

Report

One day international symposium

Diversification of Health Research: An Evidence-based Approach

Foundation for Evidence-based Development in India (FEDI) organized this ambitious event in collaboration with Department of Amraze Jild wa Zohrawia, Faculty of Unani Medicine, Aligarh Muslim University on 12th January 2017. The event brought together some 100 health researchers, faculty and key internationally important speakers.

The symposium aimed at broadening the scope of health research through transportation of multi-disciplinary theories and practices to the context of health research. It was an effort to enrich the research themes and outreach by importing and imparting viable ideas from other disciplines.

Since FEDI has sound understanding of the advantage of research evidence in the development of policy and practices, it aims to bring a positive change to our developing society by strengthening policy implementation and to achieve accurate outcomes of interventions. In this symposia, FEDI provided its experts as resource persons to help achieve the objectives of this event. It was also expected that the event shall pave way to broadened considerations for the research problems in Unani medicine and other disciplines of health research.

Amongst the key speakers were Dr. Ashok Kumar (Founder Vice-Chancellor, AKS University Satna and Visiting Professor, Harvard Medical School, USA), Dr. R. C. Chaudhary (agriculturist and retired scientist of F.A.O. of United Nations), Dr. Amy Putman (expert of gender studies and media from Oxford), Jessica Singh (expert of social development), M. Mathur (consultant researcher of Save the Children) and Dr. D. S. Faruque (an expert of evidence-based research methodology from Oxford).



The event was inaugurated by the pro-vice Chancellor of A.M.U. in presence of the Registrar, Principal of AKTC, Dean F/O Unani Medicine, Finance Officer, Proctor and a large number of the members of AMU and FEDI.

Dr. Ashok Seth threw light on the viability of research in the areas of biotherapeutics. Dr. R.C.Chaudhary spoke about his personal research on medicinal plants and methods of

health research in agricultural fields. Jessica Singh spoke about research and statistical issues in socio-developmental research and likely challenges which health professional might face. M. Mathur provided a social worker's point of view while addressing the research issues of public health. Dr. D. S. Faruque spoke about the viability and feasibility of evidence-based methods in Indian society with a special reference to health issues. He also threw light on the utility of the method to frame new policies and to guide running public programs. Every speech was presided by a distinguished scholar who provided a scientific summary at the end of each presentation. The speakers were honored with mementos too.



Finally, the success of the event was due in no small part to the engagement of the local organizing committee, which comprised Professor Shagufta Aleem as organizing chairman, Dr. Zamir Ahmad as organizing secretary, Dr. Mohammad Anas as compere, Dr. Mohammad Mohsin as Convener and the patrons of the event Prof. M. M. Wamiq Amin, Dean, Faculty of Unani Medicine, and Dr. Saud Ali Khan, Principal, A.K.Tibbiya College, A.M.U.

A spread of gala lunch followed at the end of event which was organized at the sunny lawns of the AK Tibbiya College.

DAUD SALIM FARUQUIE