

Biographical Sketch of Prof S M Chandramohan (Short CV)

(Full CV at www.esoindia.org)

Prof SM Chandramohan MS MCh FACS, FRCS, FIMSA is the founder Director of Institute of Surgical Gastroenterology, Center of Excellence for Upper GI Surgery, Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital and Madras Medical College, Chennai – 600 003, India.

After receiving his medical degree in 1979 from Thanjavur Medical College in Thanjavur, Tamilnadu, India, Prof SM Chandramohan completed his MS postgraduate training at Madras Medical College and Government General Hospital, Chennai. He was the best outgoing candidate of that year for the entire state of Tamilnadu and was honoured with a gold medal by The Madras University in 1984. He then worked at a rural Primary Health Center which catered to 47 seaside villages of Thanjavur District under the supervision of the Director of Public Health. Later he joined the prestigious MCh Surgical Gastroenterology super specialty program at the Madras Medical College under the leadership of Prof. N Rangabashyam. He was the seventh person to qualify with MCh Surgical Gastroenterology degree in the entire country.

He was the founder of the department of Surgical Gastroenterology at the Institute of Non Communicable Diseases at Government Royapettah Hospital and became the full Professor at Government Kilpauk Medical College in 2000. Considering his pioneering work he was promoted as Head of the Department of Surgical Gastroenterology, Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital and Madras Medical College. In recognition of his work on Upper GI disorders the department was upgraded to 'Centre of Excellence in Upper GI Surgery'. With his untiring efforts the Centre evolved into the Institute of Surgical Gastroenterology. The institute has been recognised as the regional referral centre for upper gastrointestinal disorders.

Work on upper GI tract

Prof S M Chandramohan's clinical interests include surgery for Upper GI Disorders which include both benign and malignant oesophagogastric disorders. He has special interest in the management of gastric cancer, oesophageal cancer and GE junction tumours. His pioneering work in the management of caustic injuries of the upper GI tract is widely acknowledged. His innovative surgical techniques in the management of complex pharyngo oesophago gastric strictures

due to corrosives is being followed all over the world. Several hundred patients live to tell their story.

His research interests include epidemiological aspects and newer operative strategies to optimise the outcome in gastric cancer and oesophageal cancer patients and management of postoperative complications. He has also participated in the development of minimally invasive, endoscopic and laparoscopic operations. The department pursues active research in managing advanced gastric, GE junction and Oesophageal malignancies and complex corrosive strictures of the oesophagus and stomach.

INNOVATIONS

His technique of coloplasty for reconstruction, using stomach for reconstruction in the presence of antral stricture; the taking up of conduit to the neck using camera sheath technique; the partial stapling technique of the anastomosis; totally stapled pharyngocaecoplasty; strategies to be adopted for failed conduits; revision anastomosis technique in the neck, self-dilatation technique which can be done by the patient themselves have created a major impact in easing out the management of these complex problems. He has defined a new entity called “Gastrocele” in patients with double strictures. He has described a new working classification for Isolated Gastric Strictures which won the Hari Om Ashram Award from the association of Surgeons of India for the best research work.

TRAINING YOUNGSTERS

New concepts in surgical training and education have been a major focus of his academic interest. He has authored more than 300 scientific presentations, papers, editorials, textbook chapters, abstracts and video productions. He has been an invited speaker for more than 100 regional, national and international lectures on the subject of oesophagogastric surgery and laparoscopic surgery. He is a member of the Board of Studies in Surgical Specialities, in the Tamilnadu Dr MGR Medical University, Chennai. He has been director for more than 50 courses and workshops on advanced gastroesophageal surgery. He was instrumental in increasing the MCh Surgical Gastroenterology postgraduate seats from two to six per year, the largest number in the entire country. He has been instrumental in encouraging post graduates and even undergraduate medical students in doing original research and presenting their work in national and international forums fetching them awards and grants from well-recognised societies.

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Building on his pioneering work, his major focus now is to conduct research that can improve outcomes in management of gastric cancer, esophageal cancer and corrosive strictures of esophagus and stomach. Advancing this goal, he guides young professionals to do original research in upper GI issues, and helps them present in various international conferences. He is able to achieve this through ESOINDIA, of which he is the Founder and President.

Under the auspices of ESOINDIA he is able to help patients with diseases of esophagus and stomach; help youngsters pursue research; create opportunities for young researchers to visit centres of excellence in upper GI surgery all over the world. During the last academic year alone, that is, September 2016-September 2017, about 100 international presentations were made on behalf of ESOINDIA at various international conferences including ISDE in Singapore, KINGCA in Busan, IGCC in Beijing, DDW in Chicago, ESTS in Vienna, and MUGIS and ASEAN upper GI conference in Malaysia. More than 30 young professionals presented their work and they are now to be awarded the 'ESOINDIA Research Award'.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

ESOINDIA has also initiated discussions with various international organisations and societies to function as one of their collaborative centres for knowledge sharing, training and research. This will enable exchange programme with various countries.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME

At the societal level, Dr. Chandramohan is helping to set priorities and goals through awareness programmes on gastric cancer, esophageal cancer and corrosive injury. The Marathon that he planned and organised on November 26, 2017 to create awareness on esophageal and gastric cancer attracted more than 1,500 participants not just from all States of India, but also from other countries.

ESOINDIA will continue its awareness-building activities with the help of members of its help groups, and the Gastric Cancer Help Group. These bodies are actively supported by doctors, nurses, survivors, families of survivors and concerned citizens in various walks of life.

Certifications

Surgery and Surgical Gastroenterology

Specialty Interests

Gastroesophageal Cancer Surgery, Caustic Injury Reconstruction, gastrointestinal surgery, Laparoscopic Surgery and Translational Research in Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer

Awards & Honours

Best Performing Government Doctor Award by The Government of Tamilnadu 2014

Best doctor award - The Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University on Doctors Day-01 July 2012

Best teacher award – The Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University on 01 July 2011

Best TamilNadu Scientist Award by the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu for the Scientific Achievements.2009

SANJEEVI AWARD for Best Social Awareness and Empowerment Activities in the management of Corrosive Injury Patients on 06 July 2008 by MAFOI and EKAM Foundation

International Awards

He has individually won many notable awards and also has been instrumental in guiding the young doctors working with him to do award winning research work. Travel grant by International Surgical society for Diseases of the Esophagus, Best Paper Awards and travel grants at IGCA 2011, ISGIO 2009 Travel Grant, JSS Travel Grant 2009, JATS Travel grant, ISS/ISSF Travel Scholar award, APDW JGH Travel fellowship are notable.
