

# *Newsletter of the Sri Lanka Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*

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## *Write to us!*

SLACPT welcomes suggestions from members towards improving the image of the Association and the newsletter.

Please send your suggestions to:

Email: [slacpt2017@gmail.com](mailto:slacpt2017@gmail.com)

## Message from the President, SLACPT



I am pleased to write this message for the SLACPT newsletter. The main activity for 2017 was the Scientific sessions held under the theme “Clinical Pharmacology for safe use of medicines”. The sessions were held on 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Lionel memorial Auditorium. On the 13<sup>th</sup> morning a Pre – congress workshop was held on “Development of National Guidelines” with the assistance of resource persons, Professor Rob Moulds and Ms Mary Hemming from Therapeutic Guidelines Limited, Australia. There was discussion on guideline development on Antibiotics, Respiratory disorders and Cardiovascular disorders. About 50 participants attended the workshop and the feedback received from the participants was encouraging. On 13<sup>th</sup> evening the Presidential induction and inauguration of the scientific sessions was held. My Presidential address was on “Challenges of a Clinical Pharmacologist in Sri Lanka”. The highlight of the evening was the SLACPT oration delivered by Professor Rob Moulds on “Clinical Pharmacology – where to next”. On the 14<sup>th</sup> the Scientific sessions continued with two plenary lectures on important topics in Clinical Pharmacology delivered by eminent academics and also comprised three symposia on “Quality use of medicines”, “Combating antimicrobial resistance(AMR)” and “Pharmacology for the Clinician” Ten free paper sessions showcasing research carried out by pharmacologists and pharmacists were also an important component of the sessions. ‘*A pocket guide on paediatric prescribing*’ by Dr Thilanka Seneviratne was also launched. I thank all resource persons, authors of research papers, members of the Council and all others who contributed towards making the scientific sessions productive and successful.

During the coming months it is planned to have outstation clinical meetings in Galle, Peradeniya and Batticaloa. The first meeting will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> June at the Medical Faculty, University of Ruhuna in collaboration with the Galle Medical Association.

As AMR is a significant public health problem in this country as well as globally, SLACPT hopes to conduct national surveillance on antibiotic use covering all districts. Professor Shalini Sri Ranganathan also plans to collaborate a research project on AMR with the University of York. Clinical pharmacologists from most medical faculties will also be involved along with the Ministry of Health in conducting these projects.

I would also like to pay a tribute to Professor Laal Jayakody, the Founder President of SLACPT who retired from service recently from the University of Colombo for his contribution in developing the discipline of Clinical Pharmacology. I wish him all success for the future.

**Emeritus Professor Gita Fernando**  
**President**  
**Sri Lanka Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

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**COUNCIL OF THE SRI LANKA ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL  
PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS 2017/2018**



**Sitting (Left– Right)** Prof. Chandanie Wanigatunge (Secretary), Dr. Chamari Weeraratne (Editor) Prof. Priyadarshani Galappatthy, Prof. Laal Jayakody (Immediate Past President), Prof. Gita Fernando (President SLACPT), Prof. Rohini Fernandopulle (President Elect), Dr. Sarath Gamini De Silva (Vice-President), Prof. Kusum de Abrew, Dr. Pradeepa Jayawardane (Treasurer)

**Standing (Left – Right)** Dr. Sudheera Jayasinghe (Social Secretary), Dr. Nirmala Wijekoon, Prof. Menik Hettihewa, Dr. Gayani Liyanage , Dr. Sachith Abhayaratna (Assistant Treasurer), Prof. Shalini Sri Ranganathan, Dr. Thilanka Seneviratne , Dr. Thiyahiny Sunil Navaratinaraja, Dr. Roshini Murugupillai

**Absent** Dr. Nanda Amarasekara, Dr. Channa Ranasinha, Dr. Solith Senanayake (Assistant Secretary)

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## **The Annual general meeting of SLACPT 2017**

The Annual general meeting(AGM) of the association was held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Seminar Room of the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. The meeting was chaired by the President SLACPT, Emeritus Professor Gita Fernando.

**Minutes** of the AGM held on 2016 were confirmed.

**Annual report of the Secretary:** Annual report for the year 2016 – 2017 was presented by the Honorary Secretary of SLACPT, Prof.Chandanie Wanigathunge. She highlighted the main events of the period – viz Induction of the President and the Annual Scientific Sessions, both of which were well attended by members and PG trainees. The Secretary thanked everyone, including the SLACPT council, SALCPT members and the staff of the Departments of Pharmacology, University of Colombo and University of Sri Jayawardhanapura for the support given to carry out all activities effectively.

**Annual report of the Treasurer:** The Treasurer's report for 2016-2017 was presented by Dr Pradeepa Jayawardane, Honorary Treasurer SLACPT.

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### **Induction of the President SLACPT and Inauguration Ceremony of the Scientific Sessions 2017**

Induction of the President of the Sri Lanka Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics and inauguration of the SLACPT Scientific Sessions 2017 took place at a simple and dignified ceremony well attended by its membership and special invitees. It was held at the Lionel Memorial Auditorium of the Sri Lanka Medical Association in the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

The welcome address was delivered by President Elect, Professor Rohini Fernandopulle. This was followed by induction of Professor Gita Fernando, Emeritus Professor of Pharmacology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, as the new President of the SLACPT by the outgoing President, Professor R L Jayakody.

The new president presented the 'Past President's medal' to Professor Jayakody and delivered the presidential Address on "Challenges of a Clinical Pharmacologist in Sri Lanka"

Professor Harshalal Seneviratne, addressed the gathering, as the Guest of Honour. Professor Colvin Goonaratna was the Chief Guest for the occasion.

The SLACPT oration was delivered by Professor Robert Moulds, Medical Advisor, Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd (TGL) and Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Fiji National University. The topic of the oration was "Clinical Pharmacology - where to next?"

The Vote of thanks was proposed by Professor Chandanie Wanigatunge, the Secretary, SLACPT which was followed by a cultural event and a grand reception



## PICTURE GALLERY: Induction of the President SLACPT and Inauguration Ceremony of the Scientific Sessions 2017







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## Pre-congress Workshop

The pre-congress Workshop of the Sri Lanka Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (SLACPT) on “Development of National Guidelines” was held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at the Lionel Memorial Auditorium, Sri Lanka Medical Association. It was conducted by Prof Robert Moulds and Ms M Hemming. The latter is the Founding Director, International Society to Improve the Use of Medicines and the Founding CEO, Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd, Melbourne, Australia.

## Picture Gallery: Pre-congress Workshop





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## **SLACPT Scientific Sessions 2017**

Sri Lanka Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (SLACPT) Scientific Session 2017 was held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at the Lionel Memorial Auditorium, Sri Lanka Medical Association. The theme for the session was “*Clinical Pharmacology for Safe use of Medicines*”.

*The National Science Foundation was the Co-organizer of the function.*

*There were 2 plenary lectures. The first lecture was on Therapeutic targets and recent advances in immunopharmacological models by Prof Menik Hettihewa and the second was on evolving role of beta-2 agonists in asthma by Dr Channa Ranasinha.*

*The three symposia were on Quality use of medicines, Combating antimicrobial resistance, and Pharmacology for the Clinician.*

*There were 2 sessions of oral presentations.*



## Picture gallery: SLACPT Scientific Sessions 2017



## Picture gallery: SLACPT Scientific Sessions 2017



## Picture gallery : SLACPT Scientific Sessions 2017



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