

# Curriculum Vitae

## Tharaka Dassanayake MBBS, MPhil, PhD

Professor in Neurophysiology  
Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya 20400, SRI LANKA

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### **Personal Information**

**Name in Full:** Waidyaratne Dassanayake Mudiyansele Tharaka Lagath Dassanayake

**Home Address:** 88/C, Dambayanga, Geliyoa 20620, SRI LANKA

**Date of birth:** 23/06/1976

**Citizenship:** Sri Lankan

**Language proficiency:** Sinhalese, English

### **Education**

**Doctor of Philosophy (June 2012), The University of Newcastle, NSW, AUSTRALIA**

Thesis title (thesis by publication): Effects of central nervous system depressant drug overdose on cognitive functions and driving

*Additional Coursework:*

Biostatistics B: Grade: High Distinction

Advanced Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology. Grade: High Distinction

**Master of Philosophy (August 2007), University of Peradeniya, SRI LANKA**

Thesis title: Cognitive effects of organophosphorus insecticide poisoning studied using reaction time, evoked potentials and event-related potentials

**Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (February 2002), University of Peradeniya (Sri Lanka)**

Graduated with 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Honours, ranked 56<sup>th</sup> in national merit order out of 556 medical graduates

### **Employment**

#### **Present:**

- Professor in Neurophysiology, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (since April 2015)
- Honorary Consultant Neurophysiologist, Teaching Hospital Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

- Clinical Researcher, South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
- Conjoint Senior Lecturer, School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia
- Visiting Lecturer, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Dental Sciences and Faculty of Engineering University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**March 2009 – April 2015:** Senior Lecturer, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**April 2012 – December 2014:** Conjoint Senior Lecturer, School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia

**August 2009 – December 2011:** Lecturer (Casual), School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy, Faculty of Health, The University of Newcastle, Australia

**February 2004 – March 2009:**

- Lecturer, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**August 2003 – February 2004:** Intern Medical Officer: Paediatrics, Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**February 2003 – August 2003:** Intern Medical Officer: Surgery, Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

**March 2002 – February 2003:** Lecturer (temporary), Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

### **Research Interests and technical experience**

- Research interests:
  - Clinical neurophysiology
  - Cognitive neuroscience
  - Neurotoxicology of pesticides
  - Drug effects on CNS and driving
- Technical skills:
  - Clinical neurophysiology: evoked potentials, transcranial magnetic stimulation, peripheral nerve conduction testing, EMG
  - Cognitive neurosciences: Event-related potentials, Neuropsychological assessment.
- Training and experience:
  - *Advanced cognitive assessment* (Neuropsychological and Neurophysiological techniques): Calvary Mater Hospital, Newcastle, Australia (2008-2012)
  - *Clinical Neurophysiology*, Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (since 2002)
  - Functional neuroimaging laboratory, University of Newcastle, Australia (2008-2012)
  - South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (Since 2004).

### **Postgraduate Supervision**

1. Dr. Stewart Oxley (Doctorate in Clinical and Health Psychology, The University of Newcastle, Australia): Thesis “Influence of central nervous system depressant (CNS-

- D) drugs on driving performance and cognitive functions and recovery of cognitive functions following hospital treated deliberate self-poisoning with CNS-D drugs.” Completed.
2. Dr. Chanaka Kahathuduwa (Master of Philosophy, University of Peradeniya): Thesis “Assessment of cognitive processing using reaction time, evoked potentials and event-related potentials and study of the effect of theanine on cognitive processing”. Completed.
  3. Dr. Chanika Alahakoon (Master of Philosophy, University of Peradeniya): Thesis “Development of a biomarker using single Fibre electromyography in organophosphate poisoned patients” – completed
  4. Dr. Chandana Hewawasam (Master of Philosophy, University of Peradeniya): Thesis: “Cognitive performance in siblings of patients with dementia” – in progress
  5. Ms. Aikaterini Lymperidou (MSc in Interdisciplinary Graduate Programme in the Brain and Mind Sciences, Department of Medicine, University of Crete): Dissertation: “Perception of Emotion: A cross cultural comparison of emotional evaluation” – In progress

### **Full-text Research Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals**

1. Alahakoon C, **Dassanayake TL**, Gawarammana IB, Sedgwick EM, Weerasinghe VS, Abdalla A, et al. Prediction of organophosphorus insecticide-induced intermediate syndrome with stimulated concentric needle single fibre electromyography. PLOS ONE. 2018;13:e0203596. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203596>
2. Antonypillai, CN, Jayawardena, WCK, Samarakkody, IG, Dahanayake, S, Monaragala, L, Wijerathne, DLN and **Dassanayake, TL**. Changes in Alanine transaminase levels in response to statins: Sri Lankan experience in patient with type 2 Diabetes mellitus with Dyslipidemia. Sri Lanka Journal of Diabetes Endocrinology and Metabolism 2018; 8 (1): 3-7. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.4038/sjdem.v8i1.7345>
3. Alahakoon C, **Dassanayake TL**, Gawarammana IB, Weerasinghe VS. Can we predict intermediate syndrome? A review. NeuroToxicology. 2017 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuro.2017.12.002> [PubMed]
4. Kahathuduwa CN, Dhanasekara CS, Chin S-H, Davis T, Weerasinghe VS, **Dassanayake TL**, Binks M. L-theanine and caffeine improve target-specific attention to visual stimuli by decreasing mind wandering: A human functional magnetic resonance imaging study. Nutrition Research. 2018; 49: 67-78. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nutres.2017.11.002> [PubMed]
5. Kahathuduwa CN, **Dassanayake TL**, Amarakoon AMT, Weerasinghe VS. Acute effects of theanine, caffeine and theanine-caffeine combination on attention. Nutritional Neurosciences 2017; 20: 369-77. DOI: 10.1080/1028415x.2016.1144845 [PubMed]
6. **Dassanayake TL**. Cognitive toxicity: from pesticides to pharmaceuticals. Sri Lanka Journal of Medicine. 2017; 26 (1): 25-41. [full text]
7. Amaratunga HA, Adikari SB, **Dassanayake TL**, Gamage J, Suraweera HJ. Relationship between the goniometric alignment and articular cartilage damage in knee osteoarthritis. Ceylon Med J. 2017; 62: 167-74. [PubMed]
8. **Dassanayake TL**, Michie PT, Fulham R. Effect of temporal predictability on exogenous attentional modulation of feedforward processing in the striate cortex. International Journal of Psychophysiology, 2016; 105:9-16. [doi:10.1016/j.ijpsycho.2016.04.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijpsycho.2016.04.007). [PubMed]

9. Oxley SO, **Dassanayake TL**, Carter GL, Whyte I, Jones AL, Cooper G, Michie PT. Neurocognitive Recovery After Hospital-Treated Deliberate Self-Poisoning With Central Nervous System Depressant Drugs: A Longitudinal Cohort Study. *J Clin Psychopharmacol*. 2015; 35(6):672-80. [[Pubmed](#)]
10. Kahathuduwa CN, Weerasinghe VS, **Dassanayake TL**, Priyadarshana R, Dissanayake AL, Perera C. Task-specific kinetic finger tremor affects the performance of carrom players. *J Sports Sci*. 2015; 34(10):923-8. [[Pubmed](#)]
11. Ariyasinghe D, Abeysinghe R, Siriwardhana P, **Dassanayake T**. Prevalence of major depressive disorder among spouses of men who use alcohol in a rural community in Sri Lanka. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*. 2015, 50(3):328-32. doi: 10.1093/alcalc/agu105 [[Pubmed](#)]
12. Amaratunga HA, Adhikari SB, **Dassanayake TL**, Chandrasekara M, Suraweera HJ. Goniometric alignment of the normal knee joint and the factors which affect it. *Ceylon Medical Journal*. 2014, 59(2): 45-8. [[Pubmed](#)]
13. **Dassanayake TL**, Michie PT, Jones AL, Carter GL, Mallard T, Whyte IM. Cognitive skills underlying driving in patients discharged following self-poisoning with central nervous system depressant drugs. *Traffic Injury Prevention*. 2012, 13: 450-7 [[Pubmed](#)]
14. **Dassanayake TL**, Michie PT, Jones AL, Carter GL, Mallard T, Whyte IM. Cognitive impairment in patients clinically recovered from central nervous system depressant drug overdose. *Journal Clinical Psychopharmacology* 2012, 32(4): 503-10. [[Pubmed](#)]
15. **Dassanayake TL**, Jones AL, Michie PT, Carter GL, McElduff P, Stokes BJ, Whyte IM. Risk of Road Traffic Accidents in Patients Discharged Following Treatment for Psychotropic Drug Overdose: a Self-Controlled Case Series Study in Australia. *CNS Drugs* 2012, 26(3): 269-76. 10.2165/11599790-000000000-00000. [[Pubmed](#)]
16. **Dassanayake TL**, Michie P, Carter G, Jones A. Effects of benzodiazepines, Antidepressants and opioids on driving: a systematic review of epidemiological and experimental evidence. *Drug Safety* 2011, 34 (2): 125-156. doi: 10.2165/11539050-000000000-00000 [[Pubmed](#)]
17. **Dassanayake T**, Gawarammana IB, Weerasinghe VS, Dissanayake S, Pragaash S, Dawson A, Senanayake N. Auditory event-related potential changes in chronic occupational exposure to organophosphate pesticides. *Clinical Neurophysiology* 2009, 120: 1693-1698. [[Pubmed](#)]
18. **Dassanayake T**, Weerasinghe VS, Dangahadeniya U, Kularatne K, Dawson A, Karalliedde L, Senanayake N. Long-term Event-Related Potential Changes following Organophosphorus Insecticide Poisoning. *Clinical Neurophysiology* 2008, 119: 144-150. [[Pubmed](#)]
19. **Dassanayake T**, Weerasinghe VS, Dangahadeniya U, Kularatne K, Dawson A, Karalliedde L, Senanayake N. Cognitive processing of visual stimuli in patients with organophosphate insecticide poisoning. *Neurology* 2007; 68(23): 2027-2030. [[Pubmed](#)]

## **Research Conference Presentations / Published Abstracts**

### **International:**

1. Weerasinghe VS, Wijayasiri M, Weerasinghe NT, Dahanayake P, Shiroma RGL, Dassanayake T, et al. S38. Boston questionnaire and neurophysiological findings in carpal tunnel syndrome in Sri Lanka. *Clinical Neurophysiology*. 2018;129:e156. (presented at 31<sup>st</sup> International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology of the International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology; Washington, DC. May 2018)
2. Alahakoon AAC, Dassanayake TL, Gawarammana IB, Sedgewick M, Weerasinghe VS. Single fibre electromyography as a predictor of intermediate syndrome. 16<sup>th</sup> Annual

- Congress of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. 2017. Kandy. Book of abstracts p. 93
3. Alahakoon AAC, Dassanayake TL, Gawarammana IB, Weerasinghe VS. Revisiting respiratory failure in acute organophosphorus insecticide self- poisoning in Sri Lanka. 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. 2017. Kandy. Book of abstracts p. 81
  4. Ariyasinghe DI, Shiroma RGL, Kulatunga S, Dassanayake TL. Normative data for Cambridge Neuropsychological Test Automated Battery (CANTAB) for Sri Lankans: changes of cognitive functions from adolescence to late adulthood. World Psychiatric Association Regional Congress 8-12<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Berlin.
  5. Dassanayake TL, Weerasinghe VS, Gawarammana IB, Buckley N. Changes of P300 event related potential in organophosphate pesticide poisoning. August 2017. Amsterdam.
  6. Alahakoon AAC, Dassanayake TL, Sedgwick EM, Buckley N A, Weerasinghe VS. Stimulated single fiber electromyography in orbicularis oculi muscle in organophosphate insecticide poisoned patients. British Society for Clinical Neurophysiology 2016.
  7. Dahanayake DWP, Dassanayake TL, Weerasinghe VS, Senanayake N. Long term follow up study of at-risk children for developing sensorineural hearing defects using brain stem auditory evoked potentials (BAEP). 8<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Federation of the Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies (FAOPS) 2015. (Published in The Journal of Physiological Sciences 65: S-A84).
  8. Weerasinghe V, Kahathuduwa C, Amarakoon T, Dassanayake T. Synergistic effect of theanine and caffeine on visual reaction time, evoked potentials and cognitive event related potentials. 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (Published in Journal of Clinical Neurophysiology 32 (4), 396, 10.1097/WNP.000000000000175)
  9. Kahathuduwa C, Weerasinghe V, Dassanayake T, Amarakoon T, Binks M. High Doses of Theanine Improve Visual Stimulus Discrimination in a Dose-dependent Manner. The FASEB Journal. 2016;30:1284.3.
  10. Ariyasinghe DI, Abeysinghe DRR, Dassanayake TL. Depression among women who are spouses of men with alcohol-related problems in rural Sri Lanka. World Psychiatric Association Regional Congress 2014 (Published in East Asian Archives of Psychiatry 2014 Vol 24 No.4 supplement p.68)
  11. Tharaka Dassanayake, Vajira Weerasinghe, Indika Gawarammana, Kamal Naser, Nicholas Buckley. Neurophysiological markers of Cognitive Impairment in Organophosphate and Carbamate Insecticide Poisoning: Preliminary Findings. 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2014, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  12. Cognitive Functions: Principles, Assessment Techniques and Implications. 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2014, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  13. Weerasinghe V, Sedgwick M, Dassanayake T, Gawarammana I, Senanayake N, Naser K, Buckley N, Dawson A. Stimulated single fibre electromyography using concentric needle electrode in organophosphate insecticide poisoning in Sri Lanka. 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology 2014, Book of Abstracts, 565.
  14. Wadugodapitiya SI, Weerasinghe VS, Dassanayake TL. Assessment of functional motor disability in children with Cerebral Palsy: Neuroaxis 2013, Abstract book, 59

15. Use of Event-related potentials in the study of sub-clinical cognitive effects of organophosphates. 3rd Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka
16. Neurophysiological evidence of attentional modulation of visual processing in striate cortex. 3rd Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka
17. Dahanayake P et al. Assessment of hearing using brainstem auditory evoked potentials (BAEP) in infants who had prolonged neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) stay in Sri Lanka. 3rd Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka
18. Wadugodapitiya S. et al. Outcome of functional motor disability in ankle dorsiflexion in children with cerebral palsy following low-dose botulinum toxin A injection. 3rd Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Abstract Book, p. 105
19. Role of temporal expectancy in attentional modulation of visual processing in striate and extrastriate cortex. 2011 Australasian Cognitive Neuroscience Conference. 9-12 December 2011, Sydney (Published in *Clinical EEG and Neuroscience* 2012, 43(3): 228)
20. Cognitive impairment in patients discharged following CNS-depressant drug overdose, and its implications in driving. *Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Conference*. 5-8 December 2011, Dunedin, New Zealand
21. **Dassanayake TL**, Michie PT and Fulham R (2011). Exogenous visuospatial attention facilitates early extrastriate processing but not striate cortical processing of high-perceptual-load stimuli when the cues do not consistently predict target onset. *Conference Abstract: XI International Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience (ICON XI)*. September 2011, Palma Mallorca, Spain *Published in Front. Hum. Neurosci.* doi: 10.3389/conf.fnhum.2011.207.00326.
22. Effect of exogenous attention on early visual processing: An event-related potential study of facilitation and inhibition phases of exogenous attention. *Australasian Cognitive Neurosciences Conference*. 26-29 November 2010, Melbourne, Australia
23. Incomplete recovery of cognitive functions at discharge in patients with CNS depressant drug overdose. *North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology*. 7-12 October 2010. Denver, Colorado USA. Published in *Clinical Toxicology* 2010, 48(6): 636.
24. Cognitive functions in Patients with sedative psychotropic drug overdose. *Annual Conference of Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research*. 2-4 December 2009. Canberra, Australia.
25. Auditory Event-Related Potential Changes in Chronic Low-Level Exposure to Organophosphate Pesticides. *18<sup>th</sup> Australasian Psychophysiology Conference*. 27-29 November 2008. Hobart, Australia (Published in *Clinical EEG and Neuroscience* 2009, 40(3): 224.
26. Long-lasting effects of acute organophosphorus insecticide poisoning on cognitive processing of visual information. *6<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology*. 12-14 December 2007. Bangkok, Thailand. Published in *Journal of Medical Toxicology* 2008, 4(3), 209.
27. Cognitive processing of visual and auditory stimuli in patients with organophosphate insecticide poisoning. *5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology*. 6-8 August 2006. Colombo, Sri Lanka

28. Effects of organophosphate pesticide poisoning on time-course of cognitive processing. *XXVI International Congress of European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists*. 19-22 April 2006. Prague, Czech Republic. Published in *Clinical Toxicology* 2006; 44 (4): 429-430.
29. **Dassanayake T**, Gawarammana I, Weerasinghe V, Dissanayake S, Pragaash S, Dawson A, Senanayake N. Cognitive Impairment in Chronic Occupational Exposure to Organophosphates: Psychophysiological Evidence. *Clinical Toxicology* 2008, 47(6): 631.

**Local:**

1. Wijesundara DA, Kahathuduwa CN, Amarakoon AMT, Weerasinghe VS, Dassanayake TL. The dose-response effect of theanine on cognition. *Proceedings of Association of Sri Lankan Neurologists Annual Sessions*. November 2018.
2. Dassanayake TL. Assessment of Cognitive Functions: Implications in Health and Disease in Old Age. *Proceedings of the Foundation Sessions 2018*. Kandy Society of Medicine. August 2018. p11.
3. Wijesundara DA, Kahathuduwa CN, Amarakoon AMT, Weerasinghe VS, Dassanayake TL. Dose-response effect of theanine on Cognition. *Proceedings of Annual Research Sessions of Kandy Society of Medicine*. February 2018
4. Samarakoon SMAB, Dassanayake T. Effect of anthropometric determinants on explosive power among high performing and novice badminton players. *Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka*. 2017. p. 54.
5. Alahakoon AAC, Dassanayake TL, Sedgwick EM, Gawarammana IB, Weerasinghe VS. Stimulated single fiber electromyography in orbicularis oculi muscle in carbamate insecticide poisoned patients: a preliminary study. *Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions*. 2016. 20: 216.
6. Dassanayake TL, Weerasinghe VS, Gawarammana IB, Buckley N. Subacute neurocognitive impairment in organophosphate and carbamate insecticide poisoning. *Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions*. 2016. 20: 107.
7. Jayawardena WCK, Samarakkody IG, Dahanayake S, Monaragala L, Wijerathne DLN, Dassanayake TL and Antonypillai CN. Changes in alanine transaminase levels in response to statins: Sri Lankan experience in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus with dyslipidaemia. *Proceedings of Annual Research Sessions of Kandy Society of Medicine* 2016.
8. Kahathuduwa CN, Weerasinghe VS, Amarakoon T, Dassanayake TL, Higgoda R, Uragoda B. Improvement of recognition reaction time with high doses of theanine: a preliminary study. *Physiological Society of Sri Lanka - Annual Academic Sessions*. 2013. Book of Abstracts.
9. Sapurugala C, Dinaratne A, Ariysinghe D, Dassanayake T. Association between neurobehavioural markers of error-processing and impulsiveness. *Physiological Society of Sri Lanka - Annual Academic Sessions*. 2014. Book of Abstracts. p.14
10. Dissanayaka T.D. et al. Immediate effectiveness of transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (tens) in treating trigger points of the upper trapezius in myofascial pain syndrome: a preliminary study. *Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions*. July 2013. 17: 110.
11. Increased risk of road traffic accidents in patients discharged following treatment for psychotropic drug overdose. *Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Fourth Annual Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Conference*. 30 November 2011, Newcastle

12. Cognitive function in patients with sedative psychotropic drug overdose. *Centre for Brian and Mental Health Research Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Conference*. October 2009, University of Newcastle, Australia
13. Cognitive impairment in patients with sedative psychotropic drug overdose. Faculty Honours and Research EXPO. The University of Newcastle. Australia. 17 Sept 2009
14. A study on visual reaction time of male badminton and table tennis players, and the effect of warm-up on reaction time. *Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions*. Oct 2003. 8: 123
15. Cognitive processing time in a simple visual reaction time task. *Proceedings of Physiological Society of Sri Lanka: Annual Sessions 2004*. Sri Lanka.
16. A study on visual reaction time of male badminton and table tennis players, and the effect of warm-up on reaction time. *Proceedings of Annual Research Sessions of Kandy Society of Medicine 2003*.
17. Cognitive processing time in a simple visual reaction time task. *Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions*. Nov 2004. 9:98.

### **Invited Speeches / Orations / Workshops conducted**

1. New Insights into Neurotoxicity and Respiratory Failure in Organophosphorus Insecticide Poisoning. Symposium Speech at 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. November 2018. Bali, Indonesia.
2. Workshop on ‘Applied Statistics in Medical Research: Regression Analysis’. Annual Academic Sessions of the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka: Precongress workshop. October 2018.
3. Assessment of Cognitive Functions: Implications in Health and Disease in Old Age. Kandy Society of Medicine. Foundation Sessions. August 2018.
4. Cognitive toxicity of pesticide poisoning and drug overdose: challenges for the transforming South Asia. Plenary Lecture at 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. November 2017. Kandy, Sri Lanka.
5. Cognitive Toxicity: From Pesticides to Pharmaceuticals. Kandy Society of Medicine Oration 2017. February 2017. Kandy.
6. Role of Neurophysiologist in developing South Asia. Symposium speech at 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists 2016. Kathmandu, Nepal.
7. Where does cognition meet vision? Neurophysiological Evidence of Attentional Enhancement of Visual Processing in Striate Cortex. Seneviratne Memorial Award Presentation at the 2015 Annual Sessions of the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka.
8. Cognitive Functions: Principles, Assessment Techniques and Implications. 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2014, Dhaka, Bangladesh
9. Application of Statistics in Medical Research. CME Short Course organized by the Kandy Society of Medicine 2014
10. Cognitive Functions: Principles, Assessment Techniques and Implications, CME Lecture at the Postgraduate School of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Peradeniya 2014
11. Introduction to Medical Research Design and Statistics, CME Short Course organized by the Kandy Society of Medicine 2013



12. Use of event-related potentials in the study of sub-clinical cognitive effects of organophosphates, 3rd Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka
13. Effective use of resources in medical research, CME Lecture – Kandy Society of Medicine, 2012. Sri Lanka
14. Cognitive functions and traffic accident risk in patients clinically recovered from central nervous system depressant drug overdose, Psychology Colloquium March 2012, The University of Newcastle, Australia

### **Awards and Scholarships**

- **2018: Best Oral Presentation.** Wijesundara DA, Kahathuduwa CN, Amarakoon AMT, Weerasinghe VS, Dassanayake TL. The dose-response effect of theanine on Cognition. Association of Sri Lankan Neurologists Annual Sessions. Nov 2018
- **2014: KN Seneviratne Memorial Award for Research in Physiology** awarded by the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka
- **2013: University of Peradeniya International Research Centre (InRC) Research Grant Award 2013** for the research project Normative data for Cambridge Neuropsychological test Automated Battery (CANTAB) for Sri Lankans
- **2013:** Wadugodapitiya SI, Weerasinghe VS, Dassanayake TL. Assessment of functional motor disability in children with Cerebral Palsy: Neuroaxis 2013. **3<sup>rd</sup> place for best presentation**
- **2013:** ‘**Australian Education International Endeavour Alumni Excellence Award**’ at the **Australian Alumni Excellence Awards 2013**, organized by the Australian Trade Commission and Australian High Commission of Sri Lanka, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2013 in Colombo.
- **2012: Best oral presentation at 3rd Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012** held in November 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka (for the presentation titled ‘Where does cognition meet vision? Neurophysiological evidence of attentional modulation of visual processing in striate cortex’)
- **2008–12: Endeavour Postgraduate Award** (awarded by Department of Education, Employment and Workplace relations of the Australian Government) for PhD
- **2011: Most Outstanding Postgraduate Research Presentation - 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Honorary Mention)** at *University of Newcastle Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Fourth Annual Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Conference*. 30 November 2011
- **2011: Travel Award** from Calvary Mater Newcastle Special Purpose Trust Fund for *Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Conference*. 5-8 Dec 2011, Dunedin, New Zealand
- **2011: Travel Award** from School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia for *Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Conference*. 5-8 Dec 2011, Dunedin, New Zealand
- **2011: Travel Award** from School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia for 11th International Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience, 25-29 Sept 2011, Mallorca, Spain

- **2010: Award for Outstanding Postgraduate Research Student Achievement**, Faculty of Science and Information Technology, The University of Newcastle, Australia
- **2010: Research Higher Degrees Conference Scholarship** from Faculty of Science and Information Technology, The University of Newcastle to attend *North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology* 7-12 Oct 2010. Denver, Colorado USA.
- **2009: University of Newcastle International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (UNIPRS) International Tuition Fees Scholarship**
- **2009: President’s Award for Research Publication 2009**
- **2008: President’s Award for Research Publication 2008**
- **2008: Australian Leadership Award Scholarship** (AusAID programme, AUSTRALIA, for the PhD programme) – offered
- **2007: President’s Award for Research Publication 2007**
- **2004-7: Postgraduate Research Scholarship** for MPhil awarded by the South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration (funded by Wellcome Trust and Australian NHMRC Grant no: GR071669MA)
- **2007: Travel Grant** from South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, University of Peradeniya to attend *6<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology* 12-14 Dec 2007. Bangkok, Thailand
- **2006: Travel Grant** from South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, University of Peradeniya to attend *XXVI International Congress of European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists*. April 2006. Prague, Czech Republic
- **2003: Commendable Presentation** at Peradeniya University Research Sessions 2003
- **1996-2001: ‘Mahapola’ Higher Education (Merit) Scholarship**
- **1994: Bede Memorial Prize for “Best All Round Student: 1994”**, St. Anthony’s College, Kandy, Sri Lanka.

### **Research Funding Obtained**

**Total (2006 – 2016):** AUD 242,780.20 & LKR 4,813,000.00

<b>Year</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Body</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2018	Travel Grant	South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. November 2018. Bali, Indonesia	LKR 176,000
2016	Travel Grant	South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP)	SAAP Biennial Conference, Kathmandu 2016	LKR 150,000
2016	Research Grant	University of Peradeniya	Dose-response effect of theanine on cognition: a cognitive event-related potential study	LKR 3,803,500
2014	Travel Grant	South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP)	SAAP Biennial Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh 2014	LKR 100,000

2013	Research grant	International Research Center, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	Normative data for Cambridge Neuropsychological test Automated Battery (CANTAB) for Sri Lankans	LKR 135,000
2013	Research Grant	University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka	Development of biomarkers of neuromuscular junction dysfunction and neurocognitive dysfunction after toxic injuries	LKR 500,000
2008-2012	Postgraduate Research Scholarship	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Australian Government	Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship (ID: 434_2008) for PhD titled: Effects of central nervous system depressant drug overdose on cognitive functions and driving	AUD 214,100
2011	Travel Grant	Calvary Mater Newcastle, Special Purpose Trust Fund	<i>Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Conference. 5-8 Dec 2011, Dunedin, New Zealand</i>	AUD 555.10
2011	Travel Grant	School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia	<i>Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Conference. 5-8 Dec 2011, Dunedin, New Zealand</i>	AUD 875.14
2011	Travel Grant	School of Psychology, University of Newcastle, Australia	11th International Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience, 25-29 Sept 2011, Mallorca, Spain	AUD 2,300
2010	Award for outstanding postgraduate research	The University of Newcastle, Australia	Effects of benzodiazepines, antidepressants and opioids on driving: a systematic review of epidemiological and experimental evidence. <i>Drug Safety</i> , 34(2):125-56	AUD 250
2010	Conference Scholarship	The University of Newcastle, Australia	<i>North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology 7-12 Oct 2010. Denver, Colorado USA.</i>	AUD 1,800
2009	Research Grant	New South Wales Centre for Health Record Linkage	Evaluation of sedative drug overdose as a predictor of subsequent road traffic offences and accidents	AUD 23,000
2007	Travel Grant	South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration	<i>6<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology 12-14 Dec 2007. Bangkok, Thailand</i>	LKR 45,000
2006	Travel Grant	South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration	<i>XXVI International Congress of European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists. April 2006. Prague, Czech Republic</i>	LKR 80,000

## **Participation in Professional Development and Continuing Education Activities**

1. Epidemiologic Methods for Global Mental Health Research, Negombo. February 2019. Organized by Medical Research Council UK, University of Bristol and South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration.
2. Organizer and resource person in the seminar on ‘An introduction to the concepts, methods and skills in inferential statistics in medical research’ conducted by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya. February 2013.
3. Organizer and resource person in the workshop on ‘Effective use of resources in postgraduate research’ conducted by the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya. November 2012.
4. Post-congress workshop on ‘Clinical Neurophysiological Techniques: EMG, Evoked Potentials and Magnetic Stimulation’, 3rd Conference of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP-3) 2012, Colombo, Sri Lanka – Resource person
5. Workshop on Neuroscan® EEG Data Analysis: The University of Newcastle. June 2010
6. 9th EEGLAB Workshop. Nov 25–Nov 27, 2009. Newcastle, Australia
7. MATLAB Fundamentals organised by The MathWorks Training Services, University of Newcastle, Australia
8. Workshop on Introduction to STATA programming organized by South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, 24-26 July 2006, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
9. Workshop on ‘Agrochemical Poisoning’ organized by South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration – August 2005, Colombo, Sri Lanka
10. Public Health Emergency & Disaster Management Training Course organized by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya in Collaboration with the World Health Organization 11-17 December 2005.
11. Workshop on Clinical Research organized by Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya - March 2005
12. Research Promotion and Development Programme organized by The World Health Organization and Kandy Society of Medicine, 24 April 2004
13. Workshop on Educational Technology organized by Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya – June 2004
14. Workshop on Orientation to Research Methodology organized by Kandy Society of Medicine and World Health Organization – April 2004
15. Workshop on Re-designing and Evaluation of the Physiology Practical Component, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya

## **Reviewer for Indexed Journals**

- Psychopharmacology
- Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology
- Psychological Medicine
- European Neuropsychopharmacology

- European Journal of Pharmacology
- Traffic Injury Prevention
- International Journal of Audiology
- Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology

### **Membership in Professional Associations**

1. Life Member, Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology (APAMT)
2. Member, Society for Psychophysiology Research (SPR) – since 2018
3. Clinical Researcher, South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
4. Physiological Society of Sri Lanka – Executive Committee Member and Life Member
5. Kandy Society of Medicine, Sri Lanka – Life Member
6. Kandy Region Sports Medicine Association, Sri Lanka – Life member

### **Positions Held in the University and Professional Activities**

1. Coordinator of the ‘Medical Statistics’ module of the Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Physiology, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine. Since 2014
2. Chairman, Research Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2015-2018)
3. Joint Secretary, Kandy Society of Medicine, Sri Lanka 2015-16.
4. Member, Board of Study in Sports Medicine, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka: 2014-15
5. Member of the Research Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka - since 2012
6. Member of the Infrastructure Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka - since 2012
7. Member of the Curriculum Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka – Since 2006
8. Executive Committee member of the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka –2005 - 2008
9. Executive Committee member of the Peradeniya Faculty of Medicine Teachers Association – 2005
10. Steering Committee member, Training Course on Public Health Emergency and Disaster Management organized by Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya and World Health Organization – 2005
11. Coach, Badminton Team, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka – Since 2002
12. Member, University Sports Council – 1998

### **\ Extracurricular Activities / Interests**

- Badminton:
  - Performed and won at college, university, provincial and national level in Sri Lanka with Colours at college, University and Provincial levels.

- Individual event championships in Regional Open tournaments in Newcastle, Australia in 2010 & 2011.
- The coach for the badminton team of University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (2002-2007, 2012).
- Painting
- Hiking