

Indian Academy of Paediatrics, Respiratory Chapter - Advanced Asthma Course

A comprehensive workshop was held on May 25th and 26th, 2024, organized by the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP), Respiratory Chapter, in collaboration with the Department of Paediatrics at RajaRajeswari Medical College and Hospital (RRMCH). The event took place in the prestigious Kadamba Hall located within the RRMCH campus. This workshop saw an impressive turnout, with 110 delegates and 7 esteemed faculty members from across India in attendance.

The delegates had been engaged in an intensive three-month training program conducted via online modules under the guidance of the faculty members. The workshop provided them with an invaluable opportunity for hands-on sessions and certification. Dr. Kalappanawar, the Chairperson of IAP-NRC, presided over the event. The distinguished faculty members present included Dr. B. S. Sharma, Dr. Neetu Talwar, Dr. N. K. Subramanya, Dr. S. S. Rawat, Dr. Manjunath, and Dr. Anil Sapare, who each facilitated the various workstations.

The program was inaugurated by Dr. Adarsh E., Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatrics at RRMCH, alongside other faculty members. Dr. Kalappanawar delivered an insightful presentation on lung oscillometry. Dr. Anil Sapare provided an in-depth analysis on the interpretation of Spirometry and Peak Expiratory Flow Rate (PEFR). The remaining faculty members elaborated on the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) guidelines, highlighting updates relevant to different age groups and strategies for counselling asthma patients.

Five specialized workstations were established for the workshop: Impulse Oscillometry, Spirometry, Forced Oscillation Technique (FOT), Spirometry & PEFR, and a Model Asthma Clinic. Following these sessions on the first day, a discussion forum was held where participants openly addressed their challenges and queries. A convivial lunch was served in the afternoon, and the day's activities concluded with a high tea.

The second day commenced with an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) session, followed by an exit exam wherein delegates were allotted 90 minutes to complete the questionnaire. An open house discussion ensued, during which the exam questions were reviewed, and comprehensive discussions on general asthma care and workshop-related topics were held. The exam results revealed a tie among three participants, necessitating a tie-breaker conducted by a three-member panel. The top performer was awarded a gold medal, and certificates of completion were distributed to all delegates.

Dr. Kalappanawar delivered the valedictory address, formally concluding the two-day workshop. The event concluded with a lunch, after which the delegates departed from the venue, having gained significant knowledge and practical experience in pediatric respiratory care.