

## Introduction

It is wonderful to see how TCB along with the five MA Graduates in Bioethics had various opportunities to be actively engaging with Bioethics teachings through diverse ways. Given below are short descriptions of the same.

### Dr. Gigi Chandy:

**Ethical Issues of Assisted Reproductive Technology for Good Clinical Practice** which is a biannual symposium organised by Vice Principal Research which is mandatory to be attended by all Faculty and Postgraduates from Medical, Nursing and Allied Health Services. Dr. Gigi took this session in August.

**Healers or Predators?** Corruption in India's Healthcare is a recently published book, edited by Dr. Samirun Nandy, Ethicist/ Gastroenterologist. Dr. Gigi Chandy "presented the topic of discussion as was held in NDTV We discussed as to how we could improve the patient care in CMC Vellore, especially in areas like Emergency department. We also thought we could work on the plan of one of us being on call for any ethical issues which develop in the hospital".

**Terminally ill allowed to pull the plug – ruling by Supreme Court in March 2018.** "This a 500page ruling with legal authorities' involvement and highly impractical. As a department we had several meetings on this difficult topic after the Clinical Ethics Committee discussed about a particular incident where the treating Physician found it difficult to do the above. Finally, the department and the ICU in charges had a meeting and it has been decided that they have a particular system to follow which all the ICUs together will plan and decide.

**Total elimination of Downs Syndrome in Iceland – Anu Rose** made the presentation on Downs Syndrome and the attitude towards the condition in different parts of the world. We discussed about Perinatal Counselling and how to go about it. Dr. Gigi participated in this.

**Clinical Ethics Committee meeting** we had regarding the struggle of ICU personnel dealing with end of life issues. This went on to several combined meetings of Bioethics department, Clinical Ethics committee and ICU in charges including Nursing staff.

### **Curriculum Development Workshop in College of Nursing.**

Dr. Gigi took the sessions on Issues of Beginning of life and Ethical issues of Assisted Reproductive Technology. This was on the 8th & 9th of November.

### Dr. Satish Thomas:

**Christian Medical Fellowship:** Dr. Satish gave the address at the combined graduate and students session at the Annual Christian Medical Fellowship conference for all the medical colleges of Kerala held at Nicholson School, Thiruvalla on the 19th of October. The talk was titled " Christian Ethics in Current Clinical Practice". The conference was attended by about 80 medical students from various medical colleges of Kerala and by about 25 medical graduates. He was able to introduce TCB, its aims and objectives and activities and distribute the brochure to all participants. He appealed for memberships too. He also introduced the Just Med module.

### Dr. Roopa Verghese:

**Muthoot Health Care, Kerala:** Dr. Roopa conducted a session for nurses at the hospital and a session for adolescents on fetal development + ant abortion.

### Dr. Sedevi Angami:

**CMAI Counselling Training:** Dr. Sedevi had an opportunity to speak at the CMAI Pastoral counseling training course held in Dimapur on the Bioethics and Ethics in Health care.

CIHSR, Dimapur: Dr. Sedevi had a number of Bioethics sessions with P.G students and doctors.

Engagement with Schools, Nagaland: Dr. Sedevi is developing a comprehensive program for students in which various bioethics topics and Reproductive & Sexual health are included. This will be piloted in six schools. Two teachers from each school will be trained as Master Trainers to teach students, who in turn will become Peer Educators.

**Lady counsellor:** Dr. Sedevi has developed a lady counsellor to teach against abortion. She was asked to read a book by Randy Alcon on abortion, make power point presentation and to teach the same. She has become thorough with the subject

## Shiloh 2018



This was conducted in Christian Medical College, Vellore, from the 27th to the 31st of September. Dr. Jameela George of TCB spoke on "Justice and Righteousness in Healthcare." More than 950 persons, consisting mostly of medical students from various parts of India participated in the same.

## Shiloh Break Away Sessions



These were held on 2 days. About 25 participants were present in each of them, in the Bioethics stream. Case studies were discussed in groups. The sessions were very interactive- Discussions were held on various ethical issues which emerged from the cases dealt with.

## TCB Stall at Shiloh



In September from 27th to 30th Shiloh Medical Students Conference was conducted. Dr. Achamma Chandy was able to facilitate a robust Bioethics stall through the four days when information regarding The Centre for Bioethics was imparted to students attending the conference from all over the country. This stall had a display of various training

activities of TCB. Some of the participants bought the Justmed modules. A few took Student Membership and few became Life members. The stall was managed by Dr. Achamma Chandy & Dr. Jameela George.

## International Day of Girl Child



TCB participated in the International Day of the Girl Child "Vanishing Girls Campaign" of Alliance Defending Freedom, which was celebrated at Dilli Haat on the 10th of October. A Street Play called "Dastak Dilli" written and directed by Mr. Arvind Gaur Asmita Theatre Group was presented. It was an inspiring street play. In their play, they dealt many burning issues such as abortion, rape, molestation, harassment & torture, domestic violence, and belittling the girl child / woman at home or in working place. This Street Play stressed that both boys and girls, men/women are equally important - no one is lesser/more important. It challenged the viewers to educate the people, especially the men and boys to treat and to consider girls and women as one's own sisters, in order to promote peace and harmony in the community. It also enabled the onlookers to consider who should start the act of love, respect and protection of girls, whether in public place or at home and how to protect girls from vanishing. It also motivated people to seriously see what is happening in society and to respond to all these issues.



## Bioethics Workshop for UTC Interns



A Bioethics workshop was held for UTC interns on the 22nd of October in Delhi. This was hosted by CMAI. Bioethical principles were presented, followed by case studies. There were six persons in the forenoon and six more joined in the afternoon. It was thought provoking to hear some of the comments of the interns.

## Chhatarpur Workshop

A workshop on “Foundations in Bioethics” was held in Chhatarpur on the 29th and 30th of October. There were 24 participants, consisting of final year nursing students and nurses.

In addition to a presentation on Bioethical Principles, “Foundation for Bioethics” module for Nurses, developed by TCB & CMAI was discussed in detail, through interactive sessions, which were very much appreciated. Certificates were distributed to the participants at the end of the workshop.



## Curriculum Writing

Six modules have been completed and four other modules have been reviewed.

TCB EC: This was held on 22.11.18.

## Up-Coming Events

- ❖ 28.11.18 – Intensive workshop on “Clinical Ethics Committee” at CMC, Ludhiana
- ❖ 20.12.18 – Meeting at CMC, Vellore

