

Conference Schedule

HOPES DOCTORAL COLLOQUIUM and Pre-Conference WORKSHOP Thursday, 20 August 2026					
Time	Venue	Session	Discussant	Paper / Topic	Presenter
10:00AM-12:00PM	Venue: 911, Floor 9, Central Block	Session 1: Health Systems, Governance & Policy	Discussant 1: Mathew George (Central University of Kerala) Discussant 2: Sreenidhi Sreekumar (IPH, Bangalore)	Health Infrastructure Inequalities Across Indian States: Fiscal Space and Political Determinants	Sabhya Yadav (BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus)
				Governing Health System Resilience: A Governance-Centred Study of Resilience Pathways in Kerala's Post-Pandemic Health System	Sneha M R (Dept of Public Administration, Central University of Karnataka)
				The Public Sphere in Periphery: Mathrubhumi's 2024 Coverage of Health System Failures in Kasaragod District	Gopikrishnan (Dept of Public Health, Central University of Kerala)
				POSHAN Abhiyaan and Child Nutritional Outcomes in India: A Difference-in-Differences Analysis Using NFHS-4 and NFHS-5	Owais Qadir (Dept of Economics and Finance, BITS Pilani, K.K. Birla Goa Campus)
				Policy and People's Perspectives on Urban Health and Wellness: Research from Informal Spaces in Surat, India	Anuj Prakash Ghanekar (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai)
				Discussion and Comments	
		Lunch Break (12:00PM-1:30PM)			
1:30PM-3:30PM	Venue: 911, Floor 9, Central Block	Session 2: Reproductive Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing	Discussant 1: Md. Zakaria Siddiqui (Jamia Milia Islamia) Discussant 2: Angan Sengupta (Amrita Vishwa Vidyalyaya)	An Exploration of Psycho-Social Factors that Influence Treatment Concordance among Couples Seeking Infertility Treatment	Vijaya Geetha P K (Christ University, Central Campus)
				Hidden in Plain Sight: A Scoping Review of Menstrual Health Literature in India	Divya Muthukumar (Dept of Economics, Christ University Central Campus)

Conference Schedule

1:30PM-3:30PM	Venue: 911, Floor 9, Central Block	Session 2: Reproductive Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing	Discussant 1: Md. Zakaria Siddiqui (Jamia Milia Islamia) Discussant 2: Angan Sengupta (Amrita Vishwa Vidyalyaya)	Integrating the Psychosocial Support into Academics: Findings from a Qualitative Study in a South Indian University Setting Intellectual Disability and Institutional Models: An Analysis from Kerala	Sakir K K (Prasanna School of Public Health, MAHE, Manipal) Sijo Jose C (Dept of Economics, Christ University Central Campus)
		Discussion and Comments			
Tea Break (3:30PM-3:45PM)					
3:45PM-5:00PM	Venue: 911, Floor 9, Central Block	Pre- Conference Workshop by the Institute of Public Health, Bangalore Building Capacity and a Community of Practice to Analyse Commercial Determinants of Health in LMICs (led by Upendra Bhojani & Sreenidhi Sreekumar)			
Day 1: August 21, 2026					
Venue and Time (in IST)	Event	Key Resource Persons			
KE Auditorium, Floor 5, Block 4 (9.30AM-11AM)	Conference Inaugural Session Talks	Soumya Swaminathan (Former Chief Scientist, WHO) Ritu Priya (Centre for Social Medicine, JNU)			
Tea Break (11AM-11.30AM)					
Room 911, Floor 9, Central Block (11.30AM-1PM)	Technical Session 1A (Theme 1 - Health Insurance & Financial Protection)	Chair: Mohan Rao (JNU, New Delhi) Discussant: Jaison Joseph (George Institute of Global Health)	Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana: Satisfaction and Impact among PMJAY users	Milind Kumar Yadav CHRIST University, Lavassa)	
			Does PM-JAY Provide Comprehensive Financial Protection for NCD Care? Evidence from Madhya Pradesh, India	Dinesh Ahirwal, Anjali Dhengle (Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT), Bhopal)	
			When Illness Becomes a Financial Shock: Understanding OOOPE and Household Stress in India	Afeefa Cholasseri (University of West London, UAE)	
			Do Patterns of Healthcare Utilization Differ Equitably by Morbidity Status? Evidence from the Indian National Representative Survey 2014 and 2017	Anushree KN (Manipal Law School)	
			The Cost of Giving Life: Conceptualising High Out-of-Pocket Maternal Healthcare Expenditure for Urban Informal Workers in India	Ashwin Krishna and Ahanna Herbert (CHRIST University, Bennarghata Campus)	

Conference Schedule

Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (11.30AM-1PM)	Technical Session 1B (Theme 2 - Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health)	Chair: Md. Zakaria Siddiqui (Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi) Discussant: Subhasree Ghatak (CHRIST University, Bangalore)	Parent-Teacher Agreement and Subtype-Specific Comorbidity Profiles of ADHD among School Children: Implications for Inclusive Educational Practices	Puja Chanda, K. Arockia Maraichelvi (Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women)
			Continuum of Maternal, Newborn and Child Healthcare amongst Scheduled Tribe Women in India: Evidence from the NFHS-5	Aneesh K A, Ananya Arora, Madhyama Singh, Megha G Pillai (CHRIST University NCR)
			Clean Cooking Energy and Child Health Evidence from PMUY Rollout in Rural India Using a Difference-in-Differences Approach	Deepa Palathingal, John Tharayil Mathew (CHRIST University, Bangalore)
			Health Worker and Facility Access as Drivers of Inequality in Attaining Full Antenatal Care in India: Decomposition Analyses using NFHS-3 and NFHS-5 data	Angan Sengupta, Sneha Shrivastava, Allen P Ugargol (Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham)
Lunch (1PM-2PM)				
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (2PM-3.30PM)	Technical Session 2A (Theme 3 - Health-Seeking Behavior and Utilization)	Chair: Cyril Philip (CHRIST University, Bangalore) Discussant: Shalini Singh (Aarohan, Bangalore)	From National Promise to Stratified Reality: Using STS as a Lens to Reveal Precision Medicine's Inequities	Himadri Brahma (IIT Bombay)
			Do Socio-Economic Factors Explain Healthcare Utilization in India?	Isha Sharma, Gunika Dubal (CHRIST University, NCR)
			Patients' Perspectives on Health-Seeking Behaviours and Referral Patterns in Urban India: A Cross-Sectional Analysis	Maria Sabastin Sagayam (Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bangalore)
Room 911, Floor 9, Central Block (2PM-3.30PM)	Technical Session 2B (Theme 4 - Gender & Health Disparities)	Chair: Deepa V K (CHRIST University, Bangalore) Discussant: Malu Mohan (IPH, Bangalore)	Sibling Hierarchies: Gendered Nutrition Deprivation Based on Relative Birth Order in India	Subhasree Ghatak (CHRIST University), Meghna Dutta (IIT Patna)
			Health Issues and Healthcare Utilisation Among Elderly Women in Kerala	Athira Raveendran (St. Thomas College)
			Vulnerability to Poverty, Access to Govt. hospitals and Insurance coverage in South Indian states: Evidence from NSS Data	Priyanka Dasgupta (CHRIST University, Bangalore)
			Frontline Yet Fettered: Underpaid Care Labour and the Gendered Extraction of Resilience	Sneha M R, Sandeep Inampudi (Central University of Karnataka)
Tea Break (3.30PM-3.45 PM)				

Conference Schedule

Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (3.45-5 PM)	Plenary Session -1 (Transitions in Global Health and Pharmaceuticals)	John Porter (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)		Session Coordinator: Saradindu Bhaduri (JNU)
		Jean-Paul Gaudilliere (Cermes Paris)		
		Takashi Kurosaki, (IER, Hitotsubashi University, Japan)		
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (5PM-6.30PM)	Plenary Session - 2 (Gender and Health)	Sundari Ravindran (SCTIMST)		Session Coordinator: Aruna Bhattacharya (Wellcome Trust Fellow/WomenLift)
		Asuka Yamamoto (Kyushu University, Japan)		
		Georgia Anderson (University of Cincinnati, USA)		
		Gita Sen (PHFI, Bangalore)		
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (6.30PM-7.30 PM)	Cultural Program- Kalakriti			
Dinner (7.30PM-9.30PM)				
Day 2: August 22, 2026				
Venue	Particulars	Resource person		
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (9.30AM-11AM)	Plenary Session 3 (Alternative innovations and medical systems)	Unnikrishnan P M (UNU/TDU)		Session Coordinator: Harilal Madhavan (CHRIST University, Bangalore)
		Saradindu Bhaduri, (JNU, New Delhi)		
		Wenhua Kuo (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan)		
Tea Break (11AM-11.15AM)				
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (11.1 AM-12.45PM)	Technical Session 3A (Theme 5 - Health Inequality, Vulnerability and Ageing)	Chair: Irudaya Rajan (IIMAD Thiruvananthapuram) Discussant: Roopa Patwardhan (Christ University)	Distribution of Remaining Health Expectancy across Frailty and Dependency States among Older Adults in India: An Analysis of Nationally Representative Data	Madhurima Sharma, Aparajita Chattopadhyay (IIPS, Mumbai)
			Inequality in Hospitalization Utilization Among Geriatric Population in India: Evidence from the 75th Round of NSSO Survey	Piyush Kumar (Energiva Ventures)
			Beyond Individual Risk: Socio-structural determinants of health inequities in India's key population	Aleena Sebastian (NIAS, Bangalore)
			A Latent Class Analysis of Multimorbidity Patterns Among Adults Aged 60 and above in India: Evidence from the Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI)	Sneh Shrivastava, Angan Sengupta (Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bangalore)
			Sociodemographic Determinants of Emotional Well-being among Older Parents with Adult Migrant Children: A Population Study in Kerala	Libin Antony (Dept. of Psychology, Christ University, Bangalore)

Conference Schedule

Room 911, Floor 9, Central Block (11.15AM-12.30PM)	Technical Session 3B (Theme 6 - Health Systems, Workforce & Infrastructure)	Chair: Neethi P. (Manipal Law School) Discussant: Pragati Hebbar (IPH Bangalore)	Decentralized Blood Donor Management through Primary Health Centres: A Proactive and Localized Model with Reference to Kottayam	Abaya Raju (MG University, Kerala)
			Analysis of Colonial Influences and Content Representation in Ayurveda Medical College Libraries	Visakh Vijayan, Skanthesh Lakshmanan, Akuma Ifeanyichikwu, Meera Murali, Vinayak Padikkal (PNNM Ayurveda Medical College)
			Voices from the Ground: Frontline Health Workers' Perspectives on Child Immunisation Barriers in Mewat, Haryana- A Qualitative Study	Pooja Goel, Cyril Philip (University of Hyderabad)
Lunch (12.45PM- 2PM)				
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (2PM-3.15 PM)	Panel - 1 (E Pharmacy- Pharmaceuticals and Access to Drugs)	Chair: Arnab Mukherjee (IIM Bangalore)	Jaison Joseph (The George Institute for Global Health, Delhi)	
			Sasi Kumar Tiruttani (The George Institute for Global Health, Delhi)	
			Gautam Satheesh (University of Sydney)	
			Krishna Nandakumar (Isaac Centre for Public Health - IISc Bangalore)	
Room 911, Floor 9, Central Block (2PM-3.15PM)	Panel - 2 (Creating evidence base for Indigenous medicine)	Chair: Prakash B N (TDU)	Skanthesh Lakshmanan (CASIRA Trust, Thrissur)	
			Vinayak Padikkal (CASIRA Trust, Thrissur)	
			Rajanikant Patel (Agnivesh Ayurvedic Hospital, Surat)	
			Mael Voegeli (ICU India Trust, Jaipur)	
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (3.15PM-4.30PM)	Plenary Session - 4 (Demographic Change, Care Economies and Healthy Ageing)	Irudaya Rajan (IIMAD, Thiruvananthapuram)		Session coordinator: Aneesh K A (CHRIST Delhi NCR)
		Brieuc Monfort (Sophia University, Japan)		
		Sreerupa (Institute of Social Studies Trust, New Delhi/King's College London)		
Tea Break (4.30PM-4.45PM)				

Conference Schedule

Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (4.45PM-6.15PM)	Policy Dialogue: Whose Health System? Politics, Markets and Equity	Mathew George (Central University of Kerala)	Session Coordinators: Md. Zakaria Siddiqui (Jamia Milia University) and Anant Kamath (NIAS, Bangalore)
		Prashanth N S (IPH Bangalore)	
		Rajeev Sadanandan (Former Addl Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala)	
		Himalaya Wellness	
		Arnab Mukherjee (IIM Bangalore)	
Campus View, Floor 10, Central Block (6.15PM-7.00PM)	Closing Remarks	<i>Report of the Conference:</i> Divya Muthukumar and Dhruv <i>Coordinator:</i> Deepak Johnson (CHRIST University, Bangalore)	
Dinner (7.00PM-9.30PM)			