



SOCIETY FOR RADIATION RESEARCH (SRR)

(Registration No.: Maharashtra State, Mumbai 2280, 2014 GBBSD)

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A REPORT ON

Discussion Meeting on Current Issues and Future Challenges in Radiation Research (CIFIC-RR) at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, India on February 10, 2015

A discussion meeting on *“Current Issues and Future Challenges in Radiation Research (CIFIC-RR)”* was organized at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai on 10th February 2015 under the aegis of Society for Radiation Research (SRR). This meeting was attended by more than 100 students, faculty members, scientists and clinicians from different colleges, institutes and hospitals in India. The meeting was started with welcome note by Dr. Nagraj Huilgol, President, SRR, Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai. Dr. Huilgol presented a brief overview about the aims, need and mandates of SRR.



Dr. Nagraj Huilgol delivering his talk

After that Dr. K. P Mishra, Founder President, SRR, Ex-VC, NGBU, Allahabad, Ex-Head, RB&HSD, BARC

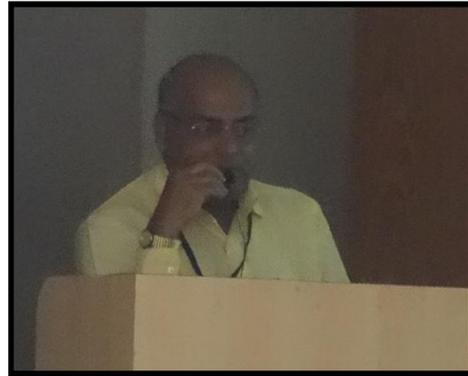


Dr. K. P. Mishra delivering his talk

inaugurated the SRR logo (designed by Shri Sudhakar Pandey, Delhi) and web page (developed with help of Ms. Amrutha Joshi, Mumbai University). The meaning of different components of SRR logo was explained. After that Dr. Mishra presented a brief note about **“Road Map of SRR and Current issues in radiation Research”**.

Dr. Mishra spoke about the challenges and questions which are still unaddressed in the exciting field of Radiation Biology and their implications. He also highlighted the gaps which need to be addressed for efficient translation of knowledge in Radiation Research for cancer diagnosis and therapy.

This was followed by a talk on “**Brief history and challenges of radiation research in India**”, by Dr. B. N. Pandey, Radiation Biology and Health Sciences Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai. Dr. Pandey gave a brief overview of the history of Radiation Research in India, highlighting the advancements made in basic and clinical research in 1960s and 1970s. Dr Pandey emphasized



Dr. B. N. Pandey delivering his talk

the glorious past of Indian radiation research and briefed about contributions of many eminent scientists of India. He also shed light on the challenges in progress of Radiation Research in India. Dr Pandey explained how general awareness/education in public/students about radiation research, proper infrastructure, collaborations and consistent funding can improve radiation research in India.

Dr. V. Kannan, Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai, delivered a talk on “**Current Issues and challenges of Clinical radiation Oncology**”. Dr. Kannan highlighted the advancement in the areas of radiation research and technology for cancer diagnosis and therapy. He explained how radiation biology can contribute to oncology in terms of identification of unique cancer markers which can help in early diagnosis as well as in predicting the therapy response.

Dr. S. D. Sharma touched upon the contribution of field of medical physics to radiation research in his talk on “**Current Issues and challenges of Clinical medical Physics**”. He spoke about the current issues or challenges in clinical dosimetry and dose verification in advanced radiotherapy techniques. He also discussed the methods and tools for performance evaluation of High Technology medical electron accelerators (IMRT, VMAT). Moreover, he highlighted the potential of the emerging field of

nanotechnology to radiation research in the form of nanoparticle mediated radiotherapy.



Dr. B. B. Nath delivering his talk

Dr. B. B. Nath, Pune University, Pune, delivered a talk on “**Current Issues and challenges of Experimental Models in Radiation research**”. He discussed about the rationales for selection of appropriate animal models for radiation biology and how *in vivo* studies can provide useful insights into

understanding the mechanism of radiotherapy.

Finally, the discussion meeting was concluded by a Panel Discussion on “**Integrating Knowledge from Interdisciplinary Aspects of Radiation Research**”. The panel discussion was chaired by Dr. Rajiv Sarin, ACTREC with panelists Dr. Sandeep Basu, Radiation Medicine Centre, Parel and Dr. Laskar, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai. The theme of panel discussion was to identify and work upon the hurdles for translation of radiation biology from laboratory to clinics. Dr Basu highlighted the need of bringing radiation researchers and clinicians together at common platform. He emphasized that SRR can be one such forum. Dr Laskar suggested that there is need to overcome the



Dr. Nagraj Huilgol (left) and Dr. K. P. Mishra (right) during panel Discussion

infrastructure and logistic hurdles for smoother translational research. Scientists as well as oncologists including Dr. K. P. Mishra, Dr. Nagraj Huilgol, Dr. S. Shrivastava, Dr. Amit Kumar and Dr. Rajiv Sarin took active part in panel discussion. They shed light on the current status of radiation research across the globe and where India stands. They also commented how appropriate communication and co-ordination between researchers and doctors can significantly improve the contribution of radiation research to public/patients.

At last, Dr. Shrivastava, Vice-president, SRR proposed the vote of thanks to all speakers, panelists and participants for sparing their valuable time and active participation in Discussion Meeting. Dr. Shrivastava thanked all volunteers, staff members of BARC, TMH and Mumbai University for their help without which it was not possible to achieve the grand success of the Discussion Meeting. He requested scientists, students to join and contribute to achieve the objectives of the SRR.

A line of smile visible on the face of participants and packed hall till last by participants were further indicators about the success of the Discussion Meeting.

Report prepared by: Mrs. Neena G. Shetake

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