

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from IAP ID Chapter!

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for having elected me as the chairperson of this vibrant subspecialty chapter of IAP.

As you are aware, IAP-ID chapter is one of the most active chapters of IAP. It has been the endeavor of the chapter to constantly enhance the skills and knowledge of its members by various scientific events on diverse topics on infectious diseases. One such initiative by the ID chapter is to develop clinical practice modules to improve the quality of care received by patients and improve the quality of clinical decisions by the pediatricians, which in turn will improve the consistency of care.

Antimicrobial agents are some of the most widely, and often injudiciously, used therapeutic drugs worldwide. Important considerations when prescribing antimicrobial therapy include obtaining an accurate diagnosis of infection; understanding the difference between empiric and definitive therapy; identifying opportunities to switch to narrow-spectrum, cost-effective oral agents for the shortest duration necessary. It is also important to understand the importance of antimicrobial stewardship, to identify situations when antimicrobial therapy is not needed. By following these general principles, all practicing physicians should be able to use antimicrobial agents in a responsible manner that benefits both the individual patient and the community.

To carry forward these antimicrobial prescribing principles, ID chapter has designed a novel module which will guide the practitioners to apply these principles in their day-to-day practice thereby contributing to decrease AMR. This program has been captioned as APME (Antibiotic Prescribing Made Easy). We conducted a National TOT during Pedicon at Noida on 19th March 2022, for conducting workshops for this unique module, where we had 40 experts and delegates for the TOT. Subsequently, we are planning to propagate this module at 30 centers across India. We are planning to introduce an online learning module for appropriate antibiotic therapy. The module will also be published as book which will be already reckoner for all the pediatricians. An ORANGE Book of IAP IDC based on this module will be published this year and preparations have begun.

We have started conducting ID grand rounds through dIAP webinars bimonthly, wherein ID experts from across the country discuss interesting /difficult-to-manage cases. These cases and discussions will be published as a book.

We have also initiated the process of preparing IAP-IDC Guidelines on Antimicrobial Prophylaxis and plan to complete the process this year.

We appeal to all IAP-IDC Members to register for the upcoming NCPID at Vellore on 18th to 20th November 2022, where we are planning to give you an academic feast.

With Best Wishes!

Dr S Balasubramanian
Chairperson
IAP-IDC, 2022