



IMPA

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF THE INDEPENDENT
MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION

NEWS

www.impa-sl.com

ISSUE 03 | VOLUME - 30 | MARCH 2026



FROM THE **PRESIDENT'S PEN...**



Dear Members,

It is my privilege and pleasure to address you through the March edition of the e-newsletter of the Independent Medical Practitioners Association of Sri Lanka.

During this month, I had the opportunity to contribute to a video recording for an OPA social events programme held on 8th March. In this recording, I spoke about IMPA, its proud history, and the important work we continue to do for our members and the wider medical community. I believe this was a valuable opportunity to project a positive image of IMPA and to enhance awareness of our Association among other professional bodies. The recording will be made available on the OPA website.

I am also pleased to note that we successfully conducted another important medical education programme on 29th March at Asiri Hospital. This well-attended session featured two expert presentations on highly relevant clinical topics. Dr. Saman Hewamanna delivered an informative presentation on lymph node diagnosis, while Dr. Praveen Wijesinghe spoke on brachial plexus injuries. The programme was followed by fellowship over dinner, providing an excellent opportunity for professional interaction and collegiality. These regular educational updates continue to play an important role in enhancing the knowledge and clinical competence of our members.

In addition, I continue to represent IMPA in the National Issues Committee of the OPA as well as the Health and Nutrition Committee of the OPA. Through these roles, I am able to contribute to important professional discussions while also ensuring that the presence and voice of IMPA are recognized in key national forums.

As always, I remain committed to strengthening our Association, promoting continuous professional development, and ensuring that IMPA continues to maintain its respected place within the healthcare and professional landscape of Sri Lanka.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication.

Thank you,

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Sanath Hettige MBBS, DFM, MD, FCGP

President, Independent Medical Practitioners Association of Sri Lanka

Board Certified Specialist in Family Medicine,

Honorary Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo,

Chief Scientist, Oil of Dermae Laboratories & Dermae Research Medical Center

Chairman, Health & Nutrition Committee, Organization of Professional Association of Sri Lanka

Inside the Issue

- ◆ IMPA CPD Program March 2026
- ◆ First Healthcare Leadership Summit 2026
- ◆ Links to Interesting Articles
- ◆ Useful Shares
- ◆ Professor Rezvi Sheriff

IMPA CPD Program March 2026

The Independent Medical Practitioners Association held its CPD program on 29th March 2026 at *The Asiri Surgical Hospital Auditorium, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05.*

Two eminent speakers made presentations:

“Lymph Node Diagnostics”

by

Dr Saman Hewamana

MBBS (Cmb), MD (Cmb), MRCP (UK), FRCP (London), MRCPATH (UK), FRCPast (UK), PhD (UK), CCT (Haematology (UK),
Consultant in Clinical Haemato - Oncologist

And

“Brachial Plexes Injuries”

by

Dr Praveen Wijesinghe

MBBS, MD, Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon
University Hospital KDU - Boralesgamuwa

The event was sponsored by **Asiri Health**



First Healthcare Leadership Summit 2026

The Association of Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes (APHNH) of Sri Lanka successfully hosted the 1st Healthcare Leadership Summit 2026 on March 9 at Waters Edge, Colombo. The summit looked toward the future of healthcare in Sri Lanka with a renewed vision, bringing together local and international leaders to foster collaboration and define priorities for the sector.

The event featured two keynote addresses. Hon. Prof. Ruwan Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Tourism, emphasized the importance of developing Sri Lanka's healthcare services to meet the growing demands of medical tourism, highlighting both Western medicine and traditional systems such as Ayurveda. Hon. Dr. Hansaka Wijemuni, Deputy Minister of Health and Mass Media, underscored the need for effective, efficient, and high-quality healthcare services delivered through both state and private institutions.

Structured around two sessions - "Inside Healthcare Leadership: What Really Works" and "Building the Future of Private Healthcare in Sri Lanka" - the summit convened hospital leaders, policymakers, regulators, insurers, investors, and international experts. A key takeaway was the recognition that Sri Lanka's state and private health sectors must work hand in hand, complementing rather than competing with each other.

The summit was held as an invitation-only engagement, reflecting APHNH's intent to convene stakeholders

directly shaping the future of healthcare delivery. The Independent Medical Practitioners Association (IMPA) was represented by Dr. Sanath Hettige (President), Dr. Kanthi Ariyaratne (Joint Secretary), and Dr. D.K.D. Mathew (Council Member). Dr. Mathew serves as IMPA's representative to the Private Health Services Regulatory Council (PHSRC).



[Deputy Minister of Health and Mass Media, Hon. Dr. Hansaka Wijemuni, M.P., addresses the audience (Photo Credit: Ada Derana Business)].

References:

1. Private Healthcare Leaders, Policymakers and Experts Convene at APHNH Healthcare Leadership Summit 2026 - Ada Derana Business.
2. Private Healthcare Leaders, Policymakers and Experts Convene at APHNH Healthcare Leadership Summit 2026 - Lanka Talks.

Links to Interesting Articles

IMPA

Link : impa-sl.com

Fuel Pass

Link : <https://fuelpass.gov.lk/>

The Draft National Policy on Health and Wellbeing (2026-2035) is now available for public review and comments.

Link : <https://www.health.gov.lk/moh-page/policies-for-public-opinion>

Prof Sanath Punsara Lamabadusuriya

Link : https://colombomedgrads1962.blogspot.com/2019/06/felicitation-ceremony-for-prof-sanath_7.html

The Marine Scientist Who Was Finally Heard Dr Asha de Vos PhD - A Sri Lankan voice that reshaped Global Marine Science Authored by Dr BJC Perera

Specialist Consultant Paediatrician and Honorary Senior Fellow, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Link : island.lk/the-scientist-who-was-finally-heard/

Fears of two-tier health system as more turn to private care, says watchdog

Link : <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn4892wnv2zo>

Morison: Advancing Sri Lanka's Pharmaceutical Future

Link : <https://echelon.lk/morison-advancing-sri-lankas-pharmaceutical-future/>

Excellence in Paediatric Endocrine Care: Global Challenges, Innovations & Way Forward

Link : <https://slcp.lk/excellence-in-paediatric-endocrine-care-global-challenges-innovations-way-forward/>

The Art and Science of Communicating with Your Little Child by Dr BJC Perera

Link : <https://island.lk/the-art-and-science-of-communicating-with-your-little-child/>

World Health Day 2026: "Together for health. Stand with Science" - The Island

Link : <https://share.google/ffKutHpTERqJqInGw>

Study by Pera doctor-duo goes from just published to 'citation classic'

Link : <https://www.sundaytimes.lk/260322/news/study-by-pera-doctor-duo-goes-from-just-published-to-citation-classic-635078.html>

The Looming Shadow: How and Why a Distant War Could Threaten the Vitality of Sri Lankan Healthcare - Dr BJC Perera

Link : <https://island.lk/looming-shadow-how-and-why-a-distant-war-could-threaten-vitality-of-sri-lankan-healthcare/>

NMRA RECALL NOTIFICATION

Withhold the batch (25034) of Salbutamol Respiratory Solution (SR 00500109) manufactured by Incepta Pharmaceutical Pvt Ltd, Bangladesh

Free_ Fully furnished new house with 36 rooms in Maharagama

... Open to families of helpless cancer patients from distant provinces. Food, drinks, and accommodation provided _free of charge_... Please share this message as much as possible... Help those in need...

**Phone Number: 0112 745 800 or call the above
Mobile Number: 077 256 1321**



HEATWAVE ALERT

Sri Lanka • South India • Maldives



Why This Heatwave Is Happening

1 STRONG SUNSHINE
Pre-monsoon season brings intense solar energy.

2 WARM OCEAN
Warmer-than-usual sea temperatures add more heat and moisture to the air.

3 LIGHT WINDS
Weak winds and clear skies let heat, build up with few clouds for relief.

4 HIGH HUMIDITY
Moist air reduces cooling as sweat evaporates slowly, making it feel much hotter.

HEAT INDEX
38°C–42°C
Feels like

SRI LANKA

Maldives

What This Means



Actual Temperature:

32–35°C



High Humidity:

Sweat doesn't cool the body effectively



Feels Much Hotter:

38°C–42°C
(Heat Index)

STAY SAFE



Hydrate often

Drink water every 20–30 minutes.



Avoid sun 11 AM – 4 PM

Use an umbrella or wear a hat if outside.



Wear light cotton clothing

Loose, light-colored clothes help cool you.



Keep your space cool

Close curtains in the day, open windows at night, use fans for airflow.

WHO IS MOST AT RISK?



CHILDREN

- Offer fluids frequently
- No outdoor play midday
- Never leave in vehicles



ELDERLY

- Check on elderly twice daily
- Watch for dizziness, confusion, rapid pulse
- Use cool showers or wet towels to lower body heat

Stay informed, Stay cool, Stay safe.

SLJPRS

SRI LANKA JOURNAL OF PHYSIOTHERAPY & REHABILITATION SCIENCES

Volume 02 | Issue 01 | February 2026

Print ISSN 3084-8814
e ISSN 3084-8822



In this issue

Cover Story

- Innovations in musculoskeletal physiotherapy service delivery: Redesigning care beyond traditional boundaries

Editorial

- Exercise for prevention and rehabilitation: A call for systemic integration in Sri Lanka's health policy

Original Articles

- Short-term effect of neural mobility technique in people with chronic low back pain: A quasi-experimental study
- Association between trunk control and chest expansion in individuals with acute and subacute stroke: Evidence from a tertiary care hospital in Sri Lanka
- Relationship between pain intensity, sleep quality, and functional disability among patients with non-specific chronic low back pain: A multicentre cross-sectional study at two tertiary care hospitals in Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Musculoskeletal pain among final-year undergraduates at the University of Colombo: Prevalence and association with stress and body mass index

Case Study

- Strong, steady and straight consensus: A multidimensional exercise intervention for postmenopausal osteoporosis



OFFICIAL RESEARCH JOURNAL PUBLISHED BY
DEPARTMENT OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
FACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO



GP
Sri Lanka '26
51st Annual Academic Sessions
College of General Practitioners of Sri Lanka

*"Compassion, Continuity, and Advocacy
in the Digital Era:
GP-Led Primary Care"*

Sunday, 10th May 2026

Pre-Congress

**Cardiology in Action: Enhancing
Confidence in Cardiac Care in
General Practice**

From 9.00 am to
1.30 pm
@ UCFM Tower

20th & 21st June 2026

Main-Congress

From 9.00 am to
4.00 pm
@ Hotel Galadari

Find out more



Sunday, 5th July 2026

Post-Congress

**Compassion in Action: Mastering Symptom
Control and Hands-On Palliative Care Skills
for General Practitioners**

From 9.00 am to
1.30 pm
@ UCFM Tower



Grab the Super Early Bird Prices Now!

Super Early Bird Deadline: 31st March 2026

DRUG-RELATED STUDIES 2026

“Empowering Emerging Scholars for Evidence-Based
Drug Prevention, Treatment, and Control.”

National Dangerous Drugs Control Board

SYMPOSIUM TRACKS

- Track 1: Prevention
- Track 2: Treatment
- Track 3: Scientific Analysis
- Track 4: Social Dynamics

ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Types of Presentation: Oral and Poster

ELIGIBLE SUBMISSIONS

- Research conducted as part of undergraduate coursework, research projects, or final year theses
- First degree thesis work presented soon after graduation
- The symposium strictly focuses on

KEY DATES



SYMPOSIUM:
November 2026



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:
30th July 2026



VENUE:
Colombo

FACULTY OF PAIN MEDICINE

**COLLEGE OF ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS
AND INTENSIVISTS OF SRI LANKA**



14TH ANNUAL ACADEMIC SESSIONS

"PRECISION PAIN MEDICINE, INNOVATION & EQUITABLE CARE"

19-20TH SEPTEMBER 2026

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

RELATED TO PAIN MEDICINE

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

31st July 2026



DR. ASHANI RATNAYAKE - 070 231 7960

DR. CHAMILA JAYASEKARA - 077 244 7857

DR. ROSHANA MALLAWARACHCHI - 077 340 7505

TUBERCULOSIS IN SRI LANKA AND THE GAP THAT REMAINS

World TB Day falls on Tuesday (24)



BY ENALIDNA NAUDNAS

It might feel like it goes away as easy to explain, it could be a cold, an allergy or the flu, or even a virus. Most people do not think of tuberculosis when symptoms first appear, and that is precisely why the disease continues to spread. By the time someone suspects TB and seeks medical attention, they may have been unknowingly infectious for weeks.

Tuberculosis is Sri Lanka's second most common infectious disease, claiming more than 700 lives each year despite effective treatment being available free of charge at government facilities across the country. In 2023, more than 8,700 new cases were reported. The disease persists not because the tests are missing, but because the gap between the first symptom and the correct diagnosis remains too wide for many people.

Every year on 24 March, World TB Day marks the anniversary of Robert Koch's 1882 discovery of the causative bacterium. In Sri Lanka, the occasion is observed under the theme "Treat the Curable TB, and by Sri Lanka's Pioneered by People". For Dr R. Pranthika Shanmugasundaram, Director of the National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases, the message is clear: "Success depends on strong national leadership, continued political commitment, adequate investment, and the active participation of communities, health workers, civil society, the private sector and other key stakeholders," she says, adding that the health sector alone is not enough.

A problem bigger than the numbers suggest

TB remains the leading cause of death from a single infectious agent worldwide, despite being both preventable and curable. Dr Ahmed Shayan, Senior Registrar in Community Medicine at the Health Promotion Bureau, notes that the scale is still widely underestimated.

"According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 10.8 million people live with TB in 2023, including



Dr. Mirza Gulzar



Dr. Ghazi Rajapaksa



Dr. Ahmed Shayan



Dr. R. Pranthika Shanmugasundaram



Dr. Samanvitha

early or taken irregularly, the bacteria adapt and resist the drugs meant to kill them. "Although treatment success for drug-susceptible TB remains relatively high at about 80%, treatment for drug-resistant TB is still more difficult, more toxic, more expensive, and less successful," Dr. Shayan says, with the global success rate for that figure at around 70%.

The financial toll is equally severe. "About half of TB-affected households face out-of-pocket costs, meaning TB-related expenses and income loss exceed a major share of household resources," he adds. The disease does not just make people ill, it makes them poor.

Sri Lanka's numbers, and what they conceal

Sri Lanka is considered a relatively low burden country for its region, with a more developed public health infrastructure than many of its neighbours. However, the disease persists, and the data often does not tell the full story.

The WHO estimates around 14,000 TB cases occur annually, yet only 8,000 to 9,000 are detected and reported. "Several thousand cases remain undiagnosed or unreported in the community," says Dr Mirza Gulzar, Consultant Community Physician at

Not everyone who carries TB bacteria develops active disease. In most people, the immune system contains the infection and the bacteria remain dormant, causing no symptoms and posing no risk to others. This is known as latent TB infection. Around a third of people in the region carry latent TB. Most will never develop active disease, but the risk is significantly higher in those with weakened immunity

alongside the country's growing HIV epidemic.

Recognising TB, and who it reaches

Dr Samanvitha DeSilva, Consultant Respiratory Physician at the National Hospital for Respiratory Diseases in Colombo, explains that infection does not always lead to immediate illness.

"When TB germs enter the body, they do not always cause illness immediately. In many people, the germs remain inactive in the body for months or even years," she says. If immunity weakens, these dormant bacteria can become active.

Certain groups face a significantly higher risk and should be screened early. "These include healthcare workers, prisoners, elderly persons, people living in overcrowded communities, and those in crowded or vulnerable settings," says Dr Shayan.

Those with poorly controlled diabetes, chronic kidney disease, or an long-term immunosuppressive treatment are also vulnerable, as are smokers, people who misuse alcohol or drugs, the malnourished, and children under five.

Extra-pulmonary TB, which affects organs outside the lungs, is harder to identify because symptoms vary

Finding an infection before it becomes disease

Not everyone who carries TB bacteria develops active disease. In most people, the immune system contains the infection and the bacteria remain dormant, causing no symptoms and posing no risk to others. This is known as latent TB infection.

Around a third of people in the region carry latent TB. Most will never develop active disease, but the risk is significantly higher in those with weakened immunity.

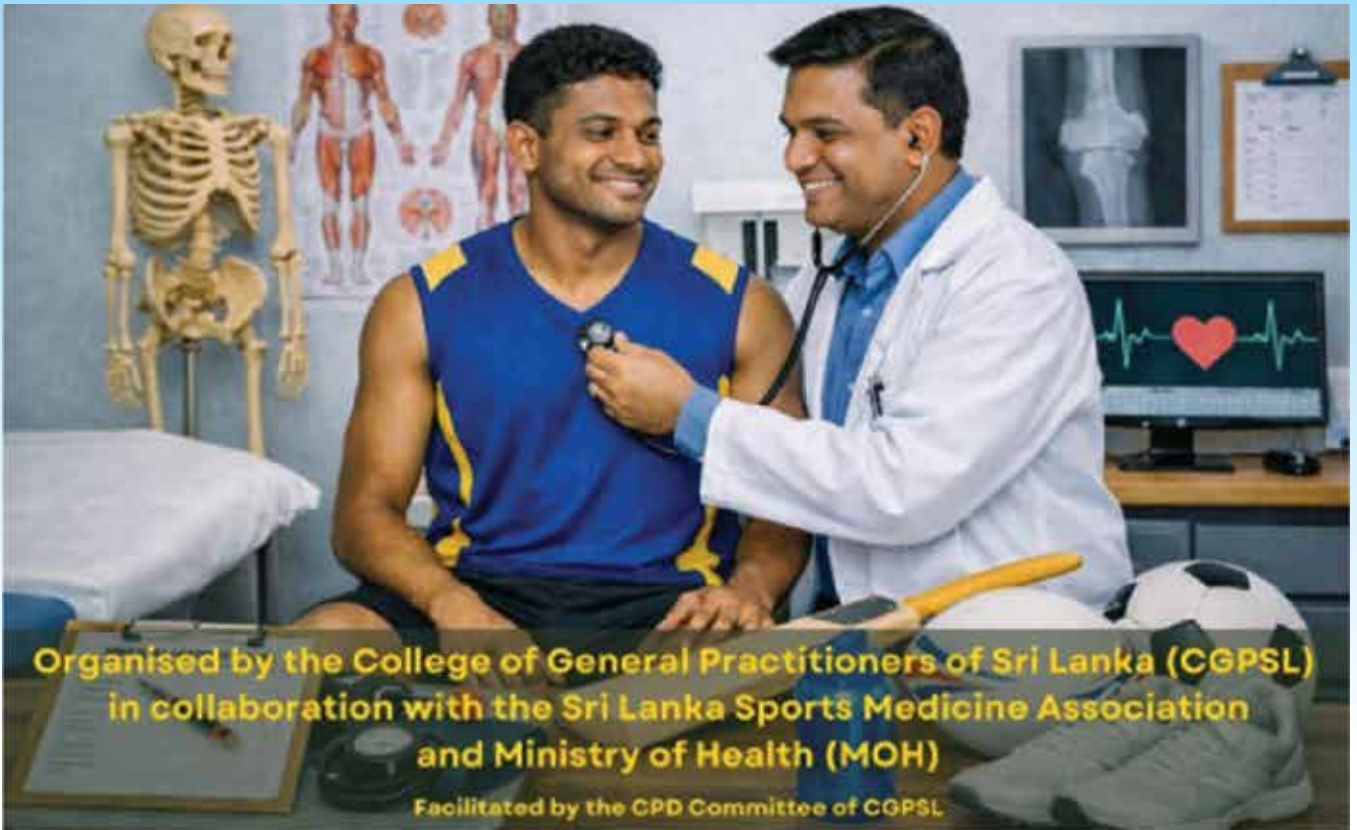
"If we can destroy the bacteria before it becomes active, we can prevent TB disease," says Dr Ghazi Rajapaksa, Consultant Community Physician at the NPHD.

Sri Lanka introduced TB preventive treatment in 2021, a once-weekly regimen over 12 weeks. Testing for latent infection is carried out through district offices (not using a tuberculin skin test), and both testing and treatment are provided free of charge.

Childhood TB and HIV co-infection are areas where early intervention is especially critical.

"It is wrong to think that TB is not a disease of children," Dr Rajapaksa says, noting that many children acquire infections in utero or in the household and are often missed because they

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1S5gq981qx/>



Organised by the College of General Practitioners of Sri Lanka (CGPSL)
in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Sports Medicine Association
and Ministry of Health (MOH)
Facilitated by the CPD Committee of CGPSL

Pre-Participation Examination (PPE) for Athletic Training and Competition

Workshop for General Practitioners

Saturday, 4th April 2026
from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm
At Neurotrauma Auditorium (NHSL)

2-year authorisation certificate issued by the
MOH to perform PPE for athletes

CPD points expected to be awarded

Registration Fee: Rs 2,500/=

Limited to 100 participants





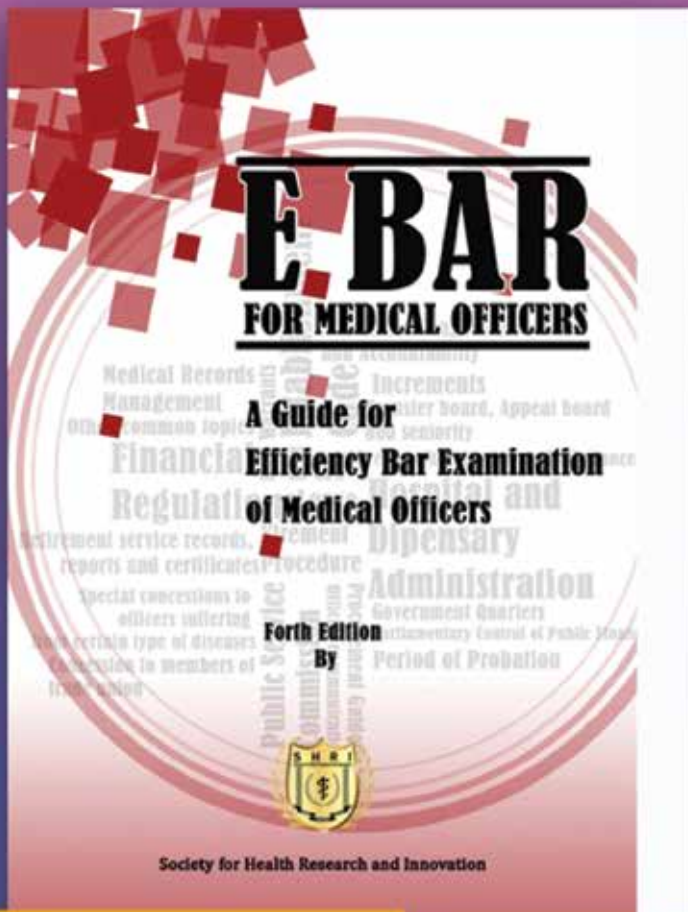
Sri Lanka records lowest rabies deaths in 2025



SOCIETY FOR HEALTH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

EFFICIENCY BAR BOOKLET FOR DOCTORS

AVAILABLE FROM
SHRI OFFICE
OR GET THROUGH
**COURIER
SERVICE**



- A must-read book prior to E-Bar examination.
- Essential guide to keep with every medical officer throughout the career.

REGISTRATION FOR COURIER SERVICE

<https://forms.gle/JmEmKtkWCdFhBTr5>



Price: Rs.2000.00



0711653228



Sri Lanka College of Specialist Family Physicians

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Join us for an enlightening session with

Dr. Harshani Thabrew

Senior Lecturer and
Specialist in Medical Mycology,
Department of Microbiology,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna

*on understanding fungal infections and
practical insights in diagnosis and
treatment approaches.*



GETTING FUNGAL INFECTIONS RIGHT: PRACTICAL TIPS AND PITFALLS

6th April 2026 | 9.30 pm

[Scan or Click](#)



CPD Points/Hours will be awarded

16:21



Early Integration of Palliative Care for Patients with Cancer



From Evidence to Practice

 **8.30 PM**

 **2 April**

Prof. Camilla Zimmermann

*Head - Department of Supportive Care,
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Toronto
Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto
Head of the Division of Palliative care,
University Health Network*

 **Meeting ID: 952 1122 2986**
Passcode: 3px@bCir

Holidays of an Average Public Servant in Sri Lanka - 2026

Woohoo!
Nearly **7 months**
of holidays!

4-Day Work Week
Starts
Tomorrow!

- Casual Leave - **21** Days
- Medical Leave - **24** Days
- Public Holidays - **17** Days
- Weekends - **104** Days

Total: 166 Days

+ Wednesdays Off: **42** Days

Grand Total: 208 Days //

= 6.93 Months!

42
Wednesdays
Off

104
Weekends

17
Public Holidays

Nearly **7 MONTHS** of
HOLIDAYS in 2026!

Life is good!

208 DAYS
= **6.93** MONTHS

HIOA

Professor Rezvi Sheriff



AN EULOGY TO A SUPREMELY GIFTED SON OF MOTHER LANKA

Vidya Jyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff

By

Dr BJC Perera

Specialist Consultant Paediatrician

We do mourn the passing away of Emeritus Professor Vidyajyothi Rezvi Sheriff on the 30th of March 2026. He was one of the finest doctors who served the health services of our beloved country and several other nations as well.

I was most fortunate to be selected to formulate and present the citation for Professor Rezvi Sheriff just last year, for the award of the coveted Fellowship of the Sri Lanka Medical Association during the Inauguration Ceremony of the Annual Congress of the Sri Lanka Medical Association on the 23rd of July 2025.

That narrative is reproduced here as the final tribute to a superlative medical scientist, a humane carer, teacher par excellence, an academic of profound scholastic stature and a very close friend.

Our Chief Guest tonight, Guest of Honour, Special Guests, the President, Council, Fellows, and Members of the Sri Lanka Medical Association, and Distinguished Invitees.....

I am delighted to present to you, Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff, MBBS(Ceylon), MD(Ceylon), MRCP(UK), FRCP(London), FRCP(Edinburgh), FRACP, FCCP, Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka, and Emeritus Professor of Medicine for the superlative award of the Fellowship of the Sri Lanka Medical Association.

In fact, the man is so very well-known, and formulating a citation for him was a veritable Herculean task, similar only to one trying to sell ice to Eskimos. In such a context, I will attempt only to portray some strategic vantage points of a career that clearly defies an adequate description in the time allotted to me. One could write reams about the man and still leave quite a lot unsaid.

Following a spectacular school career, Rezvi entered the Faculty of Medicine, Colombo, in 1966, just one year after me, and we have been close friends ever since. The man went through his undergraduate career, securing many distinctions and gold medals, and qualified in 1971 as the first in class valedictorian, topmost performer of the batch, and the first in the combined order of merit of the two Medical Schools of Colombo and Peradeniya.

From then onwards, there was no looking back. It was a steady, persistent, and exponential climb in the academic ladder to finally reach the pinnacle of the Chair Professorship of the Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Colombo. He is a great researcher and has a monumental plethora of scientific papers published in peer-reviewed, indexed, high-impact medical journals. He has delivered several orations, many plenary lectures, guest lectures, and taken part in numerous academic symposia as a resource person. He has been internationally recognised through fellowships and memberships from prestigious colleges and academic institutions. He has lectured in

many centres worldwide, inclusive of a considerable number of universities in the United States of America, Great Britain, Australia, Norway, Japan and Pakistan.

As an Educator, he has mentored thousands of undergraduate and postgraduate students and allied health professionals. He is acclaimed for his quality clinical teaching, integrity, kindness and compassion. His medical journey, culminating in the Chair Professorship of Medicine, has inspired many a generation. He retired from the University of Colombo in 2014 and then worked at the Kotelawala Defence University for another 10 years. Altogether, he has had 60 years of university service and been a professor for 41 years. He was awarded Emeritus status by the University of Colombo, following his retirement.

He is known as the Pioneer Godfather of Nephrology and Transplant Medicine in Sri Lanka. He initiated the country's first Dialysis Unit and Kidney Transplant Programme, a vision that forever transformed renal care and paved the way for other organ transplantations in Sri Lanka as well.

He has served for six years as the only Sri Lankan Council Member in the International Society of Nephrology. Incidentally, he and I were in the UK around the same time during our postgraduate training. He was in nephrology in the South of England, and I was doing nephrology in Nottingham in the Midlands. He continued in nephrology while I changed track and went in a different direction.

Professor Sheriff's influence extended beyond the lecture rooms, wards and clinics. He was a member of the First National Health Policy Formulation Team, the University Reforms Committee, the National Education Commission and the Sri Lanka Medical Council. He was the Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine from 2006 to 2011. All these assignments were conferred directly by the Executive President of Sri Lanka.

Professor Sheriff founded major nationally important bodies such as the Sri Lanka Society of Nephrology, the Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka and the Hypertension Society of Sri Lanka. He was also instrumental in building critical medical infrastructure, such as the CLINMARC building at NHSL, the National Institute of Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation Centre in Maligawatta, the Ceylon College of Physicians

Building in Rajagiriya, and the first Kidney Transplant Unit at NHSL. He also set up the most advanced Dialysis Unit in Sri Lanka at the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Hospital.

In a kind of nostalgic rumination, Rezvi and I used to be on the opposing teams in the Annual Physicians Versus the Paediatricians Cricket Match. If I remember right, and in a lighter vein, that is perhaps the only time anyone has been able to beat this great man.

Ladies and Gentlemen, legends are found not only in the movies. They are there in real life, too. Role models are remembered, not just for what they achieve, but for the lives they inspire, the opportunities they create, and the kindness they perpetually exhibit. Despite his vast achievements, Professor Rezvi Sheriff remains an extremely humble, deeply religious, superlatively kind, service-oriented person. Today, as we honour him, we celebrate not just a brilliant academic and a superb clinician, but a man who has lived a life of purpose and integrity: a life devoted to service to the community. Some years ago, in recognition of his services to our Motherland, the Government of Sri Lanka conferred on him the National Titular Award Vidya Jyothi, the highest national honour that can be bestowed on a scientist.

Mr President, I am ever so pleased to present Professor Rezvi Sheriff, a superlative clinician and a healer, a fine researcher, a brilliant teacher, a visionary, and a true servant of humanity, for the award of the legendary Fellowship of the Sri Lanka Medical Association.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please be kind enough to rise and applaud this great son of Mother Lanka.

With the demise of Professor Rezvi Sheriff, we have lost a superlative son of our hallowed Motherland, and I have lost a very dear friend.

Goodbye, our friend... May the turf of our Motherland rest ever so gently on you.

May he rest in eternal bliss as we acknowledge the words in the Holy Quran ***Inna Lillahi Wainna Illaihi Raajoon !*** (*Verily to Allāh we belong, and verily to Him, we shall return*)



Paracetol is back

Paracetamol Tablet B.P. 500mg



Truly Sri Lankan: Complete manufacturing process conducted in our new state-of-the-art pharma manufacturing facility



Global Quality: All testing conducted as per British Pharmacopeia, ensuring efficacy and safety on par with the market leader



Local Price: only LKR 3.49 per tablet

Do not exceed the recommended dose and frequency as excessive dosage could be harmful to liver. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

Morison Limited
Hemas House, 3rd Floor, 75, Braybrook place, Colombo 02.

IMPA Editorial Board:

Dr Neelamani Rajapaksa Hewageegana (Editor), Dr Sanath Hettige (President), Dr AHA Hazari (Past President), Dr Palitha Abeykoon, Dr SM Samarage, Dr SAP Gnanissara, Dr ALP de S Seneviratne, Dr SM Goonesekera, Prof Sanath Lamabadusuriya, Dr Iyanthi Abeyewickreme, Dr BJC Perera, Dr Kanthi Ariyaratne

Editorial Board Assistants: Mr Nilupul Gooneratne, Mr PH Eranga Pushpanath