

## **Elective Course (2016-2017)**

### **“CLINICAL PARASITOLOGY”**

#### **I. Why should you choose this course?**

Globalisation has changed the spectrum of parasitic infection in clinical medical practice. Not only has the incidence of disease world-wide risen, but frequency of travel and migration of people due to war has resulted in appearance of parasitic infections in locations where these diseases have become rare. Patients with malaria and intestinal protozoan and helminth infections are now on everyday occurrence in family practice throughout the world. The HIV pandemic has added to the burden of parasitic infections. Intractable cryptosporidiosis and isosporiasis and the recognition of microsporidium infections and cerebral toxoplasmosis, have all been consequences of severe immunocompromised status. The diagnosis of parasitic diseases has become an essential component of medical laboratory practice worldwide. New technologies have increased our ability to investigate parasitic diseases and to understand the biology of the organisms and the hosts' immune response to them. Although new treatments and vaccines have progressed more slowly than in other infections, effective chemotherapy is now available for almost all parasitic infections.

#### **II. Teaching modalities**

The course content will include lectures, presentations, seminars and practical sessions.

#### **III. Learning objectives**

- Identify and manage major parasitic infections in medical practice.
- Develop the laboratory diagnostic skills for parasitic infections.
- Design control programs needed to save the communities at risk.

#### **IV. Course program**

1. Overview of human parasitic protozoa  
Class Rhizopoda  
Class Mastigophora  
Ciliates and sporozoa
2. Overview of Platyhelminths and flukes  
Intestinal tapeworms  
Tissue cestodes
3. Overview of Nematelminths  
Intestinal nematodes  
Tissue nematodes
4. Arthropods of medical importance