

MoU between Pushpagiri Research Centre and CSIR - National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST)



On 27<sup>th</sup> October Pushpagiri Research Centre and CSIR - National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), a premier interdisciplinary research laboratory under the aegis of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India signed MoU to collaborate on research and development projects. The MoU was signed by the Director & Head of Pushpagiri Research Centre, Rev. Dr. Mathew Mazhavancheril and Dr. C. Anandharamakrishnan, the Director of CSIR- National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram. The collaborations aim to develop the expertise of both the institutes to develop innovative solutions in the area of clinical and biological research. The MoU will facilitate joint research projects exchange of scientific knowledge and training programmes for research.

## Online Discussion between CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bangalore and ——Pushpagiri Research Centre Leading to signing of MoU————

An online meeting was held on 13/10/2023 between CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bangalore and Pushpagiri Research Centre (PRC) to discuss potential research collaborations and the possibility of drafting an MoU between CHRIST University and PRC. The faculty members from both esteemed institutes participated in the meeting. Fr. Dr. Jobi Xavier, HOD, Department of Life Sciences from CHRIST (Deemed to be University) addressed the meeting and expressed his interest in facilitating student internships at PRC and fostering research collaboration between the two institutes. Rev. Dr. Mathew Mazhavancheril, Director & Head, provided insights about PRC, emphasizing its facilities and ongoing research. He has also highlighted the facilities of other clinical departments, opportunities in doing clinical research, and using animal house facilities. There was a healthy discussion between the eminent scientists and faculty members of both PRC and Christ University, opening up to various ideas of future collaborations. Once the MoU is active it is a tremendous opportunity for research developments and collaborations.

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## STEM CELL LAB

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October in Pushpagiri Research Centre a detailed presentation on "Guidelines for establishing Stem Cell Lab was done by Dr. Rojin Abraham, HoD, Dept of Neurosurgery, Believers Medical College, Thiruvalla. He was a former faculty at CMC Vellore & NIMHANS, Bangalore.

Dr. Robin gave a clear insight about the requirements and the approximate budget in setting a Stem Cell Lab . He also pointed out how cautious we should be in each stage of Stem Cell Research to avoid contamination and also explained that any study falling under Stem Cell Research requires a lot of our time and patience before we even begin to see results. The talk was very insightful about the world of Stem Cell Research.



## **CLINICAL TRIALS**

On the same day in Pushpagiri Research Centre a thorough presentation on Clinical Trials was done by Dr Rosin George Varghese (incharge of Clinical Epidemiology Unit). He spoke about Basic Rules to be followed while conducting clinical trials. He clearly explained about the Roles and Responsibilities of the researchers, institutions and sponsors involved in clinical trials. This was a very enlightening session for all the faculty present. Our Institutional Review Board is registered for clinical trial under Central Licencing Authority (CDSCO) and hence its authorized to review trial protocols & accord approval.

Both talks were attended by the PRC faculty members, the Director, Rev. Dr. Mathew Mazhavancheril and faculties of various departments of Pushpagiri Institute of Medical Sciences.



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