

# Special Interest Group



On

## Public Health

An Initiative  
of  
**Research Division**  
JSS AHER, Mysuru-15.

**Team Lead**

**Dr Praveen Kulkarni**

Vice Principal and Professor of  
Community Medicine, JSS Medical  
College, Mysuru



**Started on 2017**

## JSS Academy of Higher Education Research

(Deemed to be University)  
Accredited "A" Grade by NAAC

JSS AHER/REG/ACA/SIG/PBH/455/2022-23

Date: 05.09.2022

### NOTIFICATION

**Sub: Reconstitution of Special Interest Group in "Public Health".**

- Ref: i. JSS AHER Notification No. REG/ACA/SIG/225/2017-18/3263 dated 13.07.2017  
ii. Your request letter No. JSSMC/PA/2991/2022-23 dated 18.07.2022.

### Special Interest Group (SIG) - "Public Health"

The Constituent Colleges/Schools/ Departments of JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research have shown their keen interest on nurturing/accelerating the research activities and have requested to setup a Special Interest Group (SIG) in specific areas of interest/research for preparing research proposals for submitting to various National/International funding agencies for funding. The proposal of formation of SIG is approved in the 9<sup>th</sup> Board of Management held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

The Special Interest Group (SIG) in "Public Health" has been reconstituted for focusing on basic and applied research in the mentioned area with the following members:

SL.NO	NAME OF THE MEMBER	REMARKS
1	<b>Dr. Basavana Gowdappa H</b> Principal JSS Medical College.	Advisor
2	<b>Dr. Praveen Kulkarni</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Community Medicine, JSS Medical College.	Group Leader
3	<b>Dr. Anil S Bilimale</b> MPH Coordinator School of Public Health & Assistant Professor Dept. of Community Medicine, JSS Medical College.	Coordinator
4	<b>Dr. Sunil Kumar D</b> Professor & Head Dept. of Community Medicine, JSS Medical College.	Member
5	<b>Dr. Suma K B</b> Professor & Head Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology JSS Medical College	Member
6	<b>Dr. Chandrashekar B R</b> Vice Principal, Professor & Head Dept. of Public Health Dentistry JSS Dental College & Hospital.	Member
7	<b>Dr. Sumana M N</b> Professor, Dept. of Microbiology JSS Medical College	Member
8	<b>Dr. Chethak K B</b> Assistant Professor, Dept. of Paediatrics JSS Medical College	Member



9	<b>Dr. Sri Harsha Chalasani</b> Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru.	Member
10	<b>Dr. Sudhakar Reddy</b> Professor & Head, Dept. of Swasthavrita JSS Ayurveda College, Mysuru.	Invitee
11	<b>Dr. Renukadevi M</b> Professor, JSS College of Physiotherapy Mysuru.	Invitee
12	<b>Mrs. Nisha P. Nair</b> Assistant Professor & Head Dept. of Community Health Nursing JSS College of Nursing.	Invitee

The SIG "Public Health" shall function for a period of three years from the date of notification.

The SIG Group Leader shall submit their report once in six months to the JSS AHER. The budget for the functioning shall be submitted by the Group leader of the SIG and approval shall be obtained from the JSS AHER for carrying out their various activities.

  
REGISTRAR

To  
All the above members,

Copy to,

1. The Pro Chancellor, JSS AHER.
2. The Vice Chancellor, JSS AHER.
3. The Controller of Examinations, JSS AHER.
4. The Director (Research I/C), JSS AHER.
5. The Dy. Registrar (Sr. Grade), JSS AHER.
6. The Dy. Director (Authorities), JSS AHER.
7. The Dy. Directors (Academics), JSS AHER.
8. The Dy. Director (Research), JSS AHER.
9. The Principals of Constituent Colleges of JSS AHER.
10. The Head, Life Sciences Departments and School of Life Sciences, Mysuru.
11. The Coordinators, Departments of JSS AHER.
12. Office Copy.

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**Guidelines for the formation of Special Interest Groups:**

**Objective:** To promote research in specific area by a group of individuals working in the constituent colleges of the JSS AHER, who are desirous of promoting research in a specific area through

- Continuous dialogue
- Conducting Group meetings
- Submitting research projects
- Development of new ideas in research in the identified area and translating the same into research proposals to external funding agencies and research publications in indexed journals.
- Translating research findings into the clinical applications
- Organizing seminars related to objectives of the Group.

The SIG should categorize their objectives as short term and long-term objectives and while submitting the progress reports, highlight their achievements under the same.

**Structure:** The SIG shall consist of 5-7 members with a group leader. They shall meet periodically and submit the report annually of the group activities and achievements.

The Special Interest Group shall function for a period of 3 years from the date of notification, which can be extended further, based on the outcomes, and reviewed by the Board of Management of the JSSAHER.

**Budget:** The budget required for functioning of the SIG shall be allocated from Research and Development fund of the JSS AHER based on the budget prepared and submitted by them annually.

**The budget shall be provided for following aspects.**

- Meeting expenses of the Group.
- Short travels within India for the purpose of group objectives.
- Secretarial assistance as required by the Group.
- Preparation of research project proposals/reports.

The JSS AHER shall provide in its budget for the expenditure proposed by the Special Interest Groups and make the funds available to the respective group.

**Evaluation of outcomes:** The JSS AHER shall evaluate the SIG periodically in respect to their group objective examining the follows.

- Progress in the proposed research projects.
- Publication of research findings in periodicals and presentations
- Reports.

**Name of the SIG:** Public Health

**Approval Reference:** REG/ACA/SIG/225/2017-18 dated  
12.12.2017

**Team Lead:** Dr Praveen Kulkarni

### **Projects completed : 16**

1. A Phase 2/3, Observer-Blind, Randomized, Controlled Study To Determine The Safety And Immunogenicity Of Covishield (Covid-19 Vaccine) In Healthy Indian Adults: ICMR- SIIPL
2. A Phase 2/3, Observer-Blind, Randomized, Controlled Study To Determine The Safety And Immunogenicity Of Covovax [Sars-Cov-2 Recombinant Spike Protein Nanoparticle Vaccine (SARS-Cov-2 Rs) With Matrix-M1™ Adjuvant] In Indian Adults- ICMR- SIIPL
3. Rapid Assessment of Continuum of Care for Diabetes and Hypertension in India: WHO-ICMR-NCDIR
4. BIRAC-COVID Suraksha – DBT
5. WHO O2COV2: Oxygen requirements and approaches to respiratory support in patients with COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries: a WHO study
6. Effectiveness of Covaxin and Covishield vaccines against severe COVID-19 in India, 2021: Multi-centric hospital-based case-control study: ICMR
7. WHO Unity Study - Risk factors for SARS-CoV2 infection among health care workers in India: A Case-Control study: WHO
8. Iodine deficiency disorder survey of Mysuru – A Government of Karnataka project
9. Gap assessment of Health and Wellness Centres in Yadgir district – A Health System Strengthening project by Unicef, 2019
10. Facilitators and Barriers of eSajeevani program in Karnataka, India
11. A phase 2/3, observer-blind, randomized, controlled study to determine the safety and immunogenicity of COVOVAX [SARS-CoV-2 recombinant spike protein nanoparticle vaccine (SARS-CoV-2 rS) with Matrix-M1™ adjuvant] in Indian adults aged ≥18 years and children aged 2 to 17 years
12. A phase 3, observer-blind, randomized, controlled study to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of a booster dose of covovax in indian adults who have received primary vaccination against covid-19.
13. Incidence of adverse outcomes and risk factors for mortality among Mucormycosis patients in India: a multi-centric ambispective cohort study, 2021-2022
14. Ambari – Sickle cell disease Health System Strengthening Project: Novartis
15. A Prospective, Multicentre, Randomised, Active- controlled, Observer blind, Phase II study is seamlessly followed by a Phase III study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, and Immunogenicity of the Candidate HGCO19 (COVID-19 vaccine) in healthy subjects: Gennova
16. Cost of illness and Diabetes-Specific Quality of Life among Type 1 Diabetic adolescents in Mysore District

## DETAILS OF PROJECTS SUBMITTED SUBMITTED 19

1. Relationship between Frailty, Glycemic Control, and Nutritional status among elderly with Diabetes Mellitus residing in an urban community of Mysuru : ICMR
2. Prevalence of Frailty and its association with Vitamin D, Calcium deficiency and nutritional status among elderly residing in Tribal areas of Mysuru, Karnataka – ICMR
3. Community based study on long term vaccine efficacy and incidence of post vaccination breakthrough infection among people receiving COVID-19 vaccinations in a rural community : ICMR
4. Analysis of electrocardiograms for prevalence of cardiovascular disorders using an anonymized Indian database- iMedrix
5. Community Based Study To Establish Reference Range For Whole Blood Ionized Magnesium In Healthy Adults In The Age Group Of 18 To 60 Years- Nova Biomedicals
6. Investigating the role of birth weight gut micro biota and feeding behaviour as the predictors of intra individual double burden of malnutrition among toddlers, A longitudinal study in Mysuru: DBT
7. Adolescent Mental Health: A School-based interventional study: ICMR
8. Care and learn model using Hub and Spoke Telemedicine platform for mental health problems- An Experimental study: ICMR
9. Impacts of Heat Stress on Maternal and New-born Health Outcomes in India and Adaptations to Improve: An Interventional Study Heat Exposure Interventions for Gestational and Neonatal Health Improvements in India (HEIGHT- India Study): Wellcome Trust
10. Phyto-remediation of Indoor Air pollution in urban homes to improve air quality Using Innovative Sustainable Technology based plant wall air filtration on system: ICMR
11. Barriers and Enablers in Early Detection of Tuberculosis Using CBAC by Frontline Healthcare Workers in Mysore
12. Investigating the role of birth weight gut micro biota and feeding behaviour as the predictors of intra individual double burden of malnutrition among toddlers, A longitudinal study in Mysuru: DBT
13. A Syndemic perspective follow-up study of the impact of COVID-19 on Non-Communicable Diseases in South India:

14. Adolescent Mental Health: A School-based interventional study: ICMR
15. Care and learn model using Hub and Spoke Telemedicine platform for mental health problems- An Experimental study: ICMR
16. Impacts of Heat Stress on Maternal and New-born Health Outcomes in India and Adaptations to Improve: An Interventional Study Heat Exposure Interventions for Gestational and Neonatal Health Improvements in India (HEIGHT- India Study): Wellcome Trust
17. Phyto-remediation of Indoor Air pollution in urban homes to improve air quality Using Innovative Sustainable Technology based plant wall air filtration on system: ICMR
18. Prevalence And Factors Associated With Scoliosis Among School Children In Mysuru District, Karnataka
19. Relationship between fluoride levels in drinking water and dental fluorosis among school children in Mysuru and Chamarajanagara district, Karnataka

## **DETAILS OF SIG ACTIVITIES**

### **Guest lectures conducted by SIG**

1. Dr Kavitha H S, District Epidemiologist, Mysuru delivered guest lecture on IDSP and its role in Disease Control and Prevention on 25th of July 2019 at Gallery 3, JSS Medical College, Mysuru
2. Dr Rashmi S, Medical Officer, Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre, K R Hospital, Mysuru delivered guest lecture on the topic National Nutrition Week & Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre on 26th of September 2019 at Gallery 6, JSS Medical College, Mysuru
3. Dr. Archana, District Program Coordinator, District NCD Cell, District Surveillance Unit, District Health Office, Mysuru delivered guest lecture on the topic, National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and Stroke [NPCDCS] on 10th of October 2019 at Gallery 6, JSS Medical College, Mysuru
4. Workshop on recent advances in Anti Retroviral Treatment, Parent to Child Transmission of HIV and Early Infant Diagnosis of HIV as conducted in Medical Education Unit, JSS Medical College, Mysuru on 14th of October 2019

### **Details of Publications Arising from SIG:**

A total of 6 publications have arisen from the Special Interest Group (SIG).

### **Total Amount Received from JSS AHER with Breakup of Each Installment:**

1st Installment: ₹50,000  
2nd Installment: ₹50,000  
3rd Installment: ₹50,000  
4th Installment: ₹50,000  
Total: ₹2,00,000

### **Number of Meetings Conducted:**

A total of 9 meetings have been conducted.



**Public health lecture series –  
IDSP by Dr Kavitha HS, District  
Epidemiologist, Mysuru**



**Public health lecture series –  
Nutrition Surveillance by Dr Rashmi  
S, Medical Officer, Nutrition  
Rehabilitation Centre, Mysuru**





**Public health lecture series – NPCDCS by Dr Archana, District NCD Cell, Mysuru**



**Workshop on recent advances in Anti Retroviral Treatment, Parent to Child Transmission of HIV and Early Infant Diagnosis of HIV**

## Report of Guest Lecture on IDSP and its role in Disease Control and Prevention” On 24.7.2018

The Department of Community Medicine in collaboration with Special Interest Group is conducting Public health Lecture Series for 7th term students, Post Graduates in Community Medicine and Public Health where experts from public health field are invited to share their experiences of working in various public health cadres and the contribution made by them.

In this regard Dr Kavitha H S, District Epidemiologist, District Surveillance Unit, Mysuru delivered the talk on “IDSP and its role in Disease Control and Prevention”.

She started the talk by describing the staffing pattern of IDSP, then explained about the role of district surveillance unit which included compilation, analysis of Weekly S, P and L forms, review of feedback to the reporting units, Constitution of Rapid response Teams and their deputations during Outbreak Investigation, Co-ordination with laboratories, Medical Colleges, NGO’s and Private sectors;and organising District level meetings under the chairmanship of DC. She described about the reporting units that are present in Mysuru. IDSP portal and its features were highlighted. Media alert and how FIR is prepared and how the investigation are taken was explained. She shared some of the examples like Diphtheria outbreak investigation in a residential school and the actions taken in management of outbreak. Case study of Avian Influenza in a migratory bird in the Zoo and its investigation. The recent Nipah outbreak management in Kerala and precautions taken in Mysuru were shared by her. Students expressed that as real and practical examples of management of outbreaks were explained, they felt more involved and learnt a lot from these experiences and preferred to have few more lectures similar to these.



## Report of Guest Lecture on “Career Opportunities in Public Health”

Special Interest Group on Public Health and Department of Community Medicine have jointly organized Guest lecture on Career Opportunities in Public Health 24th of May 2018 at Gallery -6 JSS Medical College, Mysuru.

Dr Smitha MC, Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine formally welcomed the dignitaries and participants to the Guest Lecture and Introduced Dr Purnima Madhivanan to the gathering.

This was followed by Guest Lecture on Career Opportunities in Public Health by Dr Purnima Madhivanan, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work Florida International University, Miami, USA

In her insightful address on the topic, Dr Purnima described the importance of Public Health experts in controlling epidemics of emerging and reemerging diseases, vaccinology, policy making, programme management, health care administration, health financing, occupational diseases etc. She also deliberated on various opportunities to flourish as public health experts starting from medical colleges to multinational health related agencies.

Dr Praksh B, Professor, Department of Community Medicine and Coordinator for MPH programme presented a memento to Dr Purnima as a token of gratitude. More than 200 undergraduate students, post graduate students faculty in the Department of Community Medicine have participated in the programme.



## **Report of Guest Lecture on An overview of NCD Program of Mysuru and Karnataka” On 11.09.2018**

As the part of Public Health Lecture Series of SIG on Public Health and Department of Community Medicine the lecture on 27th November was delivered by Dr Archana B, District NCD Cell Officer, District Surveillance Unit, Mysuru. She delivered the talk on the topic, “An overview of NCD Program of Mysuru and Karnataka”.

She started the talk by describing the staffing pattern of health care delivery system from the subcentre level to the District Health Officer. She then explained about the role of district NCD cell in implementing the NPCDCS (National Programme for the Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke). She highlighted on the major NCD diseases and their risk factors that are covered under the program. She explained on how Integration of NPCDCS program under National Health Mission is happening. The NCD cell will ensure the implementation and supervision of NPCDCS program. She explained about the various health promotional activities that were taken up by the NCD Cell like creating awareness on increasing intake of healthy foods, reduction in salt intake, increased physical activity, reduction of obesity, stress management, awareness on warning signals of cancer. Screening and early diagnosis was focused on the common cancer like breast, cervical and oral cancer. Opportunistic screening of Diabetes using Glucometer kits and blood pressure measurement is done at all levels i.e Sub Centre, Primary Health Centre and Community health centre. District health hospitals, Tertiary Care Centres are empowered with investigations and supply of Medicines and management of referred cases. She shared few experiences of camps being conducted by the NCD unit at various places.



## **Report of Guest Lecture on An overview of NCD Program of Mysuru and Karnataka” on 11.09.2018**

As the part of Public Health Lecture Series of SIG on Public Health and Department of Community Medicine the lecture on 27th November was delivered by Dr Shrinivasa B.M, Scientist ‘B’(Medical) Department of Clinical Research, ICMR-NIRT, Chennai . He delivered the talk on “AIMING TB ELIMINATION”.

He introduced students to the by describing RNTCP programme and burden of tuberculosis (TB) and challenges in eliminating it. He then explained briefly about functioning of ‘National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis,

Indian Council of Medical Research’ which included conducting research on newer therapies towards control of tuberculosis. He explained the National Strategic Plan to eliminate TB in terms of its vision , that is ‘TB –Free India with zero deaths, disease and poverty due to tuberculosis’ , goal of which is ‘ To achieve a rapid decline in burden of TB, morbidity and mortality while working towards elimination of TB in India by 2025’ and of target which is ‘To rapidly decline TB in the country by 2030 inline with the global End TB targets and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) . He discussed the strategy in term of its strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats. He explained in detail about Detect, Treat, Prevent, Build (DTPB) approach of NSP 2017-2025, stressing on measures to detect, treat ,prevent and building the policy.

After lecture by Dr Shrinivasa B.M, more number of students expressed their hopes that targets can be achieved by 2025. Students interacted through out the lecture and cleared their doubts regarding tuberculosis and its control.



## **Guest Lecture on : Activities and role of SVYM on Public Health and Palliative Care on 03.12.2018**

As the part of Public Health Lecture Series of SIG on Public Health and Department of Community Medicine the lecture was delivered by Dr. Dennis Chouhan and Dr. Vibha, working for Swamy Vivekananda Youth Mission, Sargur. They delivered the talk on “Activities and role of SVYM on public health and Palliative care”.

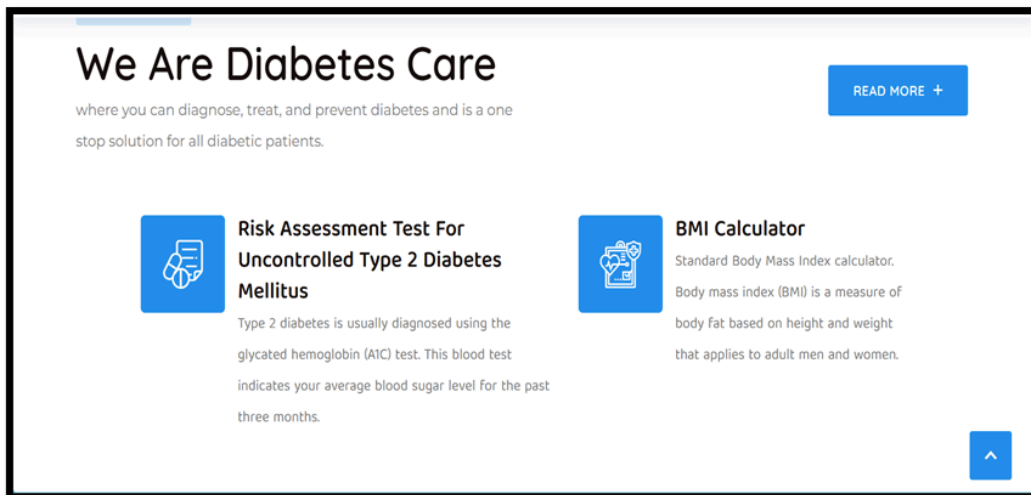
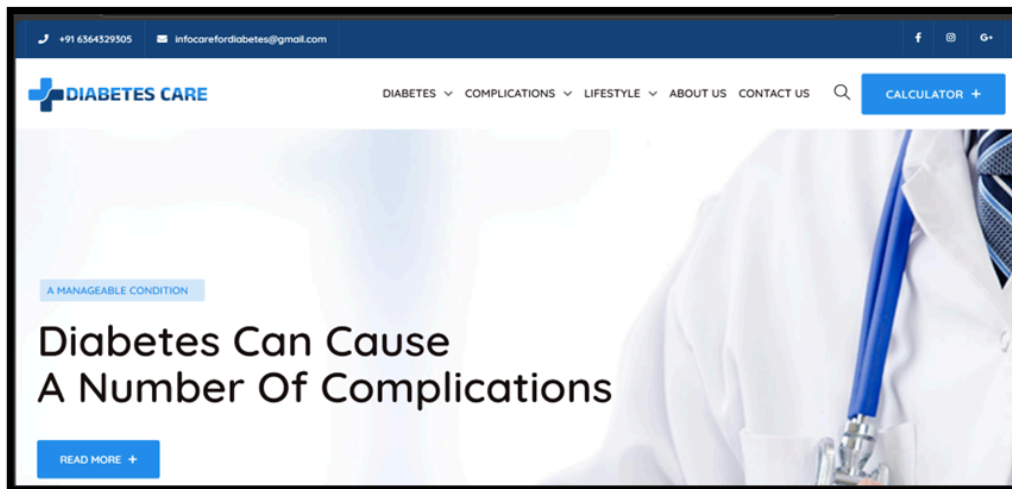
Dr. Dennis Chouhan started the talk with a video presentation describing the activities of SVYM, then explained about the role of the NGO in various activities aiming at socio economic improvement of people in many districts of Karnataka. The head office is situated at Sargur in Mysuru district. The NGO is involved in many activities like Socio economic Empowerment Program (SEEP), Water and sanitary hygiene program (WASH), educational services, palliative care facilities in K R hospital, Mysuru and tribal health services. Dr Dennis explained about the tribal groups in HD Kote and Sargur talukas, various services provided by the government for tribals and the services by SVYM for tribal population. He gave insight to the ground realities among tribal population, their perception towards health services and problems they face due to strict actions taken by the government for conservation of forests, which is their natural habitat.

Dr Vibha introduced palliative care services of SVYM. She explained about importance of palliative care in the modern era of NCD's need and involvement of empathy and compassion for palliative care services. In palliative care, the medical, psychological, social, economic and spiritual components of patients should be concerned. Students felt that the lecture was of high importance and expressed their wish to involve in tribal health services and palliative care.



## Diabetes Care and Prevention Website Development

Link: [Diabetes Care \(diabetes-care.co.in\)](http://diabetes-care.co.in)



## Publication

1. Kulkarni P, Dowerah J, Thomas JJ, Murthy MR, Ravikumar K. Exploring effectiveness of mass drug administration program against lymphatic filariasis in Raichur district, Karnataka. *Int J Health Allied Sci* 2019;8:268-72.
2. Kulkarni P, Thomas JJ Dowerah J,, Murthy MR, Ravikumar K. Mass drug administration programme against lymphatic filariasis-an evaluation of coverage and compliance in a northern Karnataka district, India. *Clinical epidemiology and global health* 2019;5(4):112-8
3. Kulkarni P, Babu PK, Vanmathi A, Ashwini A, Murthy MRN. Relationship between Frailty, Glycemic Control, and Nutritional Status among the Elderly with Diabetes Mellitus Residing in an Urban Community of Mysuru. *J Midlife Health*. 2022 Oct-Dec;13(4):294-299. doi: 10.4103/jmh.jmh\_30\_22. Epub 2023 Apr 28. PMID: 37324790; PMCID: PMC10266571.
4. “Does cost of care influence the glycemic control, psychosocial illness and quality of care among adolescents with type 1 diabetes?: A hospital based cross section study in Mysuru, Karnataka” [*Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health*, 2020; 8 (3):879–883]DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cegh.2020.02.016>
5. Doddaiah SK, Prakash B, Subhash Chandra BJ, Kadkol PS, Arun V, Mohandas A, et al. Effectiveness of smartphone-based intervention on the perceptions of type 2 Diabetes Mellitus patients in Mysuru, Karnataka, India. *Obes Med [Internet]*. 2020;20(100295):100295. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.obmed.2020.100295>
6. Deepak Anil, Sunil Kumar Doddaiah, Rajendra Prasad Shivaswamy, Arun Gopi, Sayana Basheer, Mysore Ramakrishnaiah Narayana Murthy - Development and validation of a risk assessment tool for uncontrolled type 2 diabetes among patients in South Karnataka, India: *BMJ Public Health* 2024;2:e000717.