

Elaborating on managing challenges during the early stages of the pandemic, *AK Pradhan, Deputy Drug Controller, CDSCO*, said, “We had to streamline the system without compromising any norms so that there was no delay. The regulatory review

process for all stakeholders was geared up to fast-track drug development and a committee formed to develop and review applications without delay and seamlessly. The learnings around the processes and guidelines followed during the pandemic will be incorporated even after the pandemic is over with one caveat that quality is not affected.”

In his keynote session on Academic Clinical Research, Dr C.S Pramesh, Director, Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai spoke on how important it is to do collaborative research that is relevant to provide answers/solutions to unmet medical needs in India.

The conference session was held across five tracks that covered various areas in clinical research such as Clinical Operations, Ethics, Quality, Regulatory and Investigator Track; Academic Clinical Research, Pharmacovigilance and Real World Evidence; Clinical Data Management; Biostatistics and Statistical Programming; and Medical Writing. Panelists and speakers through the day’s sessions touched upon the learnings and insights gained during the pandemic that augured well for the future of clinical research in ensuring faster and better outcomes for patients.

A highlight of the opening day was the ISCR Lifetime Achievement Awards for academia and industry that was presented to Prof Gagandeep Kang, Christian Medical College, Vellore recognising her contribution to research in vaccinology and virology and to Dr. Shoibal Mukherjee, Senior Consultant in Pharmaceutical Medicine, for his contribution to innovation in clinical research.