

Program Schedule: Global Immunology Summit-2026

Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar

☐ Day 1: 19th January 2026, Monday

GIS-2026 Inauguration
Venue: ILS Auditorium

| 09:00 - 09:30 | Chief Guest: Dr. Sanghamitra Pati Invited Guests: Dr. B. Ravindran, Prof. N. K. Mehra, Prof. G. C. Kundu, Prof. J. Dandapat Patrons: Dr. Debasis Dash, Dr. G Karthikeyan, Dr. Srinivas Patnaik. Convenor: Dr. Sunil K. Raghav Co-Convenor: Dr. Bhawna Gupta | 09:00 - 09:05 Conference Inauguration, Lamp lighting 09:05 - 09:10 Welcome address, Dr. Debasis Dash 09:10 - 09:15 Inaugural address, Dr. Sanghamitra Pati 09:15 - 09:20 Welcome address, Dr. Srinivas Patnaik 09:20 - 09:25 GIS Journey, Dr. Amit Awasthi & Dr. Deepak Kumar Rathore 09:25 - 09:30 GIS-26, Dr. Sunil K. Raghav Vote of thanks, Dr. Bhawna Gupta |
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| Theme | Session-1: Autoimmune Disorders & Inflammation | Talk Title |
| Chairpersons: | Dr. B. Ravindran & Prof. N. K. Mehra | |
| Keynote Talk (30+5 Mins): 09:30 – 10:05 | Dr. Vijay Kumar Kuchroo, Harvard, USA | Dark Kinases as Checkpoint molecules that regulate induction of anti-tumor immunity |
| 10:05 – 10:25 (15+5 Mins) | Dr. Maheswara Reddy Emani, GenenTech, USA | Predictive <i>in vitro</i> profiling of LNP-induced innate immune response using an iPSC-derived monocyte model |
| 10:25 – 10:45 | Dr. Dipayan Rudra, ShanghaiTech University, China | Novel Insights on Regulatory T cell Mediated Tumor Immune Tolerance |
| 10:45 – 11:05 | Dr. Pragyan Acharya, AIIMS, Delhi | Lipid–Immune Crosstalk as a Driver of Dysregulated Inflammation in Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure |
| 11:05 – 11:10 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Avinash Bajaj, Prof. Avinash Sonawane) | |
| 11:10 – 11:25 |  Tea Break & Networking | Ground floor & Front Lawn of Auditorium Building |
| Chairpersons | Prof. J. Dandapat & Prof. G.C. Kundu | |
| 11:25 – 11:45 | Dr. Lionel J. Apetoh, Indiana University, USA | Molecular regulation of T _H 9 cell differentiation and anticancer properties |

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| 11:45 – 12:05 | Dr. Rupesh K. Srivastava, AIIMS Delhi | Harnessing the “Gut-Immune-Bone axis” as a novel Immunoporotic strategy in enhancing Bone-Health in Post-Menopausal Osteoporosis |
| 12:05 – 12:25 | Dr. Amit Awasthi, THSTI, Delhi | Ionic immune regulation limits intestinal inflammation by promoting cholic acid-mediated IL-10 induction |
| 12:25 – 12:45 | Robert Balderas, BD Biosciences | A proteomic and transcriptomic assessment of innate and adaptive responses from normal human PBMCs |
| 12:45 - 12:55 (8+2 mins) | Delegate Faculty Talk: Dr. Zaigham Abbas Rizvi, THSTI, Faridabad | Long-Term Systemic Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2: A Multi-Omics Analysis of Neuroinvasion and Extrapulmonary Pathology in Longitudinal Animal Models |
| 12:55 – 13:05 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Avinash Bajaj, Dr. Pragyan Acharya) | |
| 13:05 – 14:00 | ☐ Lunch Break and Poster discussions | ILS Central Lawn & G+5 building ground floor |
| Theme | Session-2: Infectious Diseases & Host Immunity | Talk Title |
| Chairpersons: | Dr. Narottam Acharya & Dr. Satish Devdas | |
| Keynote talk (30+5 Mins): 14:00 – 14:35 | Dr. David A Hafler, Yale University, USA | Host Genetic Architecture between Epstein–Barr Virus Activity and Multiple Sclerosis Reveals Shared Pathways |
| 14:35 – 14:55 | Dr. Imroze Khan, Ashoka University, Delhi | Viewing Immunity in the context of Ageing and Evolution |
| 14:55 – 15:15 | Dr. Hiyaa Ghosh, NCBS, Bangalore | Microglial diversity: Do specific subtypes respond to specialized need? |
| 15:15 – 15:35 | Prof. Avinash Sonawane, IIT Indore | TRPV4 ion channel exerts differential immunoprotective response in host cells during early and late infection phase of <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> infection |
| 15:35 – 15:55 | Dr. Subhasis Chattopadhyay, NISER, BBSR | Cell Mediated Immune Regulation during Chikungunya Virus (CHIKV) Infection, Experimental Immune Suppression and Cancer Immunity |
| 15:55 – 16:00 | Q/A for Students (Prof. Himanshu Kumar, Dr. Gaurav Sharma) | |
| 16:00 – 16:15 | ☕ Tea Break & Networking | Ground floor & Front Lawn of Auditorium Building |
| 16:15 - 16:45 | ☐ Poster session & Assessment | G+5 building ground floor |
| Chairpersons: | Dr. Sunil K. Raghav & Dr. Debasis Dash | |
| Keynote talk (30+5 Mins): 16:45 – 17:20 | Dr. Riitta Lahesmaa, BTK, Finland | Regulation of human T cell response |
| 17:20 - 17:40 | Dr. Prafullakumar Tailor, NII, Delhi | Decoding the specificity within Interferon regulatory factors in dendritic cell differentiation and innate immunity |

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| 17:40 - 18:00 | Dr. Rajiv Kumar, BHU, Varanasi | Characterization of Cytotoxic CD4 ⁺ T Cells in Visceral Leishmaniasis Patients |
| 18:00 - 18:20 | Dr. Santosh Chauhan, CCMB, Hyderabad | Mechanism of innate immune responses |
| 18:20 - 18:40 | Dr. Gaurav Sharma, PGIMER, Chandigarh | Diversity of Killer-cell Immunoglobulin like Receptors Influence Graft vs Host disease after Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation |
| 18:40 - 18:45 | Q/A for Students (Prof. Himanshu Kumar, Dr. Rupesh Srivastava) | |
| 18:45 - 18:52 | Sponsor Talk | Promotional talk |
| 18:52 - 19:00 | Sponsor Talk | Promotional talk |
| 19:00 onwards | Cultural Program & ☐ Dinner | ILS Central Lawn |
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| ☐ Day 2: 20th January 2026, Tuesday | | |
| <i>Theme</i> | <i>Session-3: Immunogenomics & Immunometabolism</i> | <i>Talk Title</i> |
| Chairpersons: | Dr. Dipayan Rudra & Dr. Devinder Sehgal | |
| Keynote talk (30+5 Mins): 09:00-09:35 | Dr. Bart Everts, Leiden University Medical Center | Regulating the regulators: how nutrient sensors control dendritic cell-driven tolerance |
| 09:35 - 09:55 | Dr. Nimesh Gupta, NII, Delhi | Gut Metabolite Shape Antibody Quality By Impairing Tfh-B Cell Collaboration |
| 09:55 - 10:15 | Dr. Ranjan Nanda, ICGB, Delhi | Tango of Host Amino Acid Metabolism and <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> Infection |
| 10:15 -10:35 | Prof. Kushagra Bansal, JNCASR, Bangalore | Regulators of genome superstructure in the immune system |
| 10:35 - 10:55 | Prof. Himanshu Kumar, IISER Bhopal | Immunometabolic role of PANK4 in regulation of TLR7/9-mediated innate immunity |
| 10:55 - 11:15 | Dr. Avinash Bajaj, RCB, Faridabad | Metabolite-mediated Regulation of Immunoproteasome Steers the Chemotherapy Response in Hot and Cold Tumour Microenvironment |
| 11:15 - 11:35 | Dr. Sunil K. Raghav, ILS, Bhubaneswar | Nuclear Receptor co-repressors NCOR1 & SMRT fine-tune Immune-tolerance and inflammation |
| 11:35 - 11:40 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Savneet Kaur, Dr. Rajiv Kumar) | |
| 11:40 - 12:00 | ☕ Tea Break & Group Photo | Ground floor & Front Lawn of Auditorium Building |

| Theme | Session-4: Clinical and Translational Immunology | Talk Title |
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| Chairpersons: | Prof. Hans-Acha Orbea & Dr. Sunil K. Raghav | |
| Keynote talk (30+5 Mins): 12:00: 12:35 | Prof. Bart Deplancke, EPFL, Lausanne | Online Talk: Bridging Morphology and Transcriptomics in Immunology through Single-Cell Phenomics |
| 12:35 – 12:55 | Dr. Savneet Kaur, ILBS, Delhi | Disruption of Mesenteric Lymph Node Immune Surveillance Drives Bacterial Infections in Advanced Liver Disease |
| 12:55 - 13:15 | Dr. Chandrashekara. S, ChanRe Centre, Bangalore | Precision medicine in Autoimmune rheumatic disease- need an integrated approach |
| 13:15 - 13:25 | Delegate Faculty Talk: Dr. Vandana D. Pradhan, NIIH, Mumbai | IFN levels and IFN signature identify patient subsets with distinct clinical and immunological characteristics in SLE |
| 13:25 - 13:30 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Punit Prasad, Prof. Kushagra Bansal) | |
| 13:30-14:30 | ☐ Lunch Break and Poster discussions | ILS Central Lawn & Ground floor of G+5 building |
| Chairperson | Dr. Sunil K. Arora & Prof. Gaurishankar Sa | |
| Keynote Talk (30+5 Mins): 14:30 – 15:05 | Prof. Wilfried Ellmeier, Medical University of Vienna | Online talk: Histone deacetylases and the control of CD4⁺ T cell-mediated immunity |
| 15:05 – 15:25 | Dr. Girdhari Lal, NCCS, Pune | NK-1R signaling restrains Foxp3 ⁺ Treg differentiation and function during gut inflammation and autoimmunity |
| 15:25 – 15:45 | Dr. Brian Hafler, USA | Single-cell analysis identifies shared inflammatory glial states across neurodegenerative central nervous system diseases |
| 15:45 - 16:05 | Dr. Devinder Sehgal, NII, Delhi | SPD_1629 Mediates Uracil Uptake and Is Required for <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> Fitness and Virulence In Vivo |
| 16:05 – 16:10 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Ranjan Nanda, Dr. Nimesh Gupta) | |
| 16:10 – 16:25 | ☕ Tea Break | Ground floor & Front Lawn of Auditorium Building |
| 16:25 - 17:20 | ☐ Poster Session & Assessment | G+5 building ground floor |
| 17:20 - 17:40 | Dr. Sumit Kumar Hira, University of Burdwan, West Bengal | Breaking the Metabolic Lock: Sphingolipid-Driven T Cell Exhaustion in Immunotherapy-Resistant Colorectal Cancer |
| 17:40 – 18:00 | Dr. Sunil K. Arora, PGIMER, Chandigarh | Checkpoint molecules an evasion mechanism in HIV-Mtb co-infection |
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| 18:00 – 18:20 | Dr. Mahaboob Khan Rasool, VIT, Vellore | IL-17A signalling blockade: A powerful therapeutic modality to combat rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis. |

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| 18:20 - 18:30 | Delegate Faculty Talk: Dr. Ravi Verma, JNU, Delhi | Unravelling Mucosal Immunity–Microbiota Interactions: From Host Defence to Beneficial Symbiosis |
| 18:30 - 18:40 | Delegate Faculty Talk: Dr. Deepak Kumar Rathore, THSTI, Faridabad | Immune Protection After Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccination Among Elderly Indians |
| 18:40 – 18:47 | Sponsor Talk | Promotional talk |
| 18:47 - 18:55 | Sponsor Talk | Promotional talk |
| 18:55 onwards | Bus transportation to Padmaja Hotel | |
| 19:00 onwards | ✦☐ Gala Dinner @ Padmaja Hotel Rooftop | Padmaja Hotel, Niladri Vihar |
| ☐ Day 3: 21 st January 2026, Wednesday | | |
| <i>Theme</i> | <i>Session-5: Immunotherapy & Technical advancements</i> | <i>Talk Title</i> |
| Chairpersons: | Dr. Satish Devdas & Dr. Shantibhusan Senapati | |
| Keynote talk (30+5 Mins): 09:00 – 09:35 | Prof. Gaurisankar Sa, Bose Institute, Kolkata | Cancer immunotherapy and beyond |
| 09:35 – 09:55 | Prof. Dipankar Nandi, IISc Bangalore | Interferon-gamma-induced nitric oxide responses: Yes to NO! |
| 09:55 – 10:15 | Prof. Atul Johri, JNU, Delhi | Use of reverse vaccinology approach for the development of vaccine against <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> infections |
| 10:15 – 10:35 | Dr. Syed M. Faisal, NIAB, Hyderabad | Bridging Innate and Adaptive Immunity: Next-Generation Adjuvants for Veterinary Vaccines |
| 10:35 - 10:45 | Delegate Faculty Talk: Dr. Pijus Barman, Mahindra University, Hyderabad | Impact of aging on monocyte function and breast cancer progression |
| 10:45 - 10:50 | Q/A for Students (Dr. Sumit Kumar Hira, Dr. Punit Prasad) | |
| | Student Talk Judges: Prof. Atul Johri, Prof. Dipankar Nandi, Prof. GauriSankar Sa, Dr. Satish Devdas | |
| 10:50 – 11:00 | Student Talk 1: Sarwareddy Kartik Kumar, AHERF, Hyderabad | Harnessing Tumor-Derived Extracellular Vesicle-Primed Dendritic Cell Exosomes for both Immunogenic and Cytotoxic Targeting of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma |

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| 11:00 – 11:10 | Student Talk 2: Amlan Priyadarshee Mohapatra, ILS, Bhubaneswar | The heterogeneity in normal pancreatic fibroblasts and its implication in CAFs mediated tumor immune-modulation and pancreatic cancer progression |
| 11:10 – 11:20 | Student Talk 3: Mohammad Kadivella, NIAB, Hyderabad | From Structure to Immunity: Characterizing <i>Leptospira</i> FlaB as a Potent Vaccine Adjuvant |
| 11:20 – 11:30 | Student talk 4: Subhasish Prusty, ILS, BBSR | Hsp16.3ΔC4, a C-terminal truncated mutant, confers strong cellular and humoral immunity against pulmonary tuberculosis |
| 11:30 – 11:40 | Student talk 5: Parnika Sahoo, IISER Tiruvananthapuram | Co-option of the host ACVR1-iron axis drives iron remodelling and enables a permissive niche for <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i> replication |
| 11:40 – 11:50 | Student talk 6: Pranati Sar, Silver Oak Inst. of Science, Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Host Genetic and Epigenetic Regulation of MHC-II as a Predictor of Malaria Clinical Outcomes |
| 11:50 - 12:00 | Student talk 7: Agalya Vanamudhu, ICMR-NIRT, Chennai | Profiling Complement Proteins in Pediatric Cases of Tuberculosis and SARS-CoV-2 Seropositivity |
| 12:00 - 12:10 | Student talk 8: Anand Kumar Keshri, IIT-Mandi, HP | Hyperactivated CCR5 ⁺ Neutrophils Drive Gastric Inflammation and Epithelial Injury in <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> Infection |
| 12:10 – 12:17 | Sponsor talk | Promotional talk |
| 12:17 – 13:00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Valedictory function and Award Ceremony | Travel Awards (6), Poster Awards (10), Oral Presentation Young Scientist Awards (3) |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | ILS Central Lawn |
| 14:00 Onwards | <input type="checkbox"/> Buses to Konark & Puri for interested Delegates / & Invited speakers | Outside ILS (Buses will leave at 14:15h) |