



AATM E-NEWSLETTER

Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine



AATM
Pakistan Chapter
In Collaboration with
Sindh Blood
Transfusion Authority
SBTA

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XIIIth Annual AATM Congress

The Governing Council of Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine (AATM) is pleased to announce that XIIIth Annual AATM Congress, Dhaka-2017, jointly organized by AAATM & Blood Transfusion Society of Bangladesh (BTSB) will be held from 16 to 18 November, 2017 in DHAKA, Bangladesh.

On 16th November there will be multiple Pre-Conference workshops in, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Hotel Le MERIDIEN-DHAKA and Apollo Hospital.

Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine (AATM) is a transnational organization in Asian Region. The primary objective of the Association is to accelerate the scientific progress and common standard in Blood Transfusion Services (BTS) in member states in the Asian region.

AATM has members from 18 countries while Country Chapters in 15 countries, namely (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Iran, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Srilanka, Timor-Leste and Turkey.

The theme of this Congress is "Quality Practice in Apheresis Medicine & Cellular Therapy".

Venue:

Hotel Le MERIDIEN-DHAKA

79/A Commercial Area, Airport Road,

Nikunja- 2, Khilkhet Dhaka- 1229, Bangladesh.

The venue is 2 Km away from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka and 8Km from the City centre. Dhaka is the Capital of Bangladesh. Dhaka always enjoys a pleasant climate throughout the year and has a lot of tourist attractions within the city as well as in the nearby region.

The main heritage of Dhaka City National Parliament House, Central Shaheed Minar and Folk Arts Museum at Panam Nagar, Sonargaon. The other national heritages of Bangladesh are in the south - Cox's-Bazar, the largest sea-beach in the world & Sundarban, the largest mangrove forest; There are multiple charming tea-gardens in the Sylhet region and charming waterfall in the Jaflong, Sylhet. There are magnificent Mosques in the Dhaka City that have withstood the test of time for over a thousand years.

The Congress will be offering different sightseeing tours to this magnificent city and nearby places.

All AATM & BTSB members as well as delegates involved in Blood Transfusion and Cellular therapy services are welcome to join this Congress. Please keep visiting our website (www.aatmweb.org) for updates.

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AATM meeting with AABB in Bethesda-HQ, USA

An important inter-organizational meeting was organized between AATM and American Association of Blood banks (AABB) on 17th April, 2017 in AABB head quarter at Bethesda, USA. From AABB, Mr. Tom Hopkins (CEO), Ms. Christine Bale (Vice President), Ms. Kathy Loper (Senior Director) and Dr. N. Choudhury (Secretary General) represented AATM in this meeting. It was agreed in this meeting that AABB Blood Bank (BB) accreditation will be extended to all member countries and AATM will play an important role in this process. AATM is



organizing a hand holding program for BB in member countries which needs assistance to achieve this award. AABB has started recently a distant learning course named, 'Cell Therapies Certificate Program' with Gorge Washington University. AABB has offered special discount for all AATM members. It was also agreed on principle that 'second joint regional congress of AATM and AABB' will be organized in the second half of 2018 in an AATM member country.

Workshop on Implementation Research in International Blood Availability and Transfusion Safety in Low and Middle Income Countries

National Institutes of Health (NIH) USA organized one workshop on research on blood availability & transfusion safety from 18-19th April, 2017 in Bethesda, MD. The objectives were to identify research priorities for improving global blood availability & transfusion safety in low and middle income countries. One representative from each WHO region was invited to formulate projects & to find out workable solutions. Dr. N. Choudhury, Secretary General of AATM actively contribution in this workshop. important workable solutions are expected soon.



Joint IRETM-UPEC Diploma Course on Management of Blood Transfusion Medicine Launched in Iran

The opening ceremony of postgraduate diploma course on "Management of Blood Transfusion Medicine" was held at IBTO on 17th of April 2017. The course is jointly organized by Iranian High Institute for Research & Education on Transfusion Medicine (IRETM), University Paris-Est Creteil (UPEC) and French Blood Service (EFS).

The authorities of IBTO, the representatives of Ministry of Health, the Attaché for scientific and university cooperation of France Embassy in Iran and the current students and teachers of the course attended the event.

Dr. Fariba Seighali, the Director of International Affairs Department, briefed participants on the background of joint collaboration between IBTO and EFS. "which traces back to 15 years ago in 2002," she said.

30 faculty members and experts of IBTO attended different short-term training courses in France and several scientific seminars have been organized jointly on related subjects to blood transfusion. The final agreement was reached in 2016 in a Memorandum of Understanding signed between IRETM and UPEC."

Dr. Mahtab Magsudlu, the Vice President of IRETM gave a short presentation to introduce the course and its objectives to the participants.



Dr. Ali Akbar Pourfathollah, the IBTO Managing Director re-marks "Realizing the importance of this new approach, IBTO has promoted its scientific and educational capabilities through developing of professional communication and collaboration with other countries and international organizations".



Dr. Pourfathollah continued "Holding 5 international conferences and 14 work-shops as well as being designated as WHO Collaborating Center on Research & Training on Blood Safety are parts of the IBTO's efforts to achieve the above goal." He mentioned that the present diploma course is a turning point in the way of strengthening the educational capabilities of IRETMT and will provide a unique opportunity for other countries in the region to benefit from its advantages.

Three days international workshop on GMP in Blood Transfusion

Organized by IBTO as part of its activities for WHO Collaborating Center on Research & Training on Blood Safety, a three-day workshop on "Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in Blood Transfusion" was held on 15-17 May, 2017.

The objective of the program was to strengthen and upgrade the technical expertise and information of Regulatory Authorities and National Blood Programs on GMP to assure the quality and safety of blood components, including plasma for fractionation;

Report on Wet Workshop on “Immunoematology”

Asian Association of Transfusion Medicine (AATM)-Bangladesh chapter and Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, India-Sister Partner of Johnson & Johnson jointly organized a Wet Workshop on “Immunoematology” on 24th May 2017 in Jalalabad Ragib-Rabeya Medical College Hospital, Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Inaugural Session: Presided over by the Professor Dr. Md. Badrul Islam, Chairperson, AATM-Bangladesh Chapter; Chief Guest Principal- Prof. A.T.M.A. Jalil, Special guest Vice-principal- Prof. Md. Abed Hossain & others.



Practical Demonstration was given by: Dr. Sagar Chatterjee from Ortho Clinical Diagnostics and Dr. Sonia Shormin, Medical Officer, Department of Transfusion Medicine, BSMMU, Dhaka, Bangladesh. This session was most interactive meaningful.



Session Highlight: The wet workshop was knitted by a team from BSMMU headed by the Professor Dr. Md. Ashadul Islam. The workshop was



simultaneously connected with a practical session led by the Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, India and Dr. Sonia Shormin, Medical Officer, Transfusion Medicine, BSMMU. The technical supports and all over the laboratory orientation was good and the cross-question session was informative, multidirectional based on clinical Transfusion Medicine as well as the modern approach. many technologists and nurses attended as well as it was scattered a new light, a new door for the Transfusion Medicine arena.



In total 35 participants mostly Medical Technologist (Lab) attends in the workshop. Dr. FMA Musa Chowdhury, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Transfusion Medicine, MAG Osmani Medical College, Sylhet summarize the workshop in a nutshell. His emphasis WAS to switchover from conventional methods to modern technology.

CELEBRATING WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY-2017

Every year on 14 June, countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day (WBDD). The day is the anniversary of Karl Landsteiner, 1868. The event, established in 2004, serves to raise awareness for voluntary blood donation to meet the need for safe blood and blood products. The theme for World Blood Donor Day in 2017 focus



on blood donation in emergency with questions "What Can You Do?" & answers "Give Blood. Now. Give Often"

The program was started by the short speech of honorable chairman of transfusion medicine Professor Dr. Md. Ashadul Islam & secretary AATM-Bangladesh Chapter. A short but very informative presentation on "World Donor Day & our overall observation of the Voluntary donors in respect of other countries" was also given by Dr. Sonia Shormin Miah, Medical Officer, and Department of Transfusion Medicine. The key message is to eradicate fear & myth from the blood donor thus encourage them to donate blood voluntarily as well as regularly.

Finally the meeting was ended with an appeal to all prospective blood donor to become regular blood donor for mobilizing national blood donor pool at least donating a unit of blood to celebrate their next birthday.



Upcoming Congresses of AATM

- 1. XIIIth annual congress of AATM in Dhaka (16-18th November, 2017):** We invite all members to participate in this important meeting and if you are interested to present papers/ posters, please contact our OC (email:aatmcongressdhaka2017@gmail.co m).
- 2. XVth annual congress of AATM in Tehran, Iran (11-13th November, 2018):** The Governing Council (GC) members are thankful to the AATM-Iran chapter for inviting 14th annual congress in Tehran. We will intimate our members with more information as time progresses.
- 3. Maldives.** Preparations are under way to hold an International congress in Maldives in collaboration with AATM in April 2018.
- 4. Regional AABB congress in collaboration with AATM:** Second Joint Congress of AABB and AATM in 2018: Both organizations successfully organized the first joint congress in 2016 in Bangalore, India. AATM would like to repeat this meeting as a bi-annual event in any of its member countries.
Decisions: It is agreed in principle that AABB and AATM would organize joint regional congresses in every even year. In 2018, 'Second Joint Regional Congress of AABB and AATM' would be organized in 3rd or 4th quarter keeping in mind about 14th AATM Annual Congress will be held in Tehran, Iran from 11-13th November, 2018. Prior planning will be required so that AABB could mobilize its members (from WIPRO, SEARO, AFRO & AMRO) to participate in this joint congress.

AATM-Fellowship

In continuation for sixth consecutive years, AATM has announced full board fellowship for members. The Fellowship Committee under the chairpersonship of Dr. Mahrukh Getshen, has announced four fellowships (2 doctors and 2 technologists). Members are requested to download the application form from the website (www.aatmweb.org), and send the scanned copy to the AATM Secretariat. We request Chairpersons of country chapters to encourage their members to send applications to avail this opportunity. Last date for submission is 30th June, 2017. Requesting all AATM members to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity"

New AATM country chapters Cambodia and Saudi Arabia

The AATM General Council is pleased to announce that two new AATM country chapters have been formed in Cambodia and Saudi Arabia. Country chapters Chairpersons are Dr. Chea Sokhim (Deputy Director of NBTC, Phnom Penh) from Cambodia and Dr. Hind A. Al-Humaidan (Director, Blood Bank; King Faisal Specialist Hospital & RC; Riyadh) from Saudi Arabia. The process of chapter formation is going on and we will inform about other office bearers in due course of time. Let us join hands to welcome members of new country chapters to the AATM family.

Global Journal of Transfusion Medicine (GJTM)

It is being successfully published for last 1.5 years under the leadership of Dr. C. Shivram, Editor-in-Chief. Recently, GJTM has come with an understanding with China Blood Bank Journal (Journal of Clinical Transfusion and laboratory Medicine). JCTLM and GJTM will publish manuscripts from one journal to another journal for the benefits of members of respective scientific societies. We request you to send original articles and other scientific materials for publication in GJTM (www.gjtmonline.com).

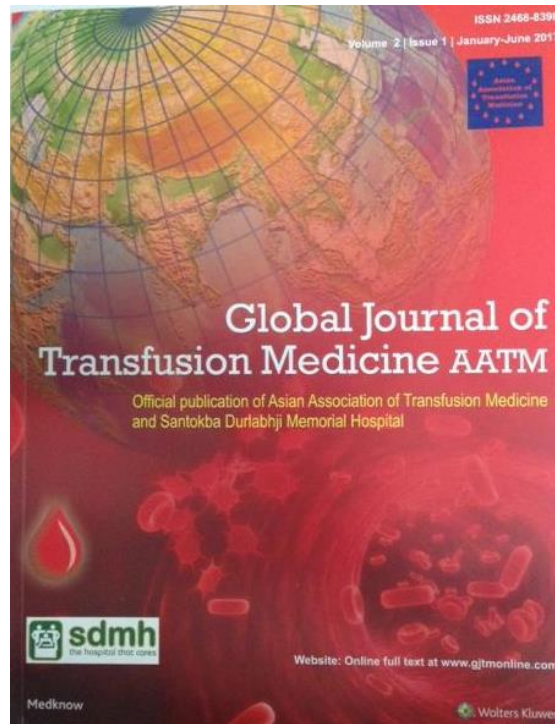
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Eid Greetings To All