

THE PUBLIC HEALTH WIRE

Newsletter of Global institute of Public health



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Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH) is the only institute that offers a Masters Public Health (MPH) and Ph.D. in Public Health under the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS). GIPH envisions and imparts new-age public health teaching and research temperament with a global vision. GIPH is hosted and administered by the Ananthapuri Educational Trust, a not-for-profit organization, aimed at promoting higher education in medical science and public health. GIPH is a center promoting the next generation of public health professionals who will drive positive changes in communities health.



Messages

From Director's Desk



Padma Shri.
Prof. Dr. A Marthanda Pillai
MS, MNAMS, FRCS
Chairman & Director
GIPH

On behalf of the entire Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH) team, I would like to extend my congratulations to the GIPH team for the inaugural publication of the Public Health Newsletter.

Since its foundation in 2014, GIPH has achieved many milestones, staff have collectively published more than 150 research articles in high-impact journals, and successfully executed various research projects with support from national and international funding agencies.

This newsletter will be another milestone in the success path of this institute. In this digital era, it is important to have an easily sharable newsletter on public health topics. I congratulate the chief editor and associate editors and recognize and appreciate the hard work of the entire team behind it. May this humble beginning lead to greater heights for the institute and the entire team behind it.

From Principal's Desk

This Newsletter is more about the Global Institute of Public Health and the ideas and letters that it presents before the world than mere 'news'. In a short period, the institute has established itself in the world of public health ideas and education and especially some of its innovative projects and publications have been lauded as efforts that contribute to the policy process.

Global Institute of Public Health has a philosophy that recognises the right to health as the cornerstone of public health. Its research, teaching, and discourses aim to address the different intersecting domains such as technical, managerial, and societal factors which play roles in maintaining the health of the people. This newsletter under the initiative of the students could be considered as a medium to take forward the current efforts of the institute at understanding many public health challenges of our society and I am sure such an online 'green effort' would find the 'greener pasture' of making public health a people's science.



Dr. K Rajasekharan Nayar
MCH, PhD
Professor and Principal-
GIPH

From GIPH Founders's Desk



Dr. SS Lal
MBBS, PhD, MPH, MBA
Professor and Head of Public Health
GIPH

The Public Health Wire – It's a great achievement!

Our long-awaited newsletter has become a reality today. As a communication medium of a coveted scientific organization, The Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH), this newsletter has a clear purpose for its birth. GIPH, as the sole institute that offers MPH and PhD in Public Health under the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS), represents the face of Public Health education and interventions of the KUHS. With a history of ten years of exigent journey and academic excellence, GIPH has established its space in the public health landscape. Nevertheless, there is obvious scope for improvements in certain functions, for example, external communication, which prompted us to launch this newsletter. This being the first issue of the newsletter, congratulations are due to Dr Meenakshi G, the chief-editor and her wonderful team. All best wishes to the newsletter team.

From Chief-Editor's Desk

I am thrilled to welcome you to the Inaugural edition of the newsletter "The Public Health Wire" from The Global Institute of Public Health. As an editor, I take the privilege to share the timeline of events, achievements, and experiences of the GIPH community through the newsletter.

In this issue we celebrate the accomplishment of our students' alumni and faculty, and also the groundbreaking initiative from GIPH as a leap forward in the world of public health. It's an honor to lead our wonderful and talented editorial team without whom the release wouldn't have been possible. I am grateful to our patrons and staff advisors who have guided us in releasing this newsletter. This newsletter also reflects the updated and vibrant community we are part of.

I encourage you to explore the articles updates, and announcements within the newsletter. Our mission is to bring out informative and updated news from the field of public health to the readers on the following issues. I hope you have an informative journey with us.



Dr Meenakshi G
2nd year MPH
GIPH

Guest Lectures and Interactions



GIPH enriches college experiences by providing a diverse array of guest lectures. These lectures cover a spectrum of topics, from leading-edge research to practical career advice. They offer a glimpse into college life and contribute to a vibrant and inclusive academic community. This combination of academia with real-world expertise makes it a valuable resource for colleges seeking to inspire and prepare the scholars for future challenges.

Presenters (from top left clockwise)

Dr Balakrishnan K Menon (World Trade organisation, Geneva), Dr Joe Thomas (Editor-in-chief Cogent Public health, UK), Dr. George Robert (M.D. Assistant director/cardi thoracic ICU, Lenox Hill Hospital New York), Dr. Anujith (General practitioner, NHS, UK), Dr. Madhavan P Nair (Professor; Chair, Department of Immunology and Nanomedicine, Florida International University), Prof JS Thakur (Faculty Dept Of Community Medicine and School of Public Health PGIMER), Mitrayan (Rtd. Social activist).

Hall of Fame



Dr Arya Soman (MPH Scholar) emerges as the Kerala university of Health science (KUHS) topper for the MPH program 2020 by securing the highest marks among all the MPH scholars under the University.



Dr Nitha Sudheeraj (MPH Scholar) Scored the highest marks in 1st year MPH examination in GIPH.

Dr Aswin M Girijan (MPH Scholar) Scored the highest marks on 2nd year MPH examination in GIPH.



Dr GK Mini (Vice Principal- Research) is nominated as the scientific committee member south-east Asia Conference on Non-Communicable diseases. She is also a Bernard Lown Scholar in Cardiovascular Health at the Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, USA



Dr. Chitra Grace. A (Vice Principal- Academic) was selected as Eminent Alumni of the Department of Environmental Studies, University of Kerala and invited for a special talk during the Researchers Fest of the University of Kerala. The European Environmental Bureau has asked her to speak on plastic pollution and regulation in India.



Dr Kesavan Rajasekharan Nayar (Principal, GIPH), has more than 150 publications in National and international journals. He has been nominated to be a part of the Evaluation team of one of the prominent National projects in Kerala. He has been the DAAD-INNOVOTEC Professor at the Institute of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Heidelberg University Germany.



Dr. SS Lal (Professor and head -of public health) the Vice Chair of the WHO-led global working group on TB and the private sector, in the recently held working group meeting in Paris. He has worked for organizations including the WHO and The Global Fund and he has lived in the USA, Switzerland and East Timor. He is known for his scientific papers, creative writing, health columns and TV health shows

Alumni Achievers

Dr Vinod (Batch 2017 MPH), consultant WHO) presented a paper at the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease held in Paris. Dr. Gayatri (2nd year MPH, GIPH) and Dr. Vinod with Global TB director, WHO Dr. Tereza Kasaeva.



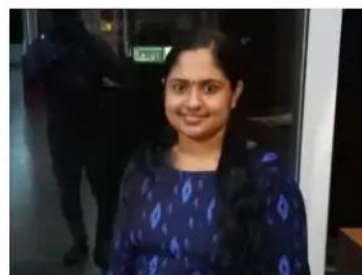
Dr. Bindya (Batch 2017 MPH) is now the Insights partner Kerala cluster of ROCHE, one of the world's largest Biotech Companies. She has been associated with global organisations like PATH (CHRI) and Karkinos Foundation and healthcare in leadership roles.



Dr. Salman Khan R (Batch of 2019 MPH) has been chosen as the employee of the year Re-Act Africa where he serves as the technical consultant (African Continent). He is also associated with Dure Technologies, Geneva, and was a Medical consultant -TB to the World Health Organisation.



Dr. Kapila VS (Batch of 2019) is the District TB Lead at TB Center Kollam.



Dr. Krishna S H (Batch of 2018) is the Deputy Project Manager of HLL Management Academy (HMA) the educational initiative of HLL Lifecare Ltd, (Govt. of India). She handles and is in charge of all the public health projects of HMA all over India.

Dr Mithun (Batch of 2020) is one of the resource persons for the pioneering program for "One Health" of Kerala state at Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) as part of the Nava Kerala Karma Padhathi. He has been part of various training programs under the Center for One Health Kerala.



The scholar has set about on an impressive journey, spreading their wings in the expansive field of public health. These scholars are associated with GIPH as MPH aluminous or interns of GIPH and are excelling in their respective ventures. As these scholars continue to soar, their collective endeavors stand as a testament to the robust educational training and opportunities provided by GIPH in shaping an efficient public health community.

GIPH Leading the Way



A groundbreaking initiative unfolds as the **"Center for One Health" (COH)** officially opens at GIPH, with the center unveiled by the hon. minister for Animal Husbandry and Diary Development, Smt. J Chinchu Rani. The minister proposed that GIPH take the lead in establishing a secretariat for all professionals working in One Health. A One Health workshop emphasizing the value of interdisciplinary teamwork was held concurrently with the inaugural event, drawing 250 attendees. Dr. Nandakumar S, Disease Investigation Officer, Department of Animal Husbandry (Govt of Kerala), and Dr. Ajan M J, Assistant Director at the Directorate of Health Service, guided the workshop, contributing to the event's success.

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a global public health concern as it jeopardizes the effectiveness of treating various infectious diseases. Addressing AMR requires a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach. Understanding the need of the hour the **"Antimicrobial Resistance Centre" (AMRC)** has been opened at GIPH. The center was inaugurated by Hon. Minister for Road Transport and local MLA Shri. Antony Raju. The inaugural session was preceded by a Workshop on AMR by: Dr A Aravind, AMR State Nodal Officer, Govt of Kerala, Prof. Dr. Salom Gnana Thanga V, Professor, Dept. of Environmental Sciences, University of Kerala, Dr Hyfa Ali, Assistant Professor, GIPH.



GIPH recently inaugurated its **"Centre for Gender Studies" (GCS)**, marking a pivotal step towards promoting and encouraging inclusivity, gender research, education, and capacity building. The event commenced with a workshop on Gender awareness and issues by Dr Malavika Binny (HOD and assistant professor of History dept Kannur University) followed by a session from Dr SK Harikumar (Senior National consultant in HIV/ AIDS", Behaviour, sexuality chief executive officer Centre for Advance Research in Health and Human Behaviour, Trivandrum.

Essay Competition: The AMR-Centre under GIPH conducted a thought-provoking online essay competition delving into the "Impact of AMR on Global Health" for UG & PG students at the Kerala University of Health Science (KUHS) on Nov 9, 2023, in alignment with World Antimicrobial Awareness Week. Recognizing excellence, the prizes were distributed at the IMA Annual State Conference (IMACON 2023) set against the picturesque backdrop of Green Lagoon at Vijaya International Convention Centre Thiruvalla, Kerala. The First Prize of Rs 10,000 was sponsored by the Indian Medical Association, the Second Prize of Rs. 5000 by the Global Institute of Public Health, and the Third Prize of Rs 3000 by the Director of Alive Foundation, Dr. Shiraz Bava.



WORLD AIDS DAY



GIPH actively participated in the global observance of World AIDS Day a global initiative observed annually on December 1st to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and show support to the ones living with the virus. The day commenced with a Special lecture by Dr Yamini Thankachi, deputy director-AIDS control board Kerala State AIDS Control Society, on challenges, misconceptions, and the need for increased resources for research and healthcare. The lecture was followed by presentations and poster presentations from the scholars of GIPH. Our scholars took the lead in distributing badges and pamphlets throughout Ananthapuri Hospital, showing strong support for individuals living with AIDS.



On behalf of World sleep day 2023, Society of Neurodiagnostic technology (SNDT) and the Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH) are jointly organizing seminars for drivers to avoid drowsy driving. Sleep disorder awareness brochure was launched by Honourable Chief Minister Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan, Professor A Marthanda Pillai, Chairman of GIPH, and Shri. Sajeesh Parameswaran, President SNDT were present during the ceremony.

From College Corridors

A registered society **Public Health Students Forum (PHSF)** is operational at GIPH. PHSF is a community of passionate GIPH Scholars dedicated to public health. Presently it caters to the needs of public health scholars of GIPH with a vision to expand its wings outside the walls of GIPH into the arena of public health worldwide. The forum aims to create a supportive and inclusive environment contributing to the collective learning experience. PHSF is led by a team of efficiently elected student councils. Dr. Nabil Rosh chairs the council with Dr. Ahzaha K Nazrudeen and Dr. Meenakshi G serving as the vice presidents, Dr. Serin Lopez (Secretary), Dr. Surya Kiran (Joint-Secretary), Dr. Sumi (Joint-Secretary) and Dr. Veena as Treasurer of PHSF. The Student Council is supported by a strong team of Executive members chosen from the MPH scholars of GIPH. PHSF aims to create a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone feels comfortable expressing ideas and contributing to a collective learning experience.

Embarking on a Journey : 1st Year Induction Ceremony Sets the Tone for an Academic Adventure



The induction ceremony of 1st-year students was an enthralling event filled with encouragement and enthusiasm. This begins the public health journey of the 7th batch of the Masters in Public Health (MPH) program scholars at the Global Institute of Public Health. Distinguished speakers shared insights into the significance of public health and the critical role of incoming students in tackling global public health challenges. The ceremony featured alumni reflections which offered a glimpse into the real-world impact of public health initiatives, igniting the passion within the new group. The ceremony was enhanced with an Antimicrobial Resistance awareness session by Dr M Geetha, Drugs Inspector (Special Intelligence branch) Office of Drug Controller (Govt. of Kerala).

Research Consortium : A visionary initiative for GIPH Scholars

Under the initiative of the Public Health Scholars Forum (PHSF), GIPH launches its Research Consortium for MPH Scholars. This Consortium serves as an example of GIPH's dedication to creating a flourishing academic community. The consortium offers a platform for innovative study that cuts across conventional boundaries. Dr. SS Lal (Professor and head of Public Health, GIPH) presided at the inaugural meeting of the consortium. He emphasized this consortium is tailored for scholars keen on part-time internships.



Dr. Lal underscored the significance of providing students with opportunities to engage in practical research while pursuing their education. The primary focus of these part-time internships will be research writing and data analysis, allowing students to apply their academic knowledge in real-world scenarios. Importantly, this initiative is entirely voluntary, and the faculty, led by Dr. Mini and Mr. Jinbert Lordson is committed to providing guidance and support throughout the process. Acknowledging the constraints of students' schedules, the faculty reassured that these opportunities could be

seamlessly integrated without compromising class hours. The initiative not only serves as a valuable educational supplement but also presents students with a chance to receive financial support while sharpening their research skills.

Embracing the Spirit of Onam "Chingapulari 2023" at GIPH



Christmas celebration at GIPH



QUIZ Corner

Did you know



Routine washing of hands with soap and water could

- Prevent one million deaths every year globally
- Reduce deaths from diarrheal disease by up to 50%
- Reduce respiratory illnesses by 16-21%
- Reduce school absenteeism by 57%

1. Can you explain the concept of the "3P's" in Public Health?
2. What are FAO and WOAHA?
3. What is the collective term for WHO, FAO, and WOAHA?
4. Which infectious disease did the WHO declared eradicated in 1979?
5. What is a global health initiative known for providing essential medicines at affordable prices to developing countries?
6. According to the Gender Gap Report 2023, what is India's ranking on gender equality?
7. Who is the father of Public Health?
8. What are Superbugs?
9. Which two countries were recently declared malaria-free by the WHO?
10. What is SDH?

10. Social Determinants of Health
9. Azerbaijan and Tajikistan
8. Multidrug Resistant Bacteria

7. Cholera
6. 127

1. Prevention, Protection, Promotion
2. Food and Agriculture Organization
and World Organization of Animal
Health
3. Tripartite
4. Smallpox
5. UNIT AID

Answers

NOTICE

Kerala University of Health Science

1. PhD Protocol Submission: Those who have passed the Ph.D. first-year examination held in November 2023, are required to submit the research protocol with the approval of the doctoral committee and the Ethics committee, within three months of the announcement of the results.

GIPH NEWS

1. The first workshop on Opportunities and scope of public health conducted by GIPH will be conducted in Feb 2024 and a second workshop in July 2024.
2. The Centre for Gender Studies at GIPH will organize an Women's Day event in March 2024, in connection with Women's Day on 08 March.
3. GIPH is planning to host an Annual International Public Health Conference, most likely on 21 and 22 June 2024.
4. The next MPH admission (2024) will most likely be held in September 2024.

Editorial Committee

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- Dr. Meenakshi G

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1. Dr. Ahzana K Nazarudheen
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