

Ahmedabad
University

AHMEDABAD
DIALOGUE

The Business
of Health

29 NOVEMBER
2025



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Ahmedabad Dialogue is a top tier thought platform of Ahmedabad University. It is designed as a deep-dive interface of academia, industry, policymakers, and practitioners from India and across the world. Ahmedabad Dialogue aims to enhance understanding of critical issues and hot button topics, and advocate positive outcomes for society at large.

The goal of Ahmedabad Dialogue is to bring together thought leaders keen to continue long-term dialogue on selected action areas, motivating policy action, and finding solutions that help both businesses and the public. Outcomes and suggestions from Ahmedabad Dialogue events will be shared with stakeholders, institutions, policymakers, and industry in India and globally, with the steadfast intention of following up on key action areas.

The Business of Health, the day-long inaugural Ahmedabad Dialogue event led by Ahmedabad University's Bagchi School of Public Health, is addressing determinants of health at the intersection of policy, industry, and practice in the context of non-communicable diseases.

The Ahmedabad Dialogue on The Business of Health features in-depth dialogue on hot-button issues by marquee speakers, key stakeholders and participants from the food and beverage industry, health insurance, healthcare, pharmaceutical industries, policymakers from government, research institutions, and academia.





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Alongside the Plenary Session which sets the agenda and tone, the Ahmedabad Dialogue on The Business of Health features deep dives aimed at:

The Ahmedabad Dialogue on The Business of Health will conduct deep dives aimed at:

- Working across industries to reduce the obesogenic environment and obesity
- Strategising social media and other marketing strategies
- Ultra-processed foods in daily life: Yin and Yang
- Prioritising primary prevention through cross-institutional partnerships
- Policies to promote win-win situations for business and health
- Innovations, technologies and new opportunities

These deep-dive interactions will synthesise suggestions for action items to enable balanced changes in the existing system for the betterment of society. Outcomes and suggestions from the Ahmedabad Dialogue on The Business of Health will be shared with stakeholders in India and globally, with the Bagchi School of Public Health following up on key action points.

PLENARY SPEAKERS



Dr Atul Mohan Kochhar

Chief Executive Officer,
National Accreditation
Board for Hospitals and
Healthcare Providers
(NABH)

Dr Atul Mohan Kochhar is Chief Executive Officer of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH), a constituent board of the Quality Council of India. He leads national efforts to strengthen healthcare quality, patient safety, and accreditation standards, guiding initiatives that ensure alignment with international benchmarks and promote equitable access to high-quality healthcare across India. With over 26 years of experience in clinical care, teaching, and research, Dr Kochhar also serves as Professor and Consultant in Dermatology and Venereology at Maulana Azad Medical College and Lok Nayak Hospital, New Delhi. He is a recognised authority in dermatology, paediatric dermatology, and cosmetology, and has authored several books, contributed to numerous chapters, and published more than 70 research papers. Dr Kochhar has held leadership roles in the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists (IADVL) and currently serves as President of the Society for Paediatric Dermatology. A distinguished alum of Maulana Azad Medical College, he holds MBBS, MD, and DNB qualifications, and is a Member of the National Academy of Medical Sciences, and a Fellow of American Academy of Dermatology.



Dr Rashmi Nandargi

Vice President,
Bajaj Allianz General
Insurance Company

Dr Rashmi Nandargi is an accomplished health insurance expert with over two decades of executive leadership in implementing health underwriting strategy, regulatory compliance, policy management, and product development. She is Vice President at Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company, an organisation she joined in 2006. She has led initiatives in product development in health insurance, market research, operations management, system development for health insurance underwriting, products, and claims. At Bajaj Allianz Dr Nandargi manages the complete product life cycle, from product ideation and development to filing and approval process, with a focus on consumer needs and regulatory compliance. Her experience in healthcare services has equipped her with medical management skills, driving her focus on changing medical trends, identifying potential risks associated with disease trends, and assessing the impact of technological advancements on health insurance. Dr. Nandargi holds a BAMS from Karnataka University, Dharwad, and is a graduate and licentiate of the National Insurance Academy, Pune.

PLENARY SPEAKERS



Dr Vinod K. Paul

Member (Health,
Nutrition and
Education)
NITI Aayog

Dr Vinod K. Paul is a globally recognised paediatrician, medical scientist, and public health leader. He serves as Member (Health, Nutrition and Education) at the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Government of India, where he has played a pivotal role in shaping transformative health and nutrition policies, including the Ayushman Bharat–PMJAY, Ayushman Arogya Mandir, and POSHAN Abhiyaan. Dr Paul served on the faculty of the Department of Paediatrics at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, from 1985 to 2020, and headed the department for nearly a decade. He also chaired the Board of Governors in supersession of the Medical Council of India (2018–20), introducing landmark reforms such as the district residency programme, telemedicine guidelines, and significant expansion of medical education. Dr Paul was a key architect of India’s COVID-19 response and chaired multiple national task forces and expert groups. He has over 400 scientific publications and is counted among the world’s top two percent scientists in paediatrics (Stanford, 2020). His contributions have been recognised with the WHO Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize (2018) and the ICMR Dr B. R. Ambedkar Centenary Award. Dr Paul is a Fellow of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), Fellow of The National Academy of Sciences, India, Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, and Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.



Dr Niyati Parekh

Moderator

Associate Vice Provost,
New York University;
Visiting Professor of Public
Health Nutrition, Bagchi
School of Public Health,
Ahmedabad University

Dr Niyati Parekh is the Associate Vice Provost of Faculty Initiatives and Global Engagement at New York University, where she leads university-wide faculty development programs, including the Early Career Faculty Institute and the Mid-Career Faculty Initiative. She also works closely with NYU’s global sites to foster faculty engagement and collaboration. A Professor of Public Health Nutrition at NYU’s School of Global Public Health, Dr Parekh is a recognised nutritional epidemiologist whose research focuses on the role of diet in obesity, metabolic disorders, and cancer, with funding from America’s National Institutes of Health, and the American Cancer Society. She holds affiliated appointments at Ahmedabad University’s Bagchi School of Public Health, NYU’s Grossman School of Medicine, and the Rory Meyers College of Nursing, and has held leadership roles in professional organisations such as the American Society for Nutrition. Dr Parekh earned her PhD in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed postdoctoral training in cancer epidemiology at Rutgers before joining NYU in 2008.

ROUNDTABLE 1

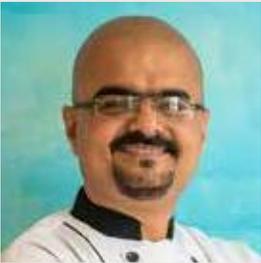
Reducing the Obesogenic Environment across Industries



Dr Agatha Betsy
Chair

Head, Nutrition
Science, Foods
Business Division,
ITC Limited

Dr Agatha Betsy is Head, Nutrition Science of the Foods Business Division ITC Limited, and is a leading expert in nutrition research, engagement, and communication. She brings more than 17 years of collective academic engagement and corporate experience—with established food businesses like Mondelez International as well as startups—with special interest in a range of aspects such as nutrition fortification, recommended dietary allowances, nutrition epidemiology with metabolic syndrome and non-communicable diseases like cardiovascular diseases; and diabetes and gut health, nutrition and toxicology, protein and fibre benefits, portion control, snacking and mindful snacking. In her current role at ITC, Dr Betsy is primarily responsible to drive the holistic nutrition strategy for the business by engaging in translating evolving and established science into healthier product formulations, impactful and consumer-friendly claims and communications, and engage in external collaborations for nutrition awareness and expert guidance. She has a Masters degree in food and nutrition, and a PhD in Nutrition and Toxicology from National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR NIN), Hyderabad.



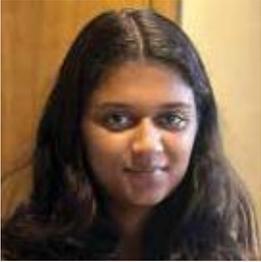
Mr Rahul Bhale

Assistant Director,
Food Services and
Nutrition, Ahmedabad
University

Mr Rahul Bhale focuses on culinary innovation, operational excellence, and mentoring future chefs. Before joining Ahmedabad University, he worked with Hilton Hotels and Accor—where he was Executive Chef with Novotel Hotels and led high-performance culinary teams and shaped the brand's gastronomic identity. He is recognised for strengthening culinary strategy across the Accor portfolio, and has led initiatives in menu innovation, guest experience enhancement, and large-scale kitchen operations. Chef Bhale has received awards such as the Wessex Salon Culinary Award from the Craft Guild of Chefs UK, and Accor Group's South East Asia 'Culinary Person of the Year' Award. He holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Hospitality Administration and Management from Blackpool and The Fylde College, United Kingdom.

ROUNDTABLE 1

Reducing the Obesogenic Environment across Industries



Ms Soha Fulmalia
IMBA Student,
Amrut Mody School of
Management,
Ahmedabad University

Ms Soha Fulmalia is a student of Integrated MBA (BA + MBA) Programme at the Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University. She maintains a deep interest in sustainable food systems, public health, and socially responsible business practices. Ms Fulmalia brings an interdisciplinary perspective to her work, shaped by her experience in leadership roles during her schooldays and her ongoing engagement with creative fields such as art, music, and culinary expression. Her current work in the university's Public Health Action Lab explores the intersection of nutrition, community care, and sustainable innovation within the food industry. Drawing inspiration from her early experiences learning to cook with her Baa—grandmother—she approaches food as both a cultural expression and a pathway to strengthening community wellbeing. Committed to meaningful impact, Ms Fulmalia aims to integrate management education with creative problem-solving to contribute to a more sustainable food ecosystem.

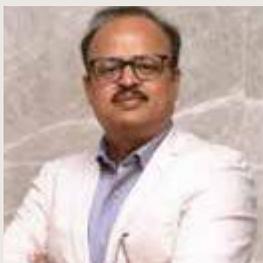


Ms Meghna Malhotra
Deputy Director,
Urban Management
Centre

Meghna Malhotra is the Deputy Director at the Urban Management Centre (UMC), Ahmedabad, a women-led non-profit dedicated to building inclusive, efficient, and resilient cities. With nearly two decades of experience in urban governance, she has led multidisciplinary programs spanning urban health, water and sanitation, performance measurement, and climate resilience. She manages flagship convergence initiatives—most notably the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)—and leads UMC's work on sanitation worker dignity and social protection through efforts such as the national NAMASTE and the Garima Scheme. Ms Malhotra's work also includes supporting work around women's economic empowerment, local government associations, strengthening municipal systems, and developing practical resources for cities, from disaster-management manuals to heritage documentation frameworks. She has led the work of preparing Model City Health Plans, such as for Ahmedabad, Pune, Jaipur and for cities in Uttar Pradesh. Ms Malhotra is an architect with a Master's in Environmental Planning from CEPT University.

ROUNDTABLE 1

Reducing the Obesogenic Environment across Industries



Dr Ravi Kumar Trivedi

Vice President
Zydus Lifesciences

Dr Ravi Kumar Trivedi is the Vice President and Head of the Department of Bioavailability, Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics (BA-DMPK) function at Zydus Research Centre. He was a part of the team that launched three biosimilars globally. Dr Trivedi has held leadership roles at Dr. Reddy's Labs, and Nektar Therapeutics, among others. An ardent supporter of utilising new technologies at various stages of discovery and development, his areas of interest are translational research, Model-Informed Drug Development (MIDD) (Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy (HDP), Pharmacokinetic - Pharmacodynamic (PK-PD) correlation, Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetics (PBPK), and Population Pharmacokinetics (PoP PK) for developmental candidates. Dr Trivedi is a founding member and served as the presiding chair for the Advance Pharmaceutical Analysis (APA) India chapter for the year 2023-24, as well as represented India at the Global Bioanalytical Consortium. Dr Trivedi obtained his Master of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of Lucknow and his Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacokinetics and Drug Metabolism from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University.

ROUNDTABLE 2

Strategising Social Media and other Marketing Strategies



Ms Sukhada Bhatte

Lead Nutrition Science
Specialist, Dr Reddy's
Laboratories Ltd

Ms Sukhada Bhatte is an accomplished Registered Dietitian with 18 years of cross-functional expertise spanning clinical nutrition, global regulatory affairs, scientific communication, and nutrition-focused clinical research. She currently serves as Lead Nutrition Science Specialist at Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, where she drives product-claim substantiation, scientific evidence generation, competition intelligence, and new product ideation. She has successfully led multiple product launches across India and emerging global markets, contributing to differentiated clinical and scientific positioning. Previously, she held senior roles in regulatory and nutrition affairs, ensuring compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Codex and the European Food Safety Authority. She has previously been Assistant Professor at the University of Mumbai, where she guided postgraduate research in sports nutrition, public health, and food science. A Certified Diabetes Educator and recipient of multiple awards, Sukhada is recognized for her ability to integrate evidence-based science with practical nutrition innovation and impactful health communication.



Dr SubbaRao Gavaravarapu *Chair*

Scientist F & Head,
Nutrition Information,
Communication & Health
Education (NICHE)
Division, ICMR- National
Institute of Nutrition, India
& Professor, Faculty of
Medical Research, Academy
of Scientific and Innovative
Research (AcSIR), India

Dr Subbarao Gavaravarapu blends his social science roots with two decades of expertise in nutrition communication, public policy, and community engagement. Spanning over 100 peer-reviewed publications, his research deals with food labeling, vendor education, workplace nutritional wellbeing and combating health misinformation. He was the chair of the Scientific Panel on Food Labeling, Claims & Advertising at Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), and is a member of the NITI Ayog's Working Group tasked with drafting 'Nutrition Strategy for India'. He has won several awards including the Outstanding Nutrition Scientist Award from Federation of Asian Nutrition Societies, the VN Patwardhan Prize from ICMR, Mid-Career Award from the American Society of Nutrition, and Buti Science Communication Award from Gujarat Academy of Sciences. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (FNAAS), India and the Royal Society for Public Health, UK, and a Fellow of the International Union of Nutrition Sciences.

ROUNDTABLE 2

Strategising Social Media and other Marketing Strategies



Dr Anand Kumar Jaiswal

Professor of Marketing,
Indian Institute of
Management
Ahmedabad (IIMA)

Dr Anand Kumar Jaiswal is an accomplished marketing academic, who was awarded the Distinguished Young Professor Award for excellence in research in 2011 at IIM Ahmedabad. His research interests include healthcare management, innovation and marketing management. In addition to management journals, he has published papers in BMC Health Services Research, Social Science & Medicine and Sustainability. He is the recipient of several other research and case writing awards. Notably, he won the International Management Division's Skolkovo Best Paper Finalist award in 2012 Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Boston. Two of his cases were winner and runner-up at the European Foundation for Management Development Case Competition in 2011 and 2013 respectively. Dr Jaiswal has also performed executive education and consulting for several companies including Sanofi-Aventis, Novo Nordisk, Novo Nordisk Region International Operations, General Electric and Research International.



Dr Prithwiraj Mukherjee

Associate Professor of
Marketing, Amrut Mody
School of Management,
Ahmedabad University

Dr Prithwiraj Mukherjee is a marketing academic. His current research deals with online businesses and social media. He is especially interested in the dark side of digital marketing. For example, his published research on clickbait challenges the popular notion that clickbait leads to more viral content, and demonstrates that the exact opposite holds true. His current research deals with how AI affects various facets of workplace performance including marketing. Dr Mukherjee has a PhD from ESSEC in Cergy-Pontoise, France, and was previously a faculty member at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, where he developed a massively open online course titled Quantitative Marketing research, which is available under the IIMBx umbrella on EdX and Swayam.

ROUNDTABLE 2

Strategising Social Media and other Marketing Strategies



Mr Saharsh Panchal

Senior Executive – Health Promotion and Research, Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University

Mr Saharsh Panchal is a public health and clinical research professional, currently serving as Senior Executive – Health Promotion and Research with the Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University. He has worked extensively in clinical research operations, serving as Member Secretary of the Ethics Committee at Dr Jivraj Mehta Smarak Health Foundation, Ahmedabad, where he oversaw several in-house research studies and sponsored clinical trials. There he successfully managed major regulatory and quality audits in India and United States. He earlier worked in Canada as Lead Pharma Technician, where he coordinated pharma operations, trained teams, and led community outreach and CSR programmes. As a Public Health Associate with Parisodhana Technologies, Hyderabad, he implemented a rural newborn hypothermia-prevention project that contributed to saving more than 250 infants through field-level interventions and community training. Mr Panchal holds a Master of Public Health degree from the Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar, a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health Management from Conestoga College, Canada, a Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Research from IICR India.



Mr Ujjwal Pratap

Director of Communication, Ahmedabad University

Mr Ujjwal Pratap is a senior communications, branding, and marketing leader with more than two decades of experience across corporations, academia, and the social impact sector. He is currently the Director of Branding and Communications at Ahmedabad University. Mr Pratap's career spans roles at a top-tier consulting firm, an international banking institution, and a global non-profit organisation, with work across strategy, reputation management, and data-driven marketing in India as well as North American and EMEA markets. His professional focus lies in integrating brand storytelling with measurable performance outcomes.

ROUNDTABLE 2

Strategising Social Media and other Marketing Strategies



Ms Bijal Desai

Chief Operating
Officer,
ND Insurance Broking
Private Limited

Ms Bijal Trivedi (Desai) is an insurance and social impact leader with a strong foundation in technology and business. As chief operating officer at ND Insurance Broking Pvt. Ltd, Ms Desai oversees operations, leads the liability insurance vertical, and manages large health portfolios. She is a passionate advocate for ethical practices and awareness, and heads Project Masoom of the Young Indians (Yi) leadership platform to raise awareness about child safety and protection among several thousand students. She is also a Committee Member of CAIT Young Entrepreneurs, a leadership forum in Gujarat. Ms Desai is an electronics and communications engineer from Gujarat Technological University and earned her Master of Science degree from the University of Florida. She subsequently began her career with PricewaterhouseCoopers and Ernst & Young in the U.S., and handled IT Risk Audits for Fortune 500 clients. Ms Desai brings her unique perspective from the health insurance sector—sharing how marketing strategies influence consumer decisions, drive healthier behavior, and raise critical questions about responsibility, transparency, and public well-being.

ROUNDTABLE 3

Ultra-processed foods in daily life: Yin and Yang



**Dr Shweta
Khandelwal**
Vice President
IPE Global Limited

Dr Shweta Khandelwal is a leading Public Health Nutrition expert with over 20 years of progressive experience in maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN). She currently serves as Vice President at IPE Global and was formerly Senior Advisor at Jhpiego and Head of Nutrition Research at Public Health Foundation of India. Dr Khandelwal has led policy-relevant research, strategic program implementation, and multi-sectoral nutrition initiatives across India and South Asia. She is a pioneer in public health education, and established India's first Public Health Nutrition diploma and several short courses to strengthen the country's PHN workforce. Her research focuses on maternal nutrition, the double burden of malnutrition, and sustainable diets. With over 180 publications in journals such as *The Lancet* and *BMC Medicine*, she has significantly influenced evidence-based policymaking. She collaborates globally through Wellcome Trust fellowships and holds advisory roles with India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Indian Council of Medical Research, and NITI Aayog, advancing national nutrition strategies. Her work highlights the complex interplay of food choices, industry practices, and policy, illustrating how multi-sector collaboration can support healthier, more equitable, and nutrition-conscious food systems.



Dr Jagmeet Madan
Chair
National President, Indian
Dietetic Association;
President, National
Council for Nutrition
Science Professionals

Professor (Dr.) Jagmeet Madan is a renowned nutrition expert and consulting clinical nutritionist. She is the National President of the Indian Dietetic Association, and the President of the National Council for Nutrition Science Professionals. Dr. Madan was associated with several leading institutions and organisations, including as Director of Postgraduate Programs and Research, Innovation, Collaboration and Consultancy Centre (RICCC); India Representative for Asian Federation of Dietetic Association (AFDA), India Representative for International Confederation of Dietetic Association (ICDA), Nutrition Expert -National Nutrition Science Professional Council, and India's National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. She was also an expert on the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's scientific panels on Labelling and Claims/Advertisement and Scientific Panel of Nutrition and Fortification. Dr Madan is at present Professor, Department of Food Nutrition and Dietetics, Sir Vithaldas Thackersey College of Home Science, Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey (SNDT) Women's University, Mumbai, where she also served as principal (2009- 2024). Dr Madan earned her Master of Science degree, MPhil, and PhD (Food and Nutrition) from Lady Irwin College, New Delhi.

ROUNDTABLE 3

Ultra-processed foods in daily life: Yin and Yang



**Dr Shreya
Rastogi**

R&D Head and
Product Development
Lead, Wholsum Foods

Dr Shreya Rastogi is a nutrition and public health professional with over 16 years of experience spanning industry, government, and academia. She currently heads the R&D Department at Wholsum Foods (Slurrp Farm and Mille), where she leads the creation of clean-label, nutrient-dense products tailored for children and adults. Her work focuses on translating scientific evidence into healthy formulations—from allergen-free snacks to health-forward food products across diverse formats (beverages, snacks, baked goods)—while ensuring ingredient transparency and regulatory compliance. Earlier, as an Innovation Scientist at Unilever, Dr Rastogi led the development of science-backed formulations and regulatory-compliant scientific claims for nutritional beverages. She also served at the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, where she spearheaded national programs on iodine deficiency and fluorosis prevention. Dr Rastogi holds a PhD in Public Health and Nutrition from Delhi University. She is a life member of the Nutrition Society of India and the Indian Dietetic Association.



Dr Neha Rathi

Visiting Professor, Bagchi
School of Public Health,
Ahmedabad University

Dr Neha Rathi is an expert in health behaviour, especially exploring facilitators and barriers to food intake and assessing barriers and facilitators to physical activity participation through qualitative research. She also has a rich experience of assessing nutrition education and the food environment, particularly in schools and homes. Dr Rathi is at present Visiting Professor at Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University. She has published 28 first /corresponding author research articles in peer-reviewed international journals and is a recipient of two prestigious post-doctoral fellowships in India (Institute Post Doctoral Fellowship of Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and Malaviya Post Doctoral Fellowship of Banaras Hindu University). Dr Rathi completed her BSc Honours in Home Science from Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India, and MS in Home Science from SNTD Women's University, Mumbai. She received her PhD in Health Sciences (specialisation in Behavioural Nutrition) from Deakin University, Australia.

ROUNDTABLE 3

Ultra-processed foods in daily life: Yin and Yang



Ms Sushila Sharangdhar

Consultant Dietitian,
ICICI Bank, Indian Oil
Corporation Ltd, JKP
Healthcare Foundation;
Chief Nutrition Officer,
Voll Sante, Mumbai

Ms Sushila Sharangdhar is a distinguished clinical dietitian with a four-decade-long career across clinical nutrition, academia, and public health. She has contributed to the advancement of preventive nutrition and population health by consistently bridging science and community practice and has extensive clinical experience in leading Mumbai hospitals—P.D. Hinduja Hospital, Wockhardt Hospital, Nair Hospital, and Nanavati Hospital—where she contributed to patient-centered care and interdisciplinary nutrition management. As an educator, mentor, author, and content developer for health columns in media, Ms Sharangdhar advocates nutrition literacy and sustainable food choices. She pioneered India's first Registered Dietitian Exam Coaching Program and developed evidence-based courses in cardiac, pediatric, and autism nutrition. She currently serves as Consultant Dietitian with ICICI Bank, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Energy Fitness, JKP Healthcare Foundation, and Nourish & Nurture, and as Chief Nutrition Officer at Voll Sante, Mumbai. Her current work explores the public health implications of consuming ultra-processed foods, advocating for traditional, minimally processed, and culturally rooted diets as strategies to reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases. She has a postgraduate degree in dietetics from the Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Technology, Mumbai, and a postgraduate degree in hospital administration from the Institute of Healthcare Administration, Chennai.



Mr Sukhwinder Singh

Designated Officer and
Licensing Authority, Food
Safety Administration,
Chandigarh

Mr Sukhwinder Singh is a senior food safety administrator with over 28 years of service in public health regulation and currently serves as the Designated Officer and Licensing Authority for the Food Safety Administration, Union Territory of Chandigarh. In this role, he oversees enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's regulatory framework, leads licensing and compliance processes, and guides the implementation of national food safety initiatives across Chandigarh. Mr Singh has been a key proponent of the FSSAI's 'Eat Right India' movement, contributing to public health awareness, nutrition literacy, and community engagement through inspections, outreach activities, and public events. He has also played an instrumental role in operationalising mobile food testing and awareness initiatives such as 'Food Safety on Wheels.' His leadership led to the development of Chandigarh's first 'Clean and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Market,' recognised for setting new benchmarks in hygiene, quality assurance, and consumer protection. Mr Singh regularly collaborates with local government departments, market committees, and community platforms to strengthen Chandigarh's food ecosystem and promote safer food practices.

ROUNDTABLE 3

Ultra-processed foods in daily life: Yin and Yang



**Mr Nanak Ram Ilm
(Guneet Singh)**

Student, Ahmedabad
University; Founder 'Ba
Dekh Rahi Hai' and Kitaab
aur Kalam Foundation

Nanak Ram Ilm (Guneet) is an educationist, social entrepreneur, and community-builder working at the intersection of public health, nutrition, and equitable learning. He is the Founder of Kitaab aur Kalam Foundation, mobilising citizens to rethink, community health, and creating accessible education opportunities for all. Over the years, he has worked closely with communities, public institutions, and young people to build practical, inclusive models of learning. Mr Ilm has served as an Advisor to YuWaah (UNICEF India), contributed to youth-centric education strategies, and has mentored students as visiting faculty at Apple Global School, Ahmedabad. His work reflects a strong belief that meaningful change begins with informed communities, empowered children, and people-driven public engagement. He represents a growing youth movement committed to reshaping how India thinks about education, health, and social responsibility.

ROUNDTABLE 4

Primary Prevention through Cross-Institutional Partnerships



**Dr Pankaj
Bhardwaj**

Chair

Director ICMR -
National Institute for
Implementation
Research on
Non-Communicable
Diseases, Jodhpur

Dr Pankaj Bhardwaj is a public health academician and researcher with extensive experience across several leading medical institutions in India. He currently serves as Director ICMR - National Institute for Implementation Research on Non-Communicable Diseases, Jodhpur. He has held leadership roles at AIIMS Jodhpur, including as Dean Research and Academic Head of the School of Public Health; and was Professor of Community & Family Medicine. With expertise spanning implementation research, geriatrics, non-communicable diseases, tobacco control, vaccines, global health, and policy research, he has authored more than 250 scientific publications. Dr Bhardwaj served as Chair of the Operational Research Committee for Tuberculosis (NTEP) Rajasthan and as Nodal Officer for the Regional Institute of India's National AIDS Control Organisation for Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. He has been a member or chair of committees constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, State Health Departments, Indian Council of Medical Research, and the World Health Organization. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Indian Journal of Community Medicine and has served as editor for international scientific reports, including Polypharmacy in Over 60 published in Nature. Dr Bhardwaj is a Fellow of India's National Academy of Medical Sciences, besides holding several other prestigious fellowships. Globally, he has undertaken fellowships and observerships at institutions including Ludwig Maximilian University, the Karolinska Institute, the Public Health Agency of Sweden, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Singapore General Hospital, and Johns Hopkins University.

ROUNDTABLE 4

Primary Prevention through Cross-Institutional Partnerships



Dr Kaumudi Joshipura

Professor and Dean,
Bagchi School of Public
Health, Ahmedabad
University; Adjunct
Professor of Epidemiology,
Harvard University

Dr Kaumudi Joshipura is Dean of the Bagchi School of Public Health and the Susmita and Subroto Bagchi Professor in Public Health at Ahmedabad University. Professor Joshipura is also an Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology at Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH). She served as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Endowed Chair and as Director of the Center for Clinical Research and Health Promotion (CCRHP) at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus. She has served on several editorial boards and is currently the Chief Editor for *Frontiers in Oral Health* journal. She has served as an advisor to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Association of Periodontology (AAP), and the World Health Organization (WHO) and on the American Public Health Association advisory committee on Climate, Health and Equity. Dr Joshipura founded a global public movement (VMove) to help individuals and organisations incorporate creative physical activity throughout the day. Her research (H-index 69) has focused on evaluating lifestyle factors, microbial and inflammatory markers, and other modifiable risk factors for cardiometabolic and other non-communicable diseases.



Dr Ashwin Modi

Head, Sevantilal Kantilal
College of Business
Management at
Hemchandracharya North
Gujarat University, Patan

Dr Ashwin Modi is the Head of the Sevantilal Kantilal College of Business Management, at Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan, Gujarat, and is a Research Fellow at INTI International University, Malaysia. Dr Modi has received several honours, including 'Best Doctoral Award' by the Association of Indian Management School, India, and a 'Postdoctoral Award' of Raman Research Fellowship for the USA in Management and Healthcare Disciplines. He has also published several peer-reviewed articles and books in notable journals. Dr Modi has credit of receiving awards and grants for research and consultancy projects from Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Government of India, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), University Grants Commission (UGC), Uttar Gujarat Vij Company Ltd. (UGVCL), the Gujarat government's Centre for Entrepreneurship Development and the Health and Family Welfare Department, and from International agencies of the United States and Canada. Dr Modi holds a PhD in Business Management, an MBA in Administration, a Postgraduate Diploma in Hospital and Healthcare Management, and a Bachelor of Business Administration.

ROUNDTABLE 4

Primary Prevention through Cross-Institutional Partnerships



Dr Durgesh Modi

PhD Scholar in
Epidemiology at
Bagchi School of
Public Health,
Ahmedabad University

Dr Durgesh Modi is a consultant physician, and a PhD Scholar in Epidemiology at the Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University. He has nearly a decade's clinical experience in internal medicine and family care, and practices at Sushrusa Hospital and at the Narmad - Meghani Charitable Clinic in Ahmedabad. In his clinical work Dr Modi manages a wide spectrum of acute and chronic illnesses—from infections and emergency presentations to long-term conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and neurological disorders. His approach combines evidence-based treatment with strong emphasis on preventive care, lifestyle counselling, and early identification of risk factors. As part of his doctoral work Dr Modi explores gender-specific determinants and early detection pathways in neurodegenerative diseases, particularly dementia in Indian women, with an aim to contribute to prevention-focused strategies within the Indian health system. He is an active science communicator, and writes for Gujarati media, delivers public lectures, and engages in community outreach through the Universe Science Forum.



Dr Anil Nayak

Honorary President
Elect - Indian Medical
Association

Dr Anil Kumar J. Nayak is the President Elect of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) and the Honorary Secretary General at IMA Headquarters, where he plays a central role in national medical leadership and organisational governance. He is the Dean of the Medical Faculty at Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University (HNGU), Patan, and serves as Professor and Head of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Banaras Medical College and Research Center in Palanpur. Dr Nayak represents the medical profession across several statutory bodies. He is a Member of the Dental Council of India and an Executive Member of the Indian Nursing Council, and serves on both the Gujarat State Medical Council and the Gujarat State Nursing Council. He has previously held key leadership positions, including President of the Gujarat Orthopaedic Association, President of the North Gujarat Orthopaedic Association, President of IMA's Gujarat State Branch, and Vice President, IMA Headquarters. He has also served as a Member of the National Medical Commission. Dr Nayak is also engaged in humanitarian and community-focused work as the Honorary Secretary of the Indian Red Cross Society's Mehsana District Branch and as Coordinator for the North Gujarat Zone.

ROUNDTABLE 4

Primary Prevention through Cross-Institutional Partnerships



Mr Ariz Rizvi
Head, Health Risk
Management
Solutions, Aon, India

Mr Ariz Rizvi leads the health risk management solutions for Aon in India and is responsible for the growth of the health solutions business including fostering of key client relationships and strategic partnerships. He has over 20 years of experience advising large multinational organisations from diverse sectors on their employee benefits and wellbeing practices; and collaborates closely with the pharma industry to focus on market access and insurance strategies. Prior to joining Aon in 2018, he was with Apollo Group of Hospitals where he was responsible for the incubation of Apollo Life and grew the business to be the largest provider of occupational health centers in India. Mr Rizvi serves on various committees instituted by Government of India, National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). He holds a BA (Honours) degree in Arts from the University of Huddersfield, UK, completed a post graduate program on Health Promotion from Public Health Foundation of India, and an Advanced Management Programme from Indian Institute of Management Bangalore. He is currently pursuing a Masters in Public Health from IIHMR University, Jaipur, India.

ROUNDTABLE 5

Policies to Promote Win-Win Situations for Business and Health



Dr Indu Bhushan

Chair

Founding CEO, National Health Authority;
Former Director General Asian Development Bank

Dr Indu Bhushan is a public health and policy leader recognised for shaping India's health assurance and digital health landscape. He was the founding Chief Executive Officer of the National Health Authority, where he led the implementation of the Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, among of the world's largest publicly funded health assurance programmes. He also oversaw the launch of the National Digital Health Mission, now the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which laid the foundation for India's digital health ecosystem. A former Indian Administrative Service officer, Dr Bhushan is currently a Senior Associate at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, and Senior Advisor for the Asia-Pacific region at the Boston Consulting Group. He also serves on the boards of several organisations. Dr Bhushan holds a PhD in Health Economics and a Master of Health Sciences from Johns Hopkins University. He earned his Bachelor of Technology from Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi, a postgraduate diploma from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Dr Bhushan is also a Chartered Financial Analyst.



Dr Rajendra Gadhavi

Professor, Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University

Dr Rajendra Gadhavi is a medical epidemiologist and public health specialist with extensive experience in disease surveillance, outbreak response, and programme strengthening. He is a Professor at the Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University, where he teaches epidemiology, leads research mentoring, and supports curriculum development in public health and implementation science. Dr Gadhavi has held key technical and leadership roles with the World Health Organization, the Government of India, UNICEF, and state health departments. His international experience includes assignments in Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Puerto Rico, and Nigeria, supporting vaccine-preventable disease control, immunization strengthening, and emergency response. He has served as State Lead Epidemiologist for COVID-19 in Gujarat, Deputy Director at the Gujarat State AIDS Control Society, and Director of Hospital Management at Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University. His research has been supported by the Indian Council of Medical Research, National AIDS Control Organization, the World Diabetes Foundation, UNICEF, and state governments, contributing to national exercises such as the National HIV Estimates and the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS and STI (2017–2024). Dr Gadhavi holds an MBBS, MD in Preventive and Social Medicine, PhD in Epidemiology, and a Master of Health Administration.

ROUNDTABLE 5

Policies to Promote Win-Win Situations for Business and Health



Dr Sahil Hebbar

Co-Director of Sahyog and Senior Wellness Coordinator, SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association)

Dr Sahil Hebbar is a physician and health management professional with over fifteen years of experience in healthcare consulting, hospital operations, and quality improvement. He serves as Senior Wellness Coordinator at the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) and Co-Director of the Sahyog Centre, where he leads wellness programmes, community-based health initiatives, and organisational development to support women workers and underserved communities. Dr Hebbar brings global experience across the United States, India, Singapore, and Kuwait, with expertise in healthcare strategy, cost optimisation, and health IT implementation. Prior to SEWA, he worked with Accenture, contributing to state health strategy reforms, supply-chain improvements, digital health adoption, and organisational restructuring. Earlier, as a Clinical Improvement Specialist at the University of Missouri Health Care, he applied Lean, PDSA, and FMEA methodologies to strengthen patient safety and care processes across clinical teams. He holds an MBBS from B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad and a dual MBA–MHA from the University of Missouri–Columbia.



Dr Heli Karvat

Assistant Manager
Apexon

Dr Karvat is a social work scholar and practitioner specialising in medico-legal dimensions of healthcare accountability. She currently heads social impact and sustainability initiatives at Apexon Ignite (the philanthropic arm of Apexon), integrating environment, social and governance (ESG) strategy, community development, and employee voluntarism to design programmes that advance women's health and community wellbeing. Here key initiatives include menstrual wellness programmes and the Sabarmati Saheli Project, which combines livelihood generation to women inmates with improved access to menstrual hygiene across India and parts of Africa. Dr Karvat's professional alignment with healthcare as a discipline was shaped through field practice in the plastic surgery department of public hospitals. She also led large-scale health interventions across Goa, Gujarat, and Odisha, supporting community health centres and mobile medical units in CSR-oriented collaborations with leading healthcare organisations. She is a lifetime member of National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), and a member of the World Society of Victimology (WSV). Dr Karvat earned a PhD in Social Work from The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. Her doctoral research on medical malpractice and consumer protection examined systemic gaps in healthcare accountability.

ROUNDTABLE 5

Policies to Promote Win-Win Situations for Business and Health



Mr Shakeel Mohan

PhD student - Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University, India

Mr Shakeel Mohan is a PhD Scholar in Epidemiology at the Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University, with a strong interest in rural and tribal health systems, primary health care, and humanitarian crises. His work focuses on strengthening primary health care delivery in underserved regions through field-based research, community health assessments, and survey protocol development. Mr Mohan has extensive field experience in rural settings across Northeastern India, Odisha and Jharkhand. Mr Mohan integrates practical public health approaches with evidence-based interventions aimed at improving community health outcomes. His research emphasises health promotion strategies that are contextually grounded and adaptable across diverse geographical and socio-cultural environments; and he brings a community-centred lens to epidemiological inquiry and programme design.



Dr Amarjit Singh

Former Commissioner and Secretary Public Health, Government of Gujarat

Dr Amarjit Singh is a senior public health and governance leader with over four decades of experience in India's civil services. As Health Commissioner, he led the Chiranjeevi Scheme, a public-private partnership that significantly reduced maternal mortality and received the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration. Dr Singh has served in high-impact national and state leadership roles, including Union Secretary in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; he guided major national water initiatives, including the completion of 106 major irrigation projects and the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project. He was also Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, and Principal Secretary, Family Welfare & Health Commissioner for the Government of Gujarat. He previously headed the National Population Stabilisation Fund. Dr Singh lectures at leading institutions including the Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, and the National Centre for Good Governance.

ROUNDTABLE 5

Policies to Promote Win-Win Situations for Business and Health



Dr Raajiv Singhal

Managing Director
and Group CEO,
Marengo Asia
Hospitals

Dr Raajiv Singhal is a healthcare leader, entrepreneur, and innovator with extensive experience in clinical practice, hospital management, and healthcare development across Asia and Africa. He is the Founding Member, Managing Director, and Group Chief Executive Officer of Marengo Asia Hospitals, a network of eight multi-specialty hospitals with 2,500 beds, focused on accessibility, affordability, and clinical excellence. Dr Singhal began his career as a General Surgeon in the Indian Army, serving in challenging terrains including Siachen and Northeast India, which inspired his lifelong commitment to patient-first healthcare. He later completed Healthcare Management at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad and has led hospital networks, telemedicine initiatives, and capacity-building programs in several countries. Before Marengo Asia Hospitals, he was Group Chief Executive Officer at Evercare, overseeing twelve hospitals. Dr Singhal also pioneered India's first electronic intensive care unit and Hub-and-Spoke Heart Command Centres at Fortis Escorts Heart Institute. Dr Singhal serves on the boards of several companies, and co-chairs industry committees at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Confederation of Indian Industry, and National Health Authority.



Dr Narayan Gaonkar

Health and Nutrition
Specialist, UNICEF,
Gujarat

Dr Narayan Gaonkar is a public health leader with over 20 years of experience within the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the wider United Nations system, advancing equitable Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (MNCAH). As Health and Nutrition Specialist with UNICEF India, he has led the Gujarat portfolio for more than 17 years, guiding programme strategy, providing technical leadership, and shaping state and national policies. He has played a central role in scaling Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs), strengthening Early Childhood Development (ECD) frameworks, improving immunisation quality, and advancing respectful maternal and newborn care. Dr Gaonkar has also supported major emergency and health-system initiatives, including the National Oxygen Strategy. His regional experience includes supporting Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) in Bangladesh, with contributions to District Health Information System-2 (DHIS-2), Health Management Information System (HMIS) reforms, Adolescent Health Strategy development, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) improvements. He is recognised for building strong cross-sector partnerships to achieve sustainable child health outcomes.

ROUNDTABLE 6

Innovations, Technologies and New Opportunities



**Dr Shweta
Agarwala**

Professor and
Associate Dean, School
of Engineering and
Applied Science,
Ahmedabad University

As Associate Dean and Professor at Ahmedabad University, and founder of healthcare ventures, Dr Shweta Agarwala works at the intersection of materials science, electronics and healthcare innovation. Dr Agarwala's research spans sustainable and bioresorbable materials, soft bioelectronic devices with active collaborations across Europe and Southeast Asia. She also leads initiatives on mental-health technology through an AI-driven preventive care platform. Dr Agarwala's work advances technologies that prioritise prevention, accessibility, and long-term societal well-being. At the Ahmedabad Dialogue on The Business of Health she aims to contribute insights on how responsible innovation, data governance, and sustainable design can support scalable, equitable health solutions. Dr Agarwala received her PhD from the National University of Singapore.



Dr Manjiri Bakre

Founder and Chief
Executive Officer of
OncoStem Diagnostics

Dr Manjiri Bakre is a cell biology specialist and health-tech innovator with over two decades of research and development experience across India, the United States, and Singapore. Her work spans diverse technologies, including artificial intelligence, machine learning, microfluidic assays, microarrays, and proteomics, and highlights how emerging technologies can transform population health. She is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of OncoStem Diagnostics, established in 2011 to develop precision oncology tests that help prevent the over-treatment of cancer patients and improve both outcomes and quality of life. Dr Bakre led the development of CanAssist Breast, a flagship risk-prediction test that has guided clinical management for nearly 10,000 breast cancer patients globally. Under her leadership, OncoStem has received multiple honours, including the Times Healthworld Health-Tech Innovator of the Year Award and the Aegis Graham Bell Award. Dr Bakre holds a PhD in Biochemistry/Biology from the University of Mumbai, an MSc from the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, and a BSc from the University of Mumbai.

ROUNDTABLE 6

Innovations, Technologies and New Opportunities



Dr Jayendra Bhalodiya

Professor, School of
Engineering and
Applied Science,
Ahmedabad University

Dr Jayendra M. Bhalodiya is an Assistant Professor at the School of Engineering and Applied Science, Ahmedabad University, where he works at the intersection of engineering, healthcare, and public health. His research emphasises interdisciplinary innovation, particularly the design and application of artificial intelligence tools to improve medical screening, early diagnosis, and clinical decision-making. His interests in innovation, patient consent, data science, and AI for health also connect him to the broader healthcare ecosystem. He completed his PhD at the University of Warwick, UK, and pursued research fellowships at IIT Kharagpur and the Institute of Digital Healthcare, WMG, Warwick, contributing to the national Health Data Research (HDR) UK programme. Actively collaborating with clinicians, he has worked with the Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, London, and engages with the Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University.



Dr Ashok Karania *Chair*

Vice President,
Agentic AI Strategy
and Sales,
WinWire
Technologies

Dr Ashok Karania has over 20 years of expertise in strategy, innovation, and global partnerships, and is Vice President of Agentic AI Strategy and Sales at WinWire Technologies. He is an entrepreneurial technology and business leader who helps transform enterprises by delivering AI to deliver quantifiable business results. Before joining WinWire Technology, Dr Karania led global growth at Infostech (Now Apexon), a firm backed by Goldman Sachs, where he established Ignite, an award-winning social impact initiative. He is a TEDx speaker, startup mentor, and advisor to social enterprises. Dr Karania obtained a bachelor's in commerce, a master's degree in business/commerce, and a PhD in Business Policy and Administration, all from University of Mumbai. He completed the Executive Education, Oxford Fintech Programme in 2018 at Said Business School, University of Oxford. Dr Karania works with government agencies, academic institutions, and think tanks on issues of technology, innovation, purpose, and social progress; and is also engaged with the philosophy of interlacing of human inquisitiveness with digital prospects.

ROUNDTABLE 6

Innovations, Technologies and New Opportunities



Dr Ronak Shodhan

Consultant and Senior faculty, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in AI and Robotics, Jio Institute, Reliance Foundation

Dr Ronak Shodhan is an educator, technologist, and innovation mentor with more than four decades of diverse international and national experience across academia, industry, entrepreneurship, and advanced technology development. He is Consultant and Senior Faculty in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Jio Institute, Reliance Foundation. Dr Shodhan's focus has consistently been to inspire and empower young minds through the fundamentals of mathematics, science, engineering, electronics, robotics, and responsible artificial intelligence to nurture future leaders. He currently works with students, professionals, entrepreneurs, and innovators to design practical AI- and robotics-enabled solutions for societal wellbeing. His recent engagements include developing a non-contact AI/ML system for breast cancer detection using heat and sound principles at Jio Institute and Reliance Health Care and guiding the creation of an AI-based mobile app for stress management among young professionals. He is also leading initiatives in home-scale hydroponics using state-of-the-art technology to enable healthy and affordable food production. He is the founder of multiple innovation-oriented platforms, including the Ahmedabad Robot Club. Dr Shodhan earned a B.Tech from Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, MS from University of Michigan, and a PhD in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics at Purdue University.



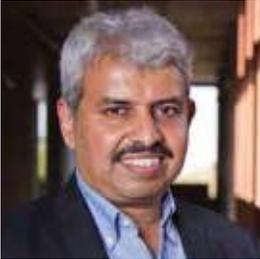
Ms Rehana Sultana

PhD student, Bagchi School of Public Health, Ahmedabad University

Rehana Sultana is a Senior Research Associate and Biostatistician at Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore, with over 13 years of experience supporting biomedical, translational, and clinical research. Trained in Statistics and Systems Management, she has contributed to more than 200 peer-reviewed publications across neuroscience, respiratory health, oncology, metabolic disorders, women's health, and paediatrics. Ms Sultana's expertise includes study design, advanced statistical analysis, and the development of reproducible analytical tools in R and SAS for clinical and population health research. In her current role, she collaborates with clinicians, researchers, and data teams to apply quantitative methods that enhance the rigour, reproducibility, and analytical depth of health research. She also mentors medical students in statistical methods and supports capacity building through workshops on biostatistics and evidence synthesis. Ms Sultana's work, which builds on a strong interest in how emerging analytical tools, digital research methods, and data-enabled innovations can create new opportunities for strengthening health research and improving population outcomes, generates quality evidence to support informed, cost-effective health decisions.

ROUNDTABLE 6

Innovations, Technologies and New Opportunities



Dr Vivek Tanavde

Associate Professor;
Associate Dean,
Sciences, Ahmedabad
University

Dr Vivek Tanavde is an Associate Professor and Associate Dean at Ahmedabad University, where he focuses on stem cell biology, cancer biomarkers, and translational research. He joined the University in 2017 after more than a decade as a Principal Investigator at the Bioinformatics Institute, A*STAR, in Singapore. Previously, he headed the Hematopoietic Stem Cell Laboratory at Reliance Life Sciences, developing mesenchymal stromal cell-based therapies for cardiac and neurological disorders. He also serves on multiple advisory boards, including Venture Studio and iBioAnalysis Pvt. Ltd., and has contributed to international scientific bodies such as International Society for Advancement of Cytometry, USA, and the Stem Cell Society, Singapore. He also serves on multiple advisory boards, including Venture Studio and iBioAnalysis Pvt. Ltd., and has contributed to international scientific bodies such as ISAC and the Stem Cell Society. Dr Tanavde completed his PhD in Applied Biology at the Cancer Research Institute, Mumbai, and pursued postdoctoral training at the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Centre, Johns Hopkins University.



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