



16<sup>TH</sup>

# INDIA PROBIOTIC SYMPOSIUM

"Gut Microbiome and Probiotics : Impact from Cradle to Centenarians"

27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026 | VENUE- JLN AUDITORIUM, AIIMS, NEW DELHI

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

**DAY 1**

**27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

08:45- 09:00 hrs.

**REGISTRATION**

09:00- 10:00 hrs.

**KEYNOTE LECTURE AND INAUGURATION**

09:00- 09:10 hrs.

**Welcome note - Prof. N.K. Ganguly**

President, Gut Microbiota and Probiotic Science Foundation (India), Former Director General, India Council of Medical Research, Senior Advisor, Global Health Strategies, New Delhi, India

09:10- 09:40 hrs.

**A Century of Symbiosis: Integrating Microbiome Science into Holistic Patient Care Across the Lifespan**

**Prof. V. Mohan**

Chairperson, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai, India

09:40- 09:50 hrs.

**The 100-Year Narrative: Probiotics and Human Health**

**Dr. Osamu Chonan**

Executive Officer, Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan

09:50- 10:00 hrs.

**Vote of Thanks and National Anthem: Dr. Neerja Hajela**

General Secretary, Gut Microbiota and Probiotic Science Foundation (India)

10:00- 11:30 hrs.

**GUT MICROBIOME: A PRIMER**

**Chairperson**

**Dr. Suman Kanungo**

Director, Dibrugarh Institute, Assam, India

**Prof. Vineet Sharma**

Department of Biology Science, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India

10:00- 10:20 hrs.

**What is a Healthy Microbiome?**

**Prof. Bruno Pot**

Science Director Europe, Yakult Europe, The Netherlands” and “Professor Food Microbiology, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium”

10:20- 10:40 hrs.

**Designing a Gut Microbiome Study: The Essentials**

**Prof. Tarini Shankar Ghosh**

Assistant Professor, Department of Computational Biology, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIITD), New Delhi, India

10:40- 11:10 hrs.

**Interpreting a Gut Microbiome Study - What the Data really Means?**

**Prof. Vineet Ahuja**

Professor of Gastroenterology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences(AIIMS), New Delhi, India

11:10- 11:30 hrs.

**Discussion**

11:30- 11:45 hrs.

TEA BREAK

11:45- 13:15 hrs.

**GUT CHRONOLOGY: MAPPING MICROBIAL SHIFTS  
ACROSS THE HUMAN LIFE CYCLE**

**Chairperson**

**Prof. S.K. Mittal**

Former Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Max Super Speciality Hospital-Vaishali, Ghaziabad, India

**Prof. Keya Lahiri**

Former Professor and Head, Pediatrics, Seth G S Medical College and Hospital, KEM Hospital, Mumbai, India

11:45- 12:10 hrs.

**The Maternal Blueprint: How the Gestational Microbiome Programs Fetal Immune Development**

**Dr. Omry Koren**

Vice Dean for Resource Development, Azrieli Faculty of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University

12:10- 12:30 hrs.

**The Hygiene Hypothesis Revisited: Probiotics in the Prevention and treatment of Childhood diseases**

**Prof. Anupam Sibal**

Group Medical Director and Head, Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi, India

12:30- 12:50 hrs.

**Combating 'Inflammaging': Restoring Microbial Diversity to Promote Healthy Longevity in the Elderly**

**Dr. (Prof) Prasun Chatterjee**

Former Professor, Department of Geriatric Medicine (NCA), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

12:50- 13:10 hrs.

Discussion

13:10- 14:00 hrs.

LUNCH

14:00- 15:30 hrs.

**THE MICROBIAL TOOLKIT: STRATEGIC MODULATION VIA  
PREBIOTICS, PROBIOTICS, AND TRANSPLANTS**

**Chairperson**

**Dr. B. Sesikeran**

Former Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, India

**Prof. Ajay Bhalla**

Senior Gastroenterologist and Director of Gastroenterology, Medanta Hospital, Noida

14:00- 14:30 hrs.

**The importance of the intestinal microbiota in highly invasive gastrointestinal surgery**

**Prof. Yukihiro Yokoyama**

Professor (MD, PhD, FACS), Professor, Division of Perioperative Medicine, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University, Nagoya Japan

14:30- 14:50 hrs.

**TBD**

**Prof. Kunal Rai**

Professor, Genomic Medicine, MD Anderson Cancer Centre, University of Texas, Texas, USA.

14:50- 15:10 hrs.

**Potential of long-term consumption of *Lactobacillus paracasei* strain Shirota for maintaining nutritional state in older adults**

**Dr. Eiichiro Naito**

Manager, Yakult Central Institute, Tokyo, Japan

15:10- 15:30 hrs.

**QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

15:30- 16:00 hrs.

**TEA BREAK**

16:00- 17:30 hrs.

**BEYOND THE GUT: TRANSFORMING CARE IN DIABETES, OBESITY, AND CANCER**

**Chairperson**

**Prof. N.K. Ganguly**

President, Gut Microbiota and Probiotic Science Foundation (India), Former Director General, India Council of Medical Research, Senior Advisor Global Health Strategies, New Delhi, India

**Prof. Shyam Aggarwal**

Chairperson, Medical Oncology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi, India

16:00- 16:30 hrs.

**From Dysbiosis to Diabetes: The Gut Microbiome's Impact on Endocrine Health**

**Prof. Nikhil Tandon**

Professor and Head, Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism, All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, India

16:30-16:50 hrs.

**Enhancing the Checkpoint: The Role of the Microbiome in Improving Response to Cancer Immunotherapies**

**Prof. Sameer Bakhshi**

Professor, Department of Medical Oncology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

16:50 - 17:10 hrs.

**The Gut-Liver Axis: Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatosis Liver Disease (MASLD)**

**Prof. Shalimar**

Professor, Department of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

17:10- 17:30 hrs.

**QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

**End of Day 1**

**DAY 2**

**28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

**09:00- 10:15 hrs.**

**A BILLION GUTS, A BILLION MINDS**

**Chairperson**

**Prof. Yogesh Shouche**

Director, SKAN, Bangalore, India

**Prof. Rama Chaudhary**

Former Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India

**09:00- 09:20 hrs.**

**The Indian Microbial Signature: Insights into Diversity, Stability, and Dynamics**

**Dr. Dhiraj Dhotre**

Scientist, Department of Bioinformatics, National Centre for Cell Science, University of Pune, India

**09:20- 09:40 hrs.**

**TBD**

**Dr. Sachet Shukla**

Assistant Professor Hematopoietic Biology and Malignancy Immunology, MD Anderson Cancer Centre, University of Texas, Texas, USA.

**09:40- 10:00 hrs.**

**Fecal Microbial Transplantation: Knowns and Unknowns**

**Prof. Ajit Sood**

Professor and Head, Department of Gastroenterology, Dayanand Medical Collage and Hospital, Ludhiana, India

**10:00- 10:15 hrs.**

**QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

**10:15- 11:45 hrs.**

**FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE: HARNESSING THE MICROBIOTA FOR CLINICAL UTILITY**

**Chairperson**

**Prof. Vinit Suri**

Senior consultant Neurologist, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi, India

**Prof. B.S. Ramakrishna**

Director, SIMS Institute of Gastroenterology, Hepatobiliary Sciences and Transplantation, Chennai, India

**10:15- 10:30 hrs.**

**Gut Microbiome and Neurological Disorders**

**Prof. Emeran Mayer**

Gastroenterologist, Professor, Department of Medicine, Physiology and Psychiatry, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA, California, USA

**10:30- 10:45 hrs.**

**Gut Microbiome and Urological conditions**

**Prof. Sachit Anand**

Pediatric Surgeon, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India

**10:45- 11:00 hrs.**

**Gut Microbiome and Gut Related Disorders**

**Prof. Govind Makharia**

Professor of Gastroenterology and Human Nutrition, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India

**11:00- 11:15 hrs.**                    **Gut Microbiome and Nutrient Absorption**  
**Dr. Balamurugan Ramadass**  
Additional Professor, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India

**11:15- 11:30 hrs.**                    **Gut Microbiome and Pancreatic Diseases**  
**Prof. Pramod Garg**  
Professor, Gastroenterology and Associate Dean (Research), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

**11:30- 11:45 hrs.**                    **QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

**12:00- 13:00 hrs.**                    **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**CHARTING THE COURSE: THE NEXT DECADE OF**  
**MICROBIOTA AND PROBIOTIC SCIENCE**

**Moderator**                            **Dr. B. Sesikeran**  
Former Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, India

**Panel Members**                    **Dr. Sarath Gopalan**  
Senior Consultant, Pediatric Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, Madhukar Rainbow Children's Hospital, New Delhi, India

**Prof. Bhabatosh Das**  
Professor, Translation Health Science and Technology Institute, Faridabad, India

**Dr. Rohit Bhatia**  
AIIMS New Delhi

**Dr. Shvetank Sharma**  
Additional Professor, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, India

**Prof. Namita Jaggi**  
Chairperson, Lab Services and Infection Control, Artemis Hospitals Group, Gurugram, India.

**13:00- 13:50 hrs.**                    **YOUNG INVESTIGATOR PRESENTATION**

**Chairperson**                            **Prof A.P. Dash**  
Ex- Vice Chancellor, Central University of TN.  
Ex- Vice Chancellor, AIIPH University, Bhubaneswar, Ex-Adviser, United Nations (WHO).

**Prof. JB Prajapati**  
Chairman, IDA (WZ), Mumbai, Coordinator, SASNET-Fermented Foods, Ex Principal & Dean, Faculty of Dairy Science, AAU, Anand, Gujarat  
**Young Investigator Presentations (five)**

**13:50 hrs.**                                **VALEDICTORY FUNCTION**

**14:00 hrs. onwards**                    **LUNCH**

**End of Day 2**

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US



शरीरमाद्यं खलु धर्मसाधनम्

[www.gutfoundation.org.in](http://www.gutfoundation.org.in)



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