

Conference Chairperson's Message – PeMSARC'25

Professor Samidi Navaratna

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I extend my warmest greetings to all participants, contributors, and delegates of the 4th Peradeniya Medical School Annual Research Congress (PeMSARC'25). This congress serves as a vital platform for advancing research and innovation in the field of medicine, providing opportunities for both emerging and established researchers to showcase their work, exchange ideas, and foster collaborations that will shape the future of healthcare.

We are privileged to have Professor Vasanti Thevanesam as our Chief Guest and Professor Anuja Premawardhena as our Keynote Speaker at PeMSARC'25. Their presence and the expertise they bring to this esteemed gathering are invaluable, and we deeply appreciate their commitment to medical research and education.

This year's congress is a testament to the dedication and perseverance of our students and faculty members in strengthening the research culture within the Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya. The collaborative efforts between students and academic staff in organising PeMSARC'25 highlight the spirit of inquiry and teamwork, reinforcing the foundation for impactful medical research. As the Head of the Department of Community Medicine, I take immense pride in our department's pivotal role in shaping the research landscape within the Faculty of Medicine. Through the meticulous coordination of undergraduate research projects and other research-related modules, we strive to instil a passion for scientific inquiry among our students. Furthermore, the department has embraced the responsibility of leading PeMSARC as an integral initiative, nurturing a research-oriented mindset among future medical professionals.

I am deeply grateful to Dean, Professor Saman Nanayakkara, and all members of the Executive Committee of PeMSARC'25 for their tireless dedication and contributions, which have been instrumental in the success of this congress. It is truly inspiring to witness the enthusiasm and perseverance of our students and faculty in driving forward research excellence. I extend my sincere appreciation to all research supervisors, reviewers, examiners, and judges for their invaluable efforts in guiding and evaluating the scholarly works presented today.

We also recognise the generous support of Kandy School of Medicine (KSM) and the Peradeniya Medical School Alumni Association (PeMSAA) in awarding research prizes, celebrating academic achievement, and encouraging young scholars to push the boundaries of scientific exploration. Special appreciation goes to PeMSAA-UK, whose generous sponsorship facilitated the successful pre-congress workshop, empowering our students with essential research skills. A heartfelt thank you goes to all those who submitted abstracts, enriching the academic dialogue of this congress. Your contributions continue to inspire and drive scientific progress.

As we embark on this journey of knowledge exchange and collaboration, I wish all participants a successful completion of PeMSARC'25, filled with meaningful discussions, discovery, and fellowship. May this congress ignite future research endeavours and strengthen the spirit of scientific inquiry among all. I warmly welcome you all to PeMSARC'25 and wish you an intellectually enriching and rewarding experience.



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