



# Bangladesh Governor's Newsletter

## September 2020

### American College of Physicians, Bangladesh Chapter

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H.A.M. Nazmul Ahasan, MBBS, FCPS, FRCP (Edin and Glasg), MACP, ACP Governor

### **Message from Governor**

Greetings from ACP-Bangladesh Chapter. It is an unprecedented time for everyone in this world. We are in the middle of a worldwide pandemic where people are getting infected and dying at such a rate that we have never seen before in our lives. Bangladesh is a developing nation currently facing tremendous challenges on health care service. Everyone is facing trouble either in terms of health, job or both. COVID is a new disease to everyone and we are learning everyday about its pathophysiology and management. While the times certainly look bleak, we remain hopeful we will soon reach the light at the end of the tunnel.

## **Students Skill development program**

ACP Bangladesh Chapter arranged two skill development programs in the last six months. The first of the programs was arranged at Popular Medical College, Dhaka on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Three veteran teachers spoke on “Interpretation of clinical signs”. Nearly 250 students of Popular Medical College, faculty members and advisory council members of ACP - Bangladesh Chapter were present on the occasion. At first, Prof. MA Jalil Chowdhury delivered his lecture on “General Examination”. After that, Prof. HAM Nazmul Ahasan spoke on examination of “Respiratory system”. The last presentation was by Prof. Md. Azizul Kahhar, who explained clinical signs of “Cardiovascular System”.



Students program at Popular Medical College

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, another program was arranged for student members of ACP - Bangladesh chapter at Mugda Medical College, Dhaka. The event started with Prof. Quazi Tarikul Islam, who explained clinical signs of the cardiovascular system. Then, Prof. Khan Abul kalam Azad delivered his lecture on clinical signs of respiratory system. Finally, Prof. Rubina Yasmin spoke on “General Examination”. Total 250 students of Mugda medical college students were present on the occasion.



Students program at Mugda Medical College

### **First IMIG group meeting in Bangladesh:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Internal Medicine Festival was arranged by the Internal Medicine Interest Group (IMIG) of Bangladesh at Dhaka Medical College on 23-24 February, 2020 endorsed by the Students Affair Committee, ACP Bangladesh Chapter in collaboration with the department of Medicine, Dhaka Medical College. A total of 260 undergraduate medical students from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> year were registered in the program, of which 10 were from other medical colleges. There were 25 oral presentations and 47 academic posters from the students from which the best three were awarded. There were 3 presentations from the teachers also. Prof. Khan Abul Kalam Azad, principal, Dhaka Medical College, inaugurated the program and the closing ceremony was presided by the honourable governor of ACP Bangladesh Chapter, Prof. HAM Nazmul Ahasan.



Governor with other dignitaries and student members at IMIG meeting

## **Symposium on Tuberculosis**

ACP Bangladesh chapter organized a symposium on Tuberculosis in collaboration with Bangladesh Society of Medicine (BSM) and its Comilla branch. Three eminent speakers presented on the occasion. First, Prof. Md. Mahbub Majumder FACP talked about “National Tuberculosis Guideline”. Following that presentation, Prof. HAM Nazmul Ahasan MACP, Governor, ACP-Bangladesh Chapter presented “Extra-Pulmonary Tuberculosis -Challenges in diagnosis and treatment” and finally, Prof. M A Jalil Chowdhury MACP talked on “Drug resistant Tuberculosis”. More than 200 participants attended the symposium. Prof. Khan Abul Kalam Azad, former president of BSM, Prof. Ahmedul Kabir, Secretary General of BSM were also present on the occasion.



Symposium on Tuberculosis

## **Advisory council meeting:**

A meeting of the advisory council of ACP, Bangladesh Chapter was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020 during the afternoon. A total of 14 members including the Governor were present there. The honorable Governor, ACP Bangladesh Chapter presided over the meeting. At the beginning Mr. Governor informed about the upcoming election of next governor of ACP Bangladesh Chapter. He requested the council members to form different committee that will augment the activities of ACP Bangladesh Chapter including arrangement of a regional conference in

Bangladesh in the year 2022. He also informed that in the year 2020 ACP Bangladesh Chapter will arrange 3 educational programs for undergraduate students and 2 such programs for the residents. He informed the council that total number of members of ACP Bangladesh Chapter was 1427 of whom 871 were undergraduate students. The International Medicine Interest Group (IMIG), DMC will conduct a 2 -day- long CME in Dhaka Medical College that will be organized by ACP Bangladesh Chapter in collaboration with the department of Medicine, Dhaka Medical College. After Governor's speech, discussion was done on various agendas to decide the strategies for the upcoming years. Members actively participated in the discussion and following points came out-

1. An active election commission was formed in the following way-

Chairman- Professor	-	Quazi Tariqul Islam
Member Secretary	-	Mohammad. Rafiqul Islam
Member	-	Mahmudur Rahman Siddique

2. A bylaws committee was formed comprising the following members-

Chairman	-	Professor A K M Aminul Hoque
Member Secretary	-	Professor Rubina Yesmin
Member	-	Dr. Ashim Chakrabarty

3. A regional Conference Committee was formed which will work on arranging a regional conference of ACP in the year 2022. The members of the committee are-

Convener	-	Professor M A Jalil Chowdhury
Advisor	-	Professor Md. Tofayel Ahmed and other seniors



4. New members of the Advisory Council of ACP Bangladesh Chapter are-

Professor Md Enamul Karim

Professor S M Arafat

Professor Abul Kalam Azad



Advisory council members meeting.

**COVID for Residents**

ACP Bangladesh chapter arranged a webinar on “COVID for Residents” for resident members of ACP-Bangladesh Chapter though all category members were invited and registered in the program. The program was arranged on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 8 PM and continued up to 11PM. Besides ZOOM platform meeting, Facebook live streaming was also done so that anyone can follow the program who are not registered for the program. Prof. Ridwanur Rahman, Prof. Mujibur Rahman, Prof. ASM Areef Ahasan and Prof. Ahmedul Kabir talked on different practical aspects of diagnosis and management of COVID 19. Renowned 18 panel of expert including Prof. Md. Billal Alam, Prof. Khan Abul Kalam Azad, Prof. Quazi Tarikul Islam Prof. MA Faiz, Prof. MA Jalil Chowdhury and Governor, Prof. HAM Nazmul Ahasan were present and shared their practical experience with residents.



Prof. MA Faiz and other dignitaries.

### **Governor Elect:**

Chairman of local nomination committee informed that election process is going on and it will be published on due course of time.

### **Urgent measures for consideration for COVID-19 in Bangladesh**

**Prof Md Robed Amin**  
**Professor of Medicine**  
**Dhaka Medical College**

**COVID-19** is a novel pandemic that the world is facing with evolving new science and mystery.

Among the LMIC country, Bangladesh is also facing the onslaught of this viral disease where the origin, transmission dynamics, pathophysiology, treatment and preventive process remain an enigma. This notorious infectious disease exposed the broken health system of Bangladesh where there is deemed need of urgent intervention.

Community engagement for ensuring quarantine, prevention, health education and home care by CBHC, CHWs including CHCP and multipurpose community health volunteers and urban areas in all NGOs and the government facilities are urgently needed.



Triage in hospitals for cases of fever, cough, dyspnea in all government and private based on clinical case definition or presumptive diagnosis should be ensued. Using SOP based telemedicine for service round the clock 24/7 will save the health professionals and suspension of all non-emergency surgery is an urgent issue.

Optimum use of ICUs and all additional ICU beds while converting some general beds into ICU beds; converting general hospitals into infection disease hospital to treat COVID-19 and urgent training on critical care including ventilator is needed. Priority service to pregnant women and high-risk group like elderly, with comorbidities is an urgent need.

IPC in all hospitals is now an urgent issue including consideration of PPEs at all level.

Media partnership to accept the instructions/messages by the public and prevent panic is crucial. Activities for Rohingya camps/FDMN is also an urgent agenda now.

Bangladesh needs to learn containment and mitigation methods urgently to properly handle the pandemic.

**New Fellow in last seven months:**

Rubina Yasmin, MBBS FACP

Nazmul Kabir Qureshi, MBBS MD FACP

Aminur Rahman, MBBS MD FACP

Sunil Kumar Biswas, MD FACP

Kazi Abrar Hasan, MBBS FACP

Md Nur-A-Alom Khan, MBBS FACP

Mohammad Ferdous Ur Rahaman, MBBS FACP

Kazi Ahmed, MBBS MD FACP

Md Kamrul Hasan Lohani, MD FACP

**New Members in last seven months:**

Md Hasibul Hasan, MBBS

MD. Nazmul Haque

MD Reaz Uddin Chowdhury, FCPS MBBS

Rakesh Panday, MBBS

Md Mehedi Hasan, MBBS

Abu Ayub Md Nazmul Huda, MBBS

Abu Taiub Mohammed Mohiuddin Chowdhury, MBBS MD

Abul Kalam Mohammad Azad, MBBS

Md Ahsanul Kabir, MBBS

Md Mir Sufian, MBBS

Mohammad Alamgir, MBBS

Syed Asif Iqbal, MBBS

Shamsun Nahar, MBBS

Md. Asif Hossain, MBBS

DR. Mahbuba Shabnam, MBBS

Helal Ahmed, MBBS

Md Abu Talha, MBBS

Sabbir A Dhali, MD

Tasrina Shamnaz Samdani, MBBS MRCP

**Conclusion:**

I must congratulate to all fellow physicians for their extreme hard work in this COVID pandemic knowing that their life is in grave danger. I pray to Almighty for our brave physicians who laid their lives during serving the COVID patients. They have shown their character that serving patient at any adverse situation were their highest priority. May Almighty bless us all.

HAM Nazmul Ahasan

Governor

ACP, Bangladesh Chapter.

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