



Christian Medical College Vellore

NEWSLINE

JULY 17, 2023



For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

Surgical Robotics is the new technology



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Surgical Robotics is the new technology that is changing the face of surgery. It is a minimally invasive surgical technique that uses a robotic arm to perform surgery. The surgeon controls the robotic arm from a console, which allows for greater precision and dexterity than the traditional surgical techniques. CMC recently celebrated the first anniversary of the installation of the 'Da Vinci' robot and completion of 250 robotic procedures. CMC has become one of the fastest growing robotic programmes in the country, and a small function was organised on 30th June to celebrate this achievement. This event was attended by multiple teams that use the robot for their surgical procedures and was presided over by the director. The teams present were urology, colorectal surgery, upper GI surgery, gynae-oncology and pediatric surgery. The teams spoke about their journey over the last one year and the benefits that the da Vinci robot has given the patients and the surgeon, especially in the field of cancer surgery. The teams stressed the importance of teamwork and that this achievement would not have been possible without the support of many people from different departments of the institution. The Director spoke about the need for the institution to be at the forefront of innovation to be able to offer appropriate technology to all patients. He also stressed the importance of working together towards the Both-And philosophy to make the institution at cutting edge of new technology and to be able to provide that technology to all.

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Ida B. Scudder Cancer Centre Introduces Groundbreaking Technology for Advanced Cancer Treatment

The Dr. Ida B. Scudder Cancer Centre at Christian Medical College, Vellore (Ranipet Campus) is delighted to introduce the **Brainlab ExacTrac** - Frameless Stereotactic Irradiation with Thermal and Surface Guidance for real-time monitoring for the **first time in the country**. It incorporates the latest technological advancements, which will enable us to streamline our processes, reduce time, and deliver exceptional results for stereotactic radiosurgery.

The inauguration and dedication were held on 10th July 2023 at Ranipet Campus. The opening remarks were made by Dr. Thomas S. Ram, Head, Radiation Oncology. A welcome address was given by Dr. Rajesh B, followed by a brief introduction about Brainlab ExacTrac Frameless stereotactic irradiation facility given by Dr. Timothy Peace Balasingh.

Dr. V. Rajshekhar, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery – II, was the special guest of honour for the event. The event was graced by the presence of Associate Directors, Dr. Joy Mammen, Dr. Deepak Selvaraj, Dr. Selvamani B, and Dr. Rajesh I, Medical Superintendent, Dr. Uday Zachariah Vice Principal, Mrs. Shanthi Gladson, Deputy Nursing Superintendent. The dedication of the machine was done after prayer by Rev. Ebenesar, Chaplain followed by ribbon cutting. We thank God for enabling to start the Frameless Stereotactic Irradiation with Thermal and Surface Guidance.



These complementary systems work together to provide precise radiation therapy treatments, including Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) and Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT). The Brainlab Elements software aids in treatment planning, while the ExacTrac Dynamic ensures accurate patient positioning and monitoring using the Varian True Beam linear accelerator. This state-of-the-art system delivers Frameless Stereotactic Irradiation with Thermal and Surface Guidance for real-time monitoring. This technology significantly improves treatment precision, minimising damage to critical organs and reducing side effects. It aligns the radiation beam with the tumor in real-time, maximising effectiveness. The integration of Thermal Surface Tracking and X-ray Tracking methods further enhances accuracy and allows for optimal treatment.

Ida B. Scudder Cancer Centre Introduces Groundbreaking Technology for Advanced Cancer Treatment

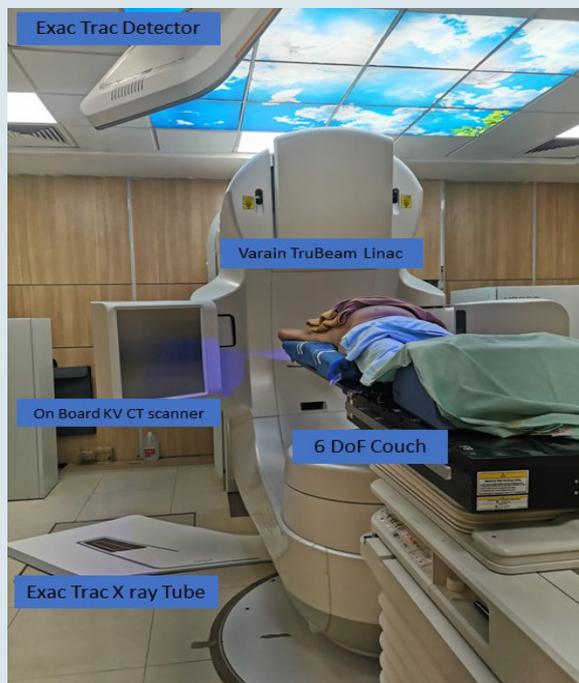
The induction of Brainlab Elements and ExacTrac Dynamic systems into our cancer treatment arsenal, marks a significant milestone for our centre, and we take great pride in pioneering this technology in India, further emphasizing our dedication to providing world-class cancer care. We offer high-quality care at an affordable cost including those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged. Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore was also the first in the country to start Stereotactic Radiosurgery in 1995.



SABR (Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy) of Solitary Bone metastasis using ExacTrac Dynamic Patient monitoring system

The Department of Radiation Oncology is happy to announce the launch of new technology in the treatment of Oligometastasis in bones using the BrainLab ExacTrac Dynamic system which facilitates high-precision radiotherapy on the Varian TrueBeam Linear Accelerator that is also equipped with a 6D couch. The ExacTrac Dynamic system utilises "State of the Art" thermal-surface camera technology in tandem with real-time x-ray tracking for extraordinary accuracy.

The first patient with oligometastatic lung cancer was treated with this system for a solitary sacral lesion with stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) on 30th June, 2023 at the CMC Ranipet Campus. Sub-millimetre accuracy was achieved. This was cross-checked with onboard kilovoltage CT scan images simultaneously. The patient position was monitored throughout the treatment delivery using thermal and surface cameras and real-time X rays. The treatment was supervised by Dr. Balu Krishna S, Dr. Swathi B, Dr. Timothy Peace, Dr. Henry Finlay Godson, Mr. Abel Juan Thomas, Ms. Dhanalakshmi Sekher and Mr. Daniel Sudarson with support from Mr. Balasubramanian, Brain Lab application specialist and Mr. Ramkumar, Service Engineer. We thank Dr. Thomas Ram, Head of the Department, Dr. Simon Pavamani, former Head, Dr. Rajesh Isiah, Medical Superintendent and the CMC Administration for the acquisition of the technology and the support.



Above is the Patient monitoring screen, of the Exac Trac Dynamic System. On the left is the X-ray monitoring and on the right is the thermal camera surface monitoring image. Below these are the real time monitoring of red and green areas representing positional accuracy and beam on and off timings. To the left is the Linear accelerator with Exac trac system with patient on couch.

Indian Arthroplasty Association South Regional meeting CME on Hip and Knee Arthroplasty Principles

The Department of Orthopaedics Unit-II organised the Indian Arthroplasty Association South Regional meeting CME on Hip and Knee Arthroplasty Principles on 24th and 25th June, 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director who addressed the gathering. The welcome address was given by Dr. Anil Thomas Oommen, the course organizer, Professor and Head, Unit-II, Department of Orthopaedics.

The purpose of this workshop was to provide upcoming orthopaedic surgeons from the surrounding medical colleges who were interested in learning or improving their skills in hip and knee arthroplasty. The workshop also focused on group discussion and hands on sessions such as templating and saw bone models for the delegates. The workshop featured live demonstration with saw bone workstations guided by expert faculties from the Indian Arthroplasty Association (IAA) and from Christian Medical College (CMC). The lectures and hands-on sessions were delivered by a combination of national faculty members, including Dr. Ronen Roy, President, IAA; Dr. Rajkumar Natesan, Secretary, IAA; Dr. Ajith Kumar, President Elect, IAA; Dr. Rajeev Kumar Sharma, Past President, IAA; and Dr. Arun Kannan, Chennai. CMC faculty members, including Dr. Anil Thomas Oommen, Dr. Pradeep Poonnoose, Dr. Viju Daniel Varghese, Dr. Abel Livingston, Dr. Thomas Matthai, Dr. Dan Barnabas Inja and Dr. Sandeep Albert. The workshop had limited seats (a total of 43 delegates on day 1 and 36 delegates on day 2, with 50% participation from non-CMC delegates) which were filled very early by candidates from the surrounding districts of Vellore, and the feedback received from the participants was excellent.



World inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) Day

The Department of Medical Gastroenterology celebrated World IBD Day on 19th May 2023 based on the theme "IBD has no age". The programme was aimed to promote awareness among staff and patients' on inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) and thereby to improve the quality of care and promote patient's quality of life. Various activities were conducted for staff such as poster (English), slogan (Tamil and English) and quiz competitions, based on the theme and 137 members participated. There were interactive sessions with patients led by doctors, nurses and dieticians on diet, drug administration, drug compliance, vaccination and need for regular follow up. Mrs. Jeyalinda Christopher, Deputy Nursing Superintendent and Dr. Rohin Mittal, Professor (Colorectal Surgery) were the chief guests for the valedictory function. The prizes were distributed by the chief guests to the winners. We are extremely thankful to God for this opportunity and for all the provisions in making this event a success.



July 16-22, 2023

Special Prayers This Week

General Pathology : Dr. Geeta Chacko and Staff

Forensic Medicine : Dr. Mousumi Sen and Staff

Cytogenetics : Dr. Mary Purna Chacko and Staff

Council of Baptist Churches in North East India

Council Members : Rev. Dr. Akheto Sema
Dr. Bamin Tada

Hospitals : Satribari Christian Hospital, Guwahati
Jorhat Christian Medical Centre
Tura Christian Hospital
Christian Hospital, Babupara and others.

Eastern Regional Board of Health Services

Council Members : Dr. Minal Nanda
Mr. Milind Gude

Hospitals : Evangelical Hospital, Khariar
Christian Hospital, Mungeli and others.

Friends of Vellore, U.K.

Council Members : Dr. Dayalan Clarke
Mrs. Ruth Tuckwell



Congratulations!

• **Dr. Nihal Thomas**, Senior Professor, Department of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism has been awarded the **Swami Vivekananda Oration for the Year 2023** at the Integrated Diabetes and Endocrinology Conference held at Kolkata on 9th July, 2023.

• The **Department of Infectious Diseases** participated at the **13th Annual Clinical Infectious Diseases Society Conference (CIDSCON)**, held in Chennai from 6th and 8th July, 2023.

Adrian Keith Noronha and **Dr. Shah Pooja Himanshu**, second year DM in Infectious Diseases, won the first prize in the Postgraduate quiz.

Ramakrishnan, first year DM in Infectious Diseases, won the second prize at the oral case presentation."

Retirement

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi, Sr. Selection Grade Biochemist in the Department of Clinical Biochemistry retired on 9th June, 2023 after 39 ½ years of dedicated service to the institution. She joined the department in 1983 as a Clinical Biochemist Trainee when the lab received around 200 samples per day with less than 25 parameters. She has seen the department grow over 4 decades to around 7000 samples per day through manual assays, semiautomation, continuous flow analyzers, state- of- the- art Automated analyzers and Preanalytical Track system.



Mrs. Vijayalakshmi is a committed, sincere and hardworking person. Her attitude to her work, being punctual and meticulous has been an inspiration to many of our Biochemists. She had shown a keen interest in learning new technology and was involved in teaching B.Sc. MLT interns and training Junior Biochemist Trainees.

Her Husband, Mr. Ashok, retired as selection grade Biochemist in 2017 from Clinical Biochemistry after 33 years of service. Mrs Vijayalakshmi is blessed with two sons, Mr. Aravindan and Mr. Prasanna who are software engineers.

The CMC community is thankful for her commitment and dedicated service to the Institution and wishes her God's blessings on her retired life.

Sports News

Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar, Principal was the chief guest and distributed the prizes to the winner of **staff cricket tournament for the year 2022-2023** on 24th June, 2023, total 29 teams participated.

Results :

Winners : Haematology Department

Runners up : RT

Man of the Match : Mr. Ramesh (Haematology Department)

Man of the Series : Mr. Iliyaraja (Haematology Department)



Obituaries

• **Mrs. Cecilia S. Paul**, mother of Dr. Grace Rebecca, Assistant Professor, Radiology Department, passed away on 10th July, 2023.

Let us uphold all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

• **Mrs. Philomena Arputharaj**, mother of Mr. Francis A, retired former Head of Internal Audit Department, passed away on 12th July, 2023.

Let us uphold her daughters, sons, grandsons, granddaughters and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

Situations Vacant

1. Senior Resident with MD (General Medicine) for the Division of Critical Care Medicine (Medical ICU / HDU)

Salary : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

2. Senior Resident with MD (Psychiatry) for the Department of Psychiatry Unit-III

Salary : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

lease log on to <https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/JobVacancy.aspx?jtype=ALL> Link : "Vacancies".

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **July 22, 2023** for Items 1 and 2.

3. Jr. Special Teacher (Term Post) for the Developmental Paediatric Unit

Qualification : M.Ed. Special Education in Mental Retardation / M.A. Psychology / M.Sc. Psychology or M.Phil in Clinical or Rehabilitation Psychology (regular course; correspondence course not eligible).

Salary Scale : As per institutional rules. Accommodation not Provided.

4(a) Psychologist Gr.V for the Department of Reproductive Medicine

Qualification : MA / M.Sc. (Psychology) (Regular Course) with atleast 4 years experience in any teaching insitution.

Salary Scale : As per institutional rules. Accommodation not Provided.

4(b) Jr. Psychologist (Term Post) for the Department of Reproductive Medicine

Qualification : MA / M.Sc. (Psychology) (Regular Course). Preference will be given for those who have experience in teaching institution. Salary Scale : As per institutional rules. Accommodation not Provided.

5(a) Assistant Professor for the Department of Clinical Rheumatology

Qualifications : DM (Clinical Immunology and Rhuematology).

Salary Scale : As per institutional rules.

Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

5(b) Associate Professor for the Department of Clinical Rheumatology

Qualifications : DM (Clinical Immunology and Rhuematology). Salary Scale : As per institutional rules.

Experience : Should have two years teaching experience as (Asst.Professor) in any NMC recognized teaching institution with atleast 2 papers published as per current NMC guidelines.

Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on Availability).

6. Assistant Professor with DM (Paediatric Nephrology) (or) MD (Paediatrics) with 3 years Special Training in Paediatric Nephrology for the Department of Paediatrics - II (Paediatric Nephrology)

Salary : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Subject to Availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

lease log on to <https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/JobVacancy.aspx?jtype=ALL> Link : "Vacancies".

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted. Applications will close by **July 29, 2023** for Items 3, 4(a), 4(b) and 5(a), 5(b) and **July 31, 2023** for Item 6.

7. Jr. Speech Therapist (Term Appointment) for the Department of PMR

Qualifications : B.Sc. (Speech Therapy and Audiology). Consolidated Pay : Rs.29,884/-. Age : 35 Years.

Note : Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

8. Pharmacist Trainee for the Pharmacy Services

Qualification : D. Pharm / B. Pharm. Candidates with typing and computer skills will be preferred.

Appointment will be given only for Pharmacists who have registered in the State Pharmacy Council.

Stipend : Rs.10,145/-. Age Limit : Below 30 years. Job Description : Dispensing Section work as Trainee.

Note : Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

Applications to be done only through online application system. Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu>

Link : General - "Vacancies". **Note : Only online applications will be accepted; Hard copies will not be accepted.**

Applications will close on **July 31, 2023** for Item 7 and **August 07, 2023** for Item 8.