Report of IMPW 2021 on Patient Radiation Protection

Hosted by AFOMP

Prof. Anupama Azhari, Prof. Arun Chougule

International Organization for Medical Physics (IOMP) has started to celebrate a week devoted to the contributions of medical physicists to healthcare as International Medical Physics Week (IMPW) from 2020. This year to celebrate the IMPW,the IOMP School organized a series of webinarsduring April 26-30 2021. The purpose of these webinars was popularizing the medical physics profession among professional colleagues in the clinical and non-clinical field and also among the public. These activities also intend to promoting awareness of medical physics among physics colleagues and to let them know how their students can find a career in medical physics. On April 28, 2021 (Day-3), Asia Oceania Federation of Organizations for



Medical Physics (AFOMP) organized and hosted twohour long webinar on 'Patient Radiation Protection' on the occasion of IMPW 2021.

The main objective of IMPWcelebrations is to promote the organization of activities in a defined week leading to the expansion of medical physics stories around the world. The general public is unaware of the important role that medical physicists play in providing services to medical, educational, and research institutions. All regional and national medical physics organizations are prompted and encouraged toplan and implement appropriate activities taking into account the constraints due to the pandemic. The COVID 19 pandemic has been a major challenge in all sectors of our society. Regulations related to distance and social mobility has led to significant reduction in education and training activities. As a result, digital learning has greatly improved. The year 2021 is another time for new educational approaches to be tested for its efficacy and newer opportunities.

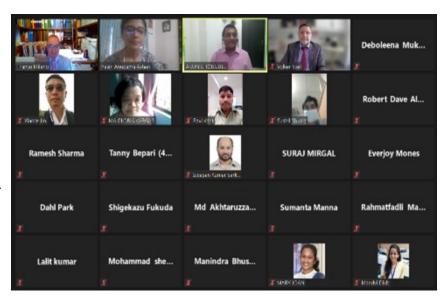
The webinars of IMPW 2021 were a great success despite the time zone differences. The AFOMP webinar on 28th April, the 3rd day of IMPW was also not an exception. The 3 speakers along with President and Secretary General AFOMP, Prof Arun Chougule and Prof Hasin Anupama Azhari and the IOMP President Prof Madan Rehani lead the deliberations on various aspects of medical physics practice, current rationales and varying challenges across the world. To encourage efficient dissemination of insights and active participation a 10 minutes question-answer session on the topics were scheduled at the end of the programme. All IMPW webinars were free to register and attend. The only prerequisites were

| for Medical Physics | | |
|--|--|--|
| T https://bdren.zo | cs. AFOMP has decided to organize a webinar o Register in advance for this meeting: om.us/meeting/register/u5ElceChqTksHNSp1 | Psjr5rbYolqsDCwbliQ |
| Time | Topics | Speakers |
| 7.00 AM - 7.05 AM (GMT) | Inaugural Speech | Prof. Hasin Anupama Azhari |
| 7.05 AM – 7.15 AM (GMT) | Welcome Speech | Prof. Arun Chougule |
| 7.15 AM – 7.30 AM (GMT) | Speech on IMPW | Prof. Madan Rehani |
| 7.30 AM - 7.50 | Medical Physicists in the Covid-19 Pandemic | Prof. Xiance Jin |
| AM (GMT) | Challenges Faces by Medical Physicists | DiplIng. Volker Steil |
| AM (GMT) | | |
| AM (GMT) 7.50 AM - 8.10 | IMPW Celebration: To raise awareness or To strengthen the community of medical physics?? | Prof. Franco Milano |
| AM (GMT) 7.50 AM – 8.10 AM (GMT) 8.10 AM - 8.30 | IMPW Celebration: To raise awareness or To strengthen the community of medical | Prof. Franco Milano Prof. Arun Chougule |

thirst for knowledge and a broader understanding of the topic.

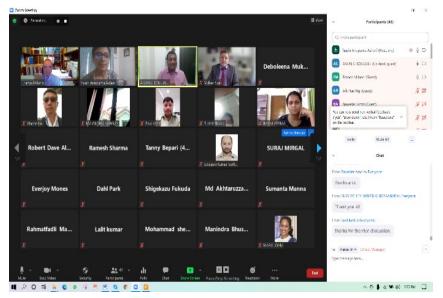
The theme of the AFOMP webinar to celebrate IMPW was 'Patient Radiation Protection'. The program was started with the Inaugural speech by ProfDr Hasin Anupama Azhari, General Secretary, AFOMP followed by a welcome address by Prof. Arun Chougule, President AFOMP.Prof Madan Rehani, President IOMP conveyed the greetings and IMPW message through a pre-recorded video. He couldn't

join livedue the time difference. The scientific programme of this webinar consisted of four talks by experts from across the world. A very relevant topic of the current times 'Medical Physicists in the COVID19 Pandemic' was deliberated and discussed by Prof Dr XianceJin, Chief Medical Physicist and Vice Director,



Radiation and Medical Oncology Department, The First Affiliated Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, China. He presented the AFOMP guidelines on medical physics practice during COVID 19 pandemic through a video message. Dipl.-Ing. Volker Steil, Authorized Representative for Radiation Protection and Head of Department Medical Physics and Radiation Protection, University Medical Center Mannheim, Germany gave his lecture on 'Challenges Faced by Medical Physicists'. He presented the challenges medical physicists' faces in education and in hospitalscomprehensively. The next lecture on 'IMPW Celebration: 'To raise awareness or to strengthen the community of medical physics??'by Prof Franco Milano, Senior Physicist, Florence University Hospital; Medical Physics Professor, University of Catania; Medical Physics Professor, University of Florence elaborated in depth on the relevance and necessity of IMPW celebrations in the current clinical atmosphere in hospitals and universities. The last talk of this webinar 'Medical Physics Education, Accreditation and Certification' by Prof Arun Chougule, President, AFOMP was an eye opener and need of the hour especially for the young thriving medical physicists. The question and answer session where participants could ask their questions to the speakers were very informative and helpful for the participants. Most of the queries and doubts from the delegates were satisfactorily addressed by each of the speakers. This was indeed a morale boosting experience for everyone who attended and an assurance to young medical physicists that there is definitely light at the end of the tunnel.

AFOMP was happy very to support IOMP as its regional organization in this initiative and organizing this kind of webinar with renowned speakers and moderators. The AFOMP webinar was very much informative and effective in disseminating knowledge to the participants as well as a valuable attempt fulfilling the objectives of IMPW



celebrations to promote the organization of activities leading to the expansion of medical physics stories globally. AFOMP urges all its NMO's to do such activities which will act as an appeal to the regional governments to make them understand the importance of medical physicists in hospitals, especially in cancer treatment and care. Wish you all a very happy and fruitful international medical physics week and all the success in all professional endeavors.