

# FIMLS NEWSLETTER



Issue 1- September 2022

## FIMLS PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Bula to all the FIMLS members and interested readers. This is the second publication of our FIMLS newsletter since 2012 and let's look back at some of the previous achievements that has been the springboard to the success of our professional journey. Since 1983, the first ever Medical Laboratory professional body called the Fiji Medical Laboratory Technologist Association (FMLTA) was formed. At the very same year, they had their first Laboratory symposium at the Antenatal clinic room of the CWMH in Suva. In 2011, the proposed name was put forward to change the naming right of the association from FMLTA to Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science (FIMLS) and was finally endorsed by the members in 2012. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the FIMLS and, we also welcome the first term of our newly elected FIMLS executives. The new regime has already seen the bright light at the end of the tunnel, and we are getting closer to it. It just a matter of time and with our commitment and passion for the institute, surely that won't be too far away. To all our members, we anticipate working with you all ensuring that no one is left behind. I Hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and PLEASE do use this platform to share your ideas and highlights of your achievement and activities. I thank the Vice President Mr. Jignesh Sharma and his fellow editors for making this a reality. Happy 10th anniversary FIMLS family.



## FIMLS MEMBERS AWARENESS DRIVE

The FIMLS EC team conducted the 2022 Members Awareness Drive in all the 3 Division, where the members were given updates on the current developments the new EC have worked. The drive also gave a chance to members to ask questions and first information on the way forward for FIMLS.



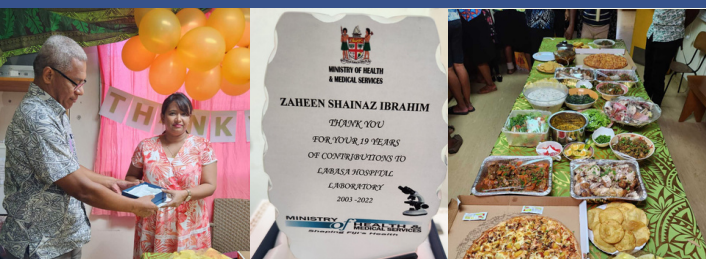
## LABASA LAB STAFF FAREWELL

The Laboratory Superintendent and the staff of Labasa Hospital Laboratory Department fare welled one of their longest serving staffs. Zaheen started work at Labasa lab in 2003, she had also worked at the Wainikoro Lab for a year. Zaheen, spent the rest of her career in Labasa lab. She also served as the Northern Rep for FIMLS and FMLTA. Zaheen is described as a honest and cheerful staff, who comes in at odd hours whenever needed. A civil servant at heart, she will be missed by the Labasa Laboratory Family.



## ASPEN MEDICAL TAKEOVER FOR LAUTOKA AND BA HOSPITAL

As of 1st September 2022, Aspen Medical took over the management of Lautoka and Ba Hospital. 84 % of workers at Lautoka Hospital and 79 % of the workers based at Ba Hospital have joined the Aspen Medical Team. This also saw our Laboratory staff transition from Ministry of Health and Medical services to Aspen Medical staff. This transition comes under the new Public Private Partnership (PPP) initiative which was launched by the Fiji Government



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## APPRECIATING OUR MEMBERS AND ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

In our first issue of the FIMLS Newsletter we would like to congratulate 10 of our FIMLS members on their hard work and achievements. We celebrate their efforts and acknowledge their commitments.

**Dr. Pooja Chand- PhD in Molecular Microbiology (University of Surrey)**

**Ms. Edwina Razak- Masters in Medical Microbiology (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)**

**Ms. Ashley Naicker- Masters in Medical Laboratory Science- Scientific Pathway (AUT)**

**Ms. Premika Charan- Masters in Biomedical Science (Nottingham Trent University)**

**Mr. Atlesh Nand Sudhakar- Innovative Research on Infectious Diseases (Molecular Characterization and Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) of HIV Epidemic in Fiji & Community-based surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 and other viral agents using contaminated water sampling in Fiji)**

**Mr. Shamal Chand- Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science (Specialist/Scientist AUT)**

**Ms. Sanjeshni Mandri- Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science (Specialist/Scientist AUT)**

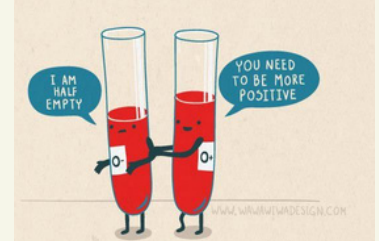
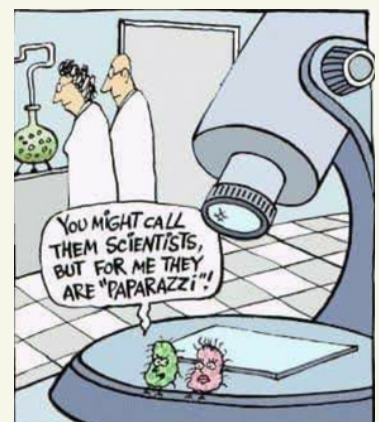
**Mr. Jignesh Sharma- Post Graduate Diploma in Health Service Management (FNU)**

**Mr. Arveen Chandra- receiving a Honorary Fellowship from the Fiji College of General Practitioners**

## OPPORTUNITIES SECTION

- Application for Commonwealth Scholarship- Closing Date (18/10/2022)

## LABORATORY HUMOR



## ENTRY TEST REQUIREMENT REMOVED

From 5th September, the post arrival testing requirement for international travelers was removed. No test results or proof of test booking will be required to board flights to Fiji. However, testing will be required for anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms, if tested positive they will require to isolate for minimum of 5 days.



## LAUNCH OF THE HPV DNA ANALYZER

The HPV DNA Analyzer was launched at the New Zealand Ambassadors Residence on 29/09/22. By the New Zealand Ambassador to Fiji, Ms. Charlotte Darlow. The event was attended by our Private Labs Representative Mr. Josese Mailulu and his business partner who also owns Pacific Laboratory Specialist (PLS).



## CONTACT US

If you want to share ideas, news or stories regarding our field, feel free to contact your respective representatives in each division or email Mr. Jignesh Sharma on [jigz95@hotmail.com](mailto:jigz95@hotmail.com). Happy Reading from the FIMLS Newsletter Team.

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## SEMINAR UPDATES

The Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science (FIMLS) formally invites you to

The FIMLS Annual Seminar 2022

**Theme: Medical Laboratory Science- Beyond COVID**

18th November 2022, Cocktail Night- 7pm to 9pm

19th November 2022, Seminar- 8am to 5pm

19th November 2022, Gala Dinner- 6pm to 10pm

### Seminar Registrations

FIMLS Members- \$120 FJD

Non-Members- \$150 FJD

Venue: Nalagi Hotel, Nadi

Please Note Registration starts from 7:30am



### BOOKING DETAILS

\$185FJD PER NIGHT (SINGLE)

\$205FJD PER NIGHT (DOUBLE)

SHARE-2 ADULTS/2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN BELOW 12 YEARS  
BOTH RATES INCLUSIVE OF BUFFET BREAKFAST



### For Reservations

Reservation Code: FIMLS22

+ 679 6708888

reservations@nalagi-hotel.com



## FIMLS

### SEMINAR REGISTRATION PACKAGES



#### \$80 REGISTRATIONS

INCLUDES DAY PACKAGE ONLY

DATE: 19/11/22

TIME: 8AM TO 5PM

INCLUDES: - MORNING TEA  
- LUNCH  
- AFTERNOON TEA

#### \$120 & \$150 Seminar

Registration Covers all seminar related functions

18/11/22: 7pm to 9pm  
Welcome Cocktail

19/11/22: 8am to 5pm  
Seminar Day

19/11/22: 7pm to 10.30pm  
Gala Dinner

COVERS ALL MEALS AND BEVERAGES

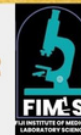


Registrations are open till 14th October 2022

\$60 Dinner pass for plus 1s includes gala dinner and beverages

All completed registration forms with payment details are to be submitted to Jignesh and Premika

## FIMLS ANNUAL SEMINAR 2022 EVENTS



### COCKTAIL NIGHT

DATE: FRIDAY 18TH

TIME: 7PM - 9PM

DRESS UP SMART CASUAL AND ENJOY THE NIGHT BY THE POOL SIDE

DATE: SATURDAY 19TH

REGISTRATIONS: 7.30AM - 8AM

SEMINAR : 8AM - 5PM



### SEMINAR DAY



### GALA DINNER

DATE: SATURDAY 19TH

TIME: 7PM - 9PM

THEME: BUSINESS GALMOUR

## Meet the SEMINAR ORGANISING COMMITTEE TEAM



### CHAIRPERSONS

- JIGNESH SHARMA
- KESHVI SUKUL

### EVENTS LEAD

- KRITIKA KUMAR

### EVENTS TEAM

- KRITIKA KUMAR
- SHWETA KUMAR
- JAZMEEN MANU
- SONIKA NAIR

### SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS LEAD

- RAVNIT CHANDRA

### SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS TEAM

- RAVNIT CHANDRA
- KESHVI SUKUL
- JIGNESH SHARMA
- SUGANDHA GOSWAMI
- PREMIKA CHARAN

### PRO

- SONIKA NAIR