

Annual Report on Activities of the IACR during the year 2007-2008

The aim of the Indian Association for Cancer Research (IACR) is to advance research in all the aspects of cancer, promote interaction among scientists in this field and spread awareness about cancer among common people. IACR publishes three issues of 'IACR Newsletter' every year, for the dissemination of information about IACR's activities and the latest scientific developments. This newsletter is sent to more than 600 life members of the association that are spread all over India and overseas as well as annual members and student members. In 2007, Dr. Prabhudas Patel has taken over the responsibilities as the Editor. Dr. Patel and his editorial team have published vol 23, no.1 and 2. Eminent scientists contributed articles in these Newsletter issues and provided the latest information to the reader.

The IACR has instituted a number of awards for students and young scientists. These awards have been instituted from generous donations. Since 1999, the IACR has instituted an 'All India Essay Competition', which is open to the post-graduate students and research scholars from Indian universities and research institutions. The best essay is published in the IACR Newsletter. In 2007, 'Modern Techniques in Drug Delivery' was chosen as the topic for this year's essay competition.

During this year, the Gujrat local chapter had organized two academic events mainly for the post-graduate students of science and pharmacy faculty. On 3rd October, 2007 a seminar was organized on 'Current Trends in Molecular Biology and Clinical Drug Trials' under the patronage of The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute (GCRI), Gujrat Cancer Society (GCS) and Gujrat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM). The second event organized was a poster presentation competition to endow in students the research-education component and bring out their intellectual skills. The topics for the competition were – 1) Nanotechnology: Basis for next revolution in Cancer and 2) Stems Cells: A cure to cancer?

Thus, in accordance with the aims and objectives of the association, various academic and educational activities in the field of cancer research were organised during the year.