



Stillbirth Society of India

International Stillbirth Alliance Member
Email: stillbirthsi@gmail.com
www.stillbirthindia.org



Conference Report:

First National Conference, Stillbirth Society of India SBSICON 2023

Date: August 12-13, 2023

Venue: Lecture Theatre Complex, PGIMER Chandigarh

The First Annual Conference, Stillbirth Society of India, was organised at the prestigious PGIMER, Chandigarh. It brought together renowned experts from WHO, JHIEPIGO, ICMR, clinicians, researchers, and the most important stakeholders –bereaved parents to discuss and deliberate on crucial aspects of stillbirth prevention, diagnosis, and management. The conference aimed to raise awareness about stillbirth, share research, and promote collaborative efforts to reduce the burden of this tragedy. Prof Neelam Aggarwal, Founder President SBSI was the Organising Chairperson and Dr Bharti Sharma and Dr Sujata Siwach were the Organising Secretaries.

Day 1: August 12, 2023

The first day of the conference began with a thought-provoking **Public Forum, "Ankahi Ansuni,"** moderated by Dr. Shehla Jamaal and Dr. Ritambara Bhalla. Esteemed panelists

included Dr. Neena Raina (WHO SEAR Director), Dr. Alex Heazel (Tommy's Stillbirth Research Centre, UK), senior obstetricians from private and public facilities, nursing college faculty, and nursing officers involved in care of mothers of stillborn in labour room were engaged in a comprehensive discussion about stillbirth challenges and solutions. The highlight of the session was participation of bereaved parents and their stories and infographics for public awareness.

A second panel on stillbirths in India "From Policy to Implementation" was conducted by Dr Chandrakant Lahariya from the Foundation for People-centric Health Systems, New Delhi. Panelists included Dr Neena Raina, Director, WHO SEARO, New Delhi, Dr Bulbul Sood, Former Country representative, Jhpiego India, Dr SS Goudar, Director - Research, KLE Academy of Higher Education and Research, Karnataka, Dr Nomita Chandhiok, Former Sr. Dep Director General/Scientist G ICMR, New Delhi, Dr Neelam Aggarwal, Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, PGIMER, Chandigarh, Dr Tamkin Khan Founder Secretary SBSI, Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, AMU, Dr Saurabh Dutta, PGIMER Chandigarh. Dr Lahariya started this policy dialogue with elaborating 3 latest publications on stillbirth in Indian journal of paediatrics. Dr Bharti Sharma presented one of the publication titled - Burden, Differentials and Causes of Stillbirths in India: A Systematic Review and Meta Analysis; it is the first systematic review on stillbirth burden in India.

Inauguration of the Conference

The official inauguration commenced with Saraswati Vandana and lamp lighting ceremony inaugurated by Prof V Lal, Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh followed by Welcome Remarks by Dr. Neelam Aggarwal and an overview of the Stillbirth Society of India by Dr. Tamkin Khan.

Concurrently, two workshops were also conducted:

Workshop 1: Perinatal Pathology

This workshop was mainly focused on utility of perinatal pathology in stillbirth evaluation. Participants were exposed to topics like placental lesions and its significance in stillbirths, autopsy utility, genetic factors, and hands-on demonstrations of stillbirth autopsy techniques and placental grossing. Dr Sunil Jaiman (university of Chicago, USA), Dr Nandita Kakkar, renowned perinatal pathologists and Chair and Secretary of the Committee for Perinatal Pathology SBSI respectively along with Dr Nalini Gupta, Dr Kirti Gupta, Dr Rimpi Singla and Dr Anupriya participated in the workshop as trainers. Dr Aiswarya, Dr Nandita Kakkar and Dr Kirti Gupta demonstrated autopsy in stillbirth cases. The workshop was attended by 90 delegates from the Departments of Pathology, Anatomy and Obstetrics.

Workshop 2: Intrapartum Care

The workshop on intrapartum care focussed on intrapartum monitoring (CTG) and improving skills for instrumental delivery, assisted breech vaginal delivery including internal podalic version. Dr V P Paily from Kerala, Prof Vanita Suri from PGIMER Chandigarh and Dr Aruna Nigam from New Delhi were the esteemed faculty for this workshop and it was attended by 200 delegates.

Day 2: August 13, 2023

The second day of the conference also had engaging sessions and discussions.

Release of Consensus Statements by SBSI

The two consensus statements were released by SBSI on Safe Baby Bundle and Evaluation of a Case of Stillbirth. These were prepared by team leads Prof Manju puri and Dr Uma Ram and Coordinators Dr Asna Ashraf and Dr Ayesha Ahmad.

Keynote speakers

Dr. Neena Raina, Dr. V.P. Paily, and Dr. Alex Heazel, who shared valuable insights into stillbirth burden, challenges, and successes.

Free Papers and Quiz

Participants presented their research and findings related to stillbirth, showcasing diverse perspectives. Almost 60 abstracts were selected through a peer review process with blinding under three themes i.e. stillbirths, perinatal pathology and miscellaneous. The preliminary round of the quiz tested 22 attendee's knowledge on the subject followed by a second round with 4 teams.

Winners of Paper/poster & Quiz			
Theme	Stillbirth	Perinatal pathology	Miscellaneous
Poster First Second Third	Zenith Goyal Shamita Kintada Bandhanjot Kaur	Sakshi Khetan Sakshi Goyal Priyanka Uppalapati	Hritiki Aggarwal Arshdeep Kaur Akshi Negi
Paper First Second Third	Mehak Mohammad Rafik Kallur Sailja Devi Gaurav Khastgir	Anchal Banal Vishakha Gupta Srilakshmi Kodandapani	Akanksha Aggarwal Divya Minhas Jyotika
Quiz Winner 1 st Runner up	Gaurav Khastagir & Riya Jain Sunaina Sadeed & Vishaka Gupta		

Sessions and Debates

Various sessions explored themes such as solving the puzzle of stillbirth causes, preventing deaths before birth, assessing fetal growth, and addressing psychological needs and support for families affected by stillbirth. A stimulating debate on bereavement care's responsibility within the obstetric community provoked thoughtful discourse.

Closing Ceremony

The conference concluded with a lively quiz, Executive Body Meeting, prize distribution, and closing remarks. The event was a platform for sharing knowledge, networking, and inspiring action.

Conclusion

The First Annual Conference, Stillbirth Society of India 2023 proved to be a significant and enriching gathering for all stakeholders concerned about stillbirth. It was a platform for exchange of ground breaking research, best practices, and innovative strategies for stillbirth prevention, diagnosis, and support. The conference left participants inspired to collaborate and contribute towards reducing the global burden of stillbirth and offering compassionate care to affected families. The Stillbirth Society is committed to continued efforts in this critical field and looks forward to future conferences with great anticipation.



Dr Neelam Aggarwal

President



Dr Tamkin Khan

Secretary