-Hotel Dieu (1994-2004). He joined the Physiological Laboratory (Cambridge, UK) for a post doc fellowhip (1983-85) and was a special guest to Physiological laboratory (Harvard Medical School, Boston, US, 1982, 1984). Georges Dagher published 100+ papers in international peer-reviewed journals on hypertension, arterial hypertrophy, obesity and lipid metabolism, manic depression, renal physiology and transmembrane ion transport. He is an active participant in the preparatory phase of the European biobanking and biomolecular research infrastructure (BBMRI) In this infrastructure he is a leading figure of the coordination committee and leader of a Work Package on funding and financing.



Dr. Robert Hewitt holds a medical degree from St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK (1983) and a PhD in tumour virology from the Institute of Virology, University of Glasgow, UK (1989). He was first non-US president of ISBER (International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories) from 2008-2009, chairing many of their committees, and was European Editor of the journal Biopreservation and Biobanking from 2009-2015. He received ISBER's Outstanding Achievement in Biobanking Award in 2012. In 2010 Robert co-founded ESBB (the European, Middle Eastern & African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking) and served as executive officer until 2017. He is a founder of Biosample hub and at present member of BBIF International Advisory committee.



Dr. Brent Schacter is a Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine of the University of Manitoba and member of the Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology at CancerCare Manitoba. He has published 83 manuscripts and 100 abstracts and made about 60 invited presentations. From 1993 to 2003 he was President and CEO of CancerCare Manitoba. He then became CEO of the Canadian Association of Provincial Cancer Agencies (CAPCA) from 2003 until 2008. He was a member and then Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the Canadian Strategy for Cancer Control (CSCC) from 1999 to 2002 and Co-Vice Chair of the Council for the CSCC from 2004 to 2006 and chaired and served on several committees for the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC). In his roles with CAPCA and CSCC he advocated effectively for the establishment of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer with federal and provincial Ministries of Health, Health Ministers and the Prime Minister. He was the Principal Investigator on the Canadian Tumour Repository Network (CTRNet) Program Grant from CIHR-ICR, which launched the Canadian Tumour Biobank Certification Program along with Standard Operating Procedures and Required Operational Practices for Biobanks which have been widely adopted in Canada and globally. CTRNet received \$ 6.3 million in funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research-Institute of Cancer Research from 2004 to 2014 and continues to be funded by CIHR-ICR and TFRI (Terry Fox Research Institute).



Dr. Rajeev Singh, MD, MBA, is Director, Biorepository at Houston Methodist Research Institute, Houston, TX, USA. Dr. Singh is a trained pathologist, obtaining his basic medical and specialist degree in India and his MBA from USA. Dr. Singh has been a biobanker for last 15 years having worked across various positions in biobanks in Singapore and US. Dr. Singh is an active ISBER member for last 15 years and has been involved with the Biospecimen Science, Standards and Finance committees of ISBER, currently and in the past. Dr. Singh has cochaired sessions and led round table discussions on important biobanking issues in past ISBER meetings. Dr. Singh has been a part of the task force that reviewed the 4th edition of ISBER Best practices. Dr. Singh has delivered international talks on biobanking related topics and sits on the advisory panel for an Indian biobank. Dr. Singh has published/presented biobanking related articles and posters in various journals and conferences. Dr. Singh is currently driving his biorepository towards CAP accreditation and is a certified CAP Biorepository Inspector.



Dr. Jajah Fachiroh is an Associate professor at Dept of Histology and Cell Biology Fac Medicine, public health and nursing UGM (FKKMK UGM) Yogyakarta, Indonesia . She is a head of Biobank Development team and data utilization division of Sleman health and demographic surveillance survey (HDSS) FKKMK UGM. She has completed her PhD in immune virology and postdoc from WHO-IARC France. Her research work focuced on EBV, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, molecular epidemiology and biobank. Dr. Jajah is a ISBER Regional Ambassador in IPR.



Koh Furuta, MD, PhD is director of Urayasu Warakuen Clinic,Japan. He spent 15 years at National Cancer Center Hospital in Tokyo and established a biobank for liquid biosamples at NCCH. I was a chair of ISBER ISO TC276 task force and was the official liaison between ISBER and ISO TC276 (biobanking). Currently, he is working as a national expert of ISO TC212 (Clinical Laboratory) and ISO TC215SC1(Genomics informatics). Besides these, he is a member of C-NPU (Committee on Nomenclature for Properties and Units) of IFCC (International Clinical Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine) and further be involved in an official ICD-11 translation project in Japan and Member of BBIF, India, International advisory committee.



Dr. Gayatri Vishwakarma is an experienced Biostatistician having 15 years of post-PhD work experience in academics and research. Dr. Gayatri is currently working with ISIC as Head-Biostatistics. She worked as Biostatistician with Department of Research at Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute, New Delhi. She worked as Visiting Scientist at University of Texas Health Science Center, Tyler TX, USA. She started her career as Assistant Statistician in J.N. Agriculture University, Jabalpur moving on to teaching Statistics and SAS programming at Amity University, Noida. She worked as Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist in Woodward Charitable Foundation, Ethiopia. She has been involved in analyzing and reporting clinical trial data at Clinical Development Services Agency (CDSA), Faridabad. In addition, Dr. Gayatri has also been active in the statistical research community with a primary focus on sample size calculation and survival analysis. She has organized many workshops on various popular topics such as Sample Size Determination, Data analysis using SAS, Research Methodology and Good Clinical Practice. She has more than 30 research publications in peer reviewed journals. She has got PhD in Statistics from Jabalpur University and post-doctoral training at University of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is a member of the BBIF and member of the BBIF Ethical committee.



Dr. Birendra Kumar Yadav has a rich experience of 15 years in the area of biobanking, cancer, stem cell, cell biology, and hematology. He is manager of India's First Liver Biobank know as National Liver Disease Biobank (NLDB), ILBS, New Delhi, India. He has also responsibility of ILBS COVID Biorepository. Dr. Yadav has experience of establishment of two biobank in India. He is associated with ISBER as Regional Ambassador of Indo specific region and member of ISBER E& T committee, and organizing committee. ISBER recognized him with ISBER SPECIAL SERVICE award in biobanking in 2021. Dr. Birendra is member of Education and training committee at Biobank India Foundation (BBIF) for the growth of biobank science in India . He earned his doctorate in medicine at KNU, Republic of Korea and received Korean Government, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, PhD Excellent Academic Achievement Award, 2012. He has authored 34 publications so far.



Prof. Karine Sargsyan is Managing Director for International Biobanking and Education, Vice Scientific Leader and Lecturer of M.Sc. Biobanking and University Course Artificial Intelligence in Medicine at the Medical University of Graz. She is skilled in interdisciplinary research, research policy, international research, research organization-management-policy, grant management, clinical research, quality and risk management (particularly in grant driven environment) and digitization (including AI and ML) in life sciences, particularly in medicine. She provides scientific expertise and experience as a consultant/educator to several sites (ACC – ILCEC: Oncology Research Vietnam, Qatar Biobank, German Space Agency, Russian Radiology and Oncology Organisations (NMRCC), MoHs of several countries, DDZ, BBMRI-ERIC, Russian Biobanking association, etc.) and is focused in innovation, specifically in innovative technology. She is TEDx Speaker and Organizer.



A/Prof. Catherine Tay Swee Kian is an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore. She is also a barrister-at-law (of Lincoln's Inn, United Kingdom). A/Prof Tay is currently a member of the Singapore National Healthcare Group Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Domain Specific Review Board tasked to review the scientific and ethical aspects of research protocols since 2002. And she is also currently a member of the Centralized Institutional Review Board (IRB), Singapore Health Services Pte Ltd tasked to review clinical research protocols forhuman subject experimentation for over 16 years. She was formerlyan Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore (NUS), Department of Strategy and Policy, NUS Business School (1980 – 2015). She has lectured medico-legal and medical ethics to undergraduate medical & dental students at the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine.



Dr Balwir-Matharoo-Ball has a wealth of experience in academic research as well as the NHS. Bal is new Director of a Biobank in Abu Dhabi and previously was Deputy Director of the Biobank Nottingham University Hospitals NHSTrust where she managed a team of 23 scientific and biomedical staff with a wide range of biobanking, informatics and technical skills. She is a member of European, Middle Eastern and African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB) and serves as an Ambassador the promote the mission of ESBB. She served a term as councillor, President-elect, President, and past-President. Since 2016 Bal also serves as Co-Chair of the ESBB Academic and Industry working group. The goal is to bring together a forum to enable and enhance public-private biobank related partnerships within the European framework and foster biobank-based R&D and innovation within the pharmaceutical, biotech and ICT industry. Pastpositions held by Bal include Senior Post Doctoral Research Fellow for 12 years both at Nottingham Trent University and University of Nottingham. After gaining her PhD in 1994 from Keele University Bal with her husband emigrated to Oman and took up a position as Head of Biomedical Sciences for the Ministry of Health.



Shonali Paul, Chief Operating Officer, CloudLIMS.com. In a career spanning over twenty years, Shonali Paul has built a long and impressive track record of success in high technology bioinformatics workflow solutions, strategic collaborations, developing operational strategy, and directing new business initiatives from conception through execution. She has helped build the company's offshore development center and is the key driver of the development, operations, and product teams. She has been the key person responsible for corporate acquisitions. She has been extensively published in journals such as BIO, Lab Manager, Technology Networks and has given talks at conferences of ISBER, ESBB, Labroots. She has been a member of the marketing committee and the IT working group at ISBER, a global biobanking organization. She is now the chair of the Member Relations Committee at ISBER.



Anusha is the manager of Biospecimen Services located within the Lowy Cancer Centreat University of New South Wales (UNSW). She has 14years' experience as a bench scientist, and uses skills learnt and refined during this time to now enable research through the services offered by the UNSW Biospecimen Services. She has been in this role since 2010. As part of her role Anusha helps researchers set up collection protocols including help with ethics applications, manages the running of the processing lab and the biobanking database, including working with project managers, hospital staff and hospital management to establish and maintain on-going collections and distributions of biospecimens.UNSW Biospecimen Services was the first Australian biobank to have an instance of the NCI developed caTissue (now OpenSpecimen) in use. Anusha is a member of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) and an active member of the Australasian Biospecimen Network Association (ABNA) since 2010. She was elected to the ABNA management committee in 2017, has served as Vice President (2018-2019) and President (2020 – 2021). Anusha is the ABNA representative on the Australian Standards Committee HE-032, which was responsible for adopting ISO 20387 as an Australian Standard in 2019. She has been on ABNA Conference Organising Committees and the sub-committee responsible for editing the quarterly ABNA newsletter since 2018. Through professional networks in Australia she continues to offer help and advice to new biobankers and works to maintain the underlying collegiate aim of ABNA within Australasia where ever possible.

Meet Our Conference Partners

Cryce Bio System

