A Preview to the Scientific Program

Metamorphosis: Emergence of Subspecialty Palliative Medicine

The conference theme of the IAPCON 2023 is titled Metamorphosis: Emergence of Subspecialty Palliative Medicine. After four decades of its existence, the palliative medicine in India is at its existential crossroads, exploring new landscapes of opportunity to further its scope, realm, and growth. O'Donohue (1997) poetically stated that people remain trapped at one window, looking out every day at the same scene in the same way. Real growth is experienced when you draw back from that window and see the different windows that await your gaze. You can see new vistas of possibility, presence, and creativity through these windows. It is probably time to unshackle ourselves from our singular views and embark upon the new journey that might metamorphose palliative medicine in India forever and could emerge as a magnificent butterfly, which symbolises the philosophy of palliative care. We believe the development and integration of subspecialty palliative medicine is the key to leap frogging of palliative medicine as a dominant speciality in India. This conference will be one such opportunity to ignite the much-awaited fire.

Unlike the previous conferences of the IAPC, this conference will be conducted in a different format to align with the conference theme.

The main conference conducted over two and half days (10-12 February 2023) will have six major tracks and three minor tracks. On days one and two of the conference, each major track will run for an entire day concurrently with other major tracks in other halls. On day three of the conference, each minor track will run for half a day concurrently with other minor tracks in other halls. Palliative medicine in neurology, pulmonology, nephrology, cardiology, oncology, and intensive care will be single standalone sessions traversing the entire day, integrating the medical, nursing, psychosocial and other aspects. Minor tracks will cover several novel intersection topics on advancements in medicine and its relevance to palliative medicine.

The tentative plan (subject to change) of major and minor tracks are as below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Hall A</th>
<th>Track 1 (Major) Neurology Palliative Medicine</th>
<th>Hall B</th>
<th>Track 2 (Major) Renal Palliative Medicine</th>
<th>Hall C</th>
<th>Track 3 (Major) Oncology Palliative Medicine</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 2</td>
<td>Hall A</td>
<td>Track 4 (Major) Respiratory Palliative Medicine</td>
<td>Hall B</td>
<td>Track 5 (Major) Intensive Care Palliative Medicine</td>
<td>Hall C</td>
<td>Track 6 (Major) Cardiovascular Palliative Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 3</td>
<td>Hall A</td>
<td>Track 7 (Minor) Theory of Change and Development of Subspecialist Palliative Medicine</td>
<td>Hall B</td>
<td>Track 8 (Minor) Best Care of the Dying Person: International Perspectives</td>
<td>Hall C</td>
<td>Track 9 (Minor) Palliative Care Education</td>
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Each track will have its sub-scientific committee, and the conference scientific chair and vice-chair will liaise with the sub-scientific committees. Moreover, there will be a sub-scientific committee for pre-conference, conference abstracts and presentation and side-line scientific activities. The pre-conference workshops will be conducted on 9th February 2023. The details regarding conference abstracts and pre-conference workshops will be notified shortly.

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