

HEWA MARAMBAGE KASUNI AKALANKA

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## PROFILE

An enthusiastic scientist and a researcher who possesses substantial knowledge and experience in the field of Biochemistry and Chemistry with the passion of teaching.

## EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Ph.D in Biochemistry -University of Sri Jayewardenepura  
Dissertation title- Determination of association of nutritional status, biochemical parameters and histopathological features of Sri Lankan breast cancers.
- B.Sc (special) in Chemistry with Second class upper division (Honours), University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka(2009).
- Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education (Sep 2011- April 2012).
- Diploma in Web Designing and Web development –London Business School.
- Received Distinction in Australian National Chemistry Quiz senior division (2001) and junior division (1999) held by Royal Australian Chemical Institute.

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

- Lecturer in Biochemistry and Chemistry at the Faculty of Medicine, South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine (SAITM) since 2011.
- Research Assistant at Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura(2013-2015)
- Demonstrator at University of Kelaniya from November 2009- January 2011
- Industrial training at Ansell Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
- Translator International Organization for Migration (IOM), Sri Lanka.
- Worked in a project “Up lifting the lifestyles of Tsunami Victims”, with a volunteer team from United Kingdom.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Study of Nutritional, Bio chemical and Histopathological features of Sri Lankan Breast cancers
- Hands on experience on hormone analysis (Enzyme Immunoassays with final flurecent detection), biochemical assays (Kone Biochemical Analyser), High Performances Liquid Chromatography, Spectrophotometry, freeze drying etc.
- Cytotoxicity studies on plant extracts.
- Study on extending the linear dynamic range of a calibration curve for the analysis of Cadmium using Differential Pulse Anodic Stripping Voltammetry (Hands on experience in Atomic absorption spectroscopy, flame photometry, nephelometry, voltametry etc).

### AWARDS

- **Merit Awards** 2013- Young Scientist Forum, Sri Lanka.
- **Merit Awards** 2016- Young Scientist Forum, Sri Lanka.
- **Ist Runner up in best poster competition**-1<sup>st</sup> Ruhuna International Science and Technology conference, Sri Lanka
- **Travel award**- Indo global health care summit and expo- Hyderabad, India.
- **Urakami Foundation travel award**- 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Congress of Nutrition, Yokohama, Japan
- **Best paper award**- International Research Conference, General Sir Hohn Kotelawala Defense Academy, Sri Lanka
- **1<sup>st</sup> Place in free paper session**- Post menopausal society of Sri Lanka

### WORKSHOPS AND PARTICIPATIONS

- Workshop on “Ethics in research” organized by National Science and Technology Commission.
- Workshops on “Basic statistics” and “Advance Statistics” organized by Section A, Sri Lanka Association for the advancement of Science.
- Participated in the live activity “Personalized Treatment of Breast cancer: Improving outcomes in Advanced Disease” organized by Massachusetts Medical Society.
- Participated in “Role of Biomarkers in the selection of Treatment Management Statergy in Early Breast Cancer” organized by Massachusetts Medical Society.
- Workshop on “Toxicity Testing For Industrial Purposes and Possible Alternatives” organized by Sri Lanka Association for Laboratory Animal Science

- Attended the forum “Obesity” organized by research committee, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- Workshops on “Higher Education Research Scholarship of Teaching and Learning”, “Innovative and Interactive Teaching Methodologies” and “Peer Observation” organized by SAITM and hosted by Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council of the University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka.
- Workshop on “reviewing and editing research articles, are we doing it right?” organized by Young Scientist Forum, Sri Lanka.
- Work shop on “How to get published” by the research editor British Medical Journal, WONCA- South Asian Region Conference.
- Global health care summit and expo-Hyderabad, India.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Congress of Nutrition- Yokahama, Japan.

## **POSITIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

- Secretary- Steering committee of Young Scientist Forum Sri Lanka.
- Secretary- Medical Education Unit-South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine
- Life member of Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science
- Life member of Sri Lanka Association of Improvement of Higher Education Effectiveness
- Life member of Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon.
- Annual Member-2016-Nutrition Society of Sri Lanka.
- Member of the editorial board- Young Scientist Forum Symposium proceedings 2016.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2014) Anthropometric parameters and attitudes towards physical exercises of newly diagnosed breast cancer patients in Sri Lanka., 1<sup>st</sup> Ruhuna International Science and Technology conference: page 61
2. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe (2014) Thyroid profiles of newly diagnosed breast cancer patients from selected centers., Peradeniya University International Research Sessions: Page 273.
3. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe(2014). Serum ferritin and its association of intake of animal proteins in patients with breast cancer.,1<sup>st</sup> Wayamba International Conference: Page 180

4. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2014) Breast Cancer prevalence according to the anatomical site of origin, International conference on multidisciplinary approaches: Page 42
5. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe,(2014) A study on risk factors associated with development of breast cancer, Indo global health care summit and expo held in Hyderabad, India, 2014.
6. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2015), A study of selected risk factors in Sri Lankan breast cancers., 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruhuna International Science and Technology conference: page 90
7. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2015), Serum lipid profiles of newly diagnosed breast cancer patients, accepted to 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Congress of Nutrition, Yokohama, Japan: Page 123
8. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2015),Can sex hormone concentrations predict Her2 status of postmenopausal breast cancer patients International Research Conference, General Sir Hohn Kotelawala Defense Academy page 131
9. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2013).Serum lipid profile of newly diagnosed Sri Lankan breast cancer patients-A preliminary study. 69<sup>th</sup> Annual sessions of Sri Lankan Association for the Advancement of Science: page.214
10. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake;(2013) Cytotoxicity study of *Barringtonia asiatica* kurz extracts,3<sup>rd</sup> Young Scientists forum symposium :Page 05
11. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2014), Serum lactate dehydrogenase levels of newly diagnosed breast cancer patients.,40<sup>th</sup> Annual Academic Sessions of college of general practitioners of Sri Lanka:Page 27,28.
12. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake;(2015) Serum sex hormones and antropometric parameters of breast cancer patients, 4<sup>th</sup> Young Scientists forum symposium: page 05
13. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake;(2015) Serum uric acid: a marker to predict risk of breast cancer? Submitted to 71<sup>st</sup> Annual sessions of Sri Lankan Association for the Advancement of Science
14. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe;(2015) Association of anthropometric parameters and lipid profiles of newly diagnosed breast cancer patients accepted to Post menopausal society of Sri Lanka: Page 27.
15. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2016), CA15-3 and the grade of the breast carcinoma in newly diagnosed patients. International Scientific Conference, Faculty of Medicine, Ragama.Page 103.

16. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake, K Samarasinghe.(2016), Serum ferritin in newly diagnosed breast cancer and apparently healthy individuals, International Scientific Conference, Faculty of Medicine, Ragama. Page 105.
17. H.M.K Akalanka, S Ekanayake K Samarasinghe;(2016) A comparative study of thyroid profiles of breast cancer patients and apparently healthy women ,5<sup>th</sup> Young Scientists forum symposium :Page 05-07

### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- All island third place in the Interuniversity debate competition (2009).
- Participated in the Inter University best speakers competition (2009).
- Participated at the Inter university chess tournament (2004)
- Active Member of the prefect board, Sujatha Vidyalaya, Matara
- Secretary of the School Science Society 2000-2002
- President of the School Literary Association 1999-2000
- Editor of Interact Club 1999-2000, Vice precedent of the Organization of Recreation and creative learners English
- Won the All island first place in English day drama competition 1990, Southern province Second place in English day drama competition 1999, Southern province Second place in Recitation, 1999, 1998, 1997, District level first place in Recitation in 1996, 1995

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Date of Birth : 10<sup>th</sup> January 1984
- Gender : Female

### REFERENCES

Prof Sagarika Ekanayake,  
Department of Biochemistry,  
Faculty of Medical Sciences,  
University of Sri Jayawardenepura,  
Gangodawila, Nugegoda.  
0094-716875891

Prof Kamani Samarasinghe,  
Department of Pathology,  
Faculty of Medicine,  
South Asian Institute of Technology  
and Medicine, Malabe, Sri Lanka.  
0094-714756485

I confirm that the information given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Kasuni Akalanka