Dr. Sepali Gunawardena

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Work Experience	 Consultant Immunologist & Head, Department of Immunology, Medical Research Institute.(<i>Retired on 19th June 2013</i>) Over 15 years of experience in managing an Immunology laboratory and handling number of diagnostic immunological techniques in the capacity of a Consultant Immunologist Teaching & training Post graduates trainees, undergraduates and Medical laboratory technologists 		
Academic Qualifications	 MBBS (Col.) Diploma in Medical Microbiology MD in Medical Microbiology Board certified as a Consultant – 1997 		
Special Training	 Post MD Training in Immunology – 1997 Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, USA Training in Immunological techniques – 1991 Tokyo University & Niigata University, Japan 		
Membership in professional bodies	 Founder Member, Allergy & Immunology Sri Lanka Council Member, Allergy & Immunology Society of Sri Lanka (at present) Council Member, Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists -2011 & 2012 Life member, Sri Lanka Medical Association 		
Academic Activities	 Member, Board of Study, Medical Microbiology - 2005 to 2010 Examiner, Diploma/MD medical microbiology conducted by the PGIM Visiting lecturer, Institute of Biochemistry Biotechnology & Molecular Biology Examiner, MSc Immunology conducted by the IBBMB, University of Colombo 		

Others	 Assessor – Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB), Colombo Asst. Secretary, Research committee, MRI - 2003 to 2011 Asst. Secretary, Ethics review committee, MRI - 2003 to 2011 			
Research Publications/	Publications 1. De Silva NR, Huegel H, Atapattu DN, Gunewardena S et al. Cell			
Presentations	mediated immune responses (CMIR) in human rhinosporidiosis. Mycopathologica. 2000: 152: 59 – 68 (won a presidential award)			
	 Lucas GN, Sriranganathan S, Gunawardena S, de Silva NR. A case of chronic granulomatous disease. Ceylon Journal of Child Health. 2000: 29: 27 – 28 			
	 De Silva NR, Gunawardena S, Ratnayake H, Weerasinghe A. The pattern of hypogammaglobulinaemia in Sri Lanka. Ceylon Medical Journal. 2000: 45: 58 – 60 			
	 De Silva Rajiva, Gunawardena S, et al Primary immune deficiency among patients with recurrent infections Ceylon Medical Journal 2007: 52 (3): 83 – 86 			
	 Prevalence of prolonged and chronic poliovirus excretion among persons with primary immune deficiency disorders in Sri Lanka. Rajiva de Silva, Sunethra Gunasena, Sepali Gunawardena, Damayanthi Ratnayake, GD Wickremesinghe, Deshpande Jagadish, Anna – Lea Kahn, Roland W Sutter. Vaccine 2012, 30(52):7561–7565. 			
	 Spectrum of primary immunodeficiency disorders in Sri Lanka. Nilhan Rajiva de Silva*, Sepali Gunawardena, Damayanthi Rathnayake and Geethani Devika Wickramasingha, Allergy, Asthma & Clinical Immunology 2013, 9:50 			
	 Seroconversion rate following measles vaccination. Sepali Gunawardena, Vasanthi Bandaranayake The Ceylon Medical Journal Sept 2000 45(3) 			
	Presentations			
	 Weerasinghe GAK, de Silva NR, Gunawardena S, Ramalingathevar R, Ratnayake H, Gunasekera k. Surveillance of immune deficiency: A preliminary report Sri Lanka Medical Association Annual Sessions 1994 			

2.	de Silva NR, Gunawardena Sepali , Ratnayake H, Weerasinghe A. Pattern of humoral immune deficiency in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science. 53rd Annual Sessions 1997
3.	Watanabe H, Weerasinghe A, Miyagi C, Sekikawa H, de Silva NR, Gunawardena S et al. Extra thymic T cells in human malaria. P 0884. Poster sessions Parasitology International 1998: 47 (supple1): 358
4.	Weerasinghe A, Watanabe H, Abo T, Gunawardena S , de Silva NR, Ratnayake H et al. Natural Killer T cells in malaria Sri Lanka Medical Association Annual Sessions 2000. Sir Nicholas Attygalle award
5.	Weerasinghe A, Watanabe H, , Gunawardena S , de Silva NR, Ratnayake H, Abo T. Role of Natural Killer T cells. Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists Annual Academic sessions 2000. 1st Prize
6.	De Silva NR, Jayasekera S, Huegel H, Gunawardena S , Atapattu DN et al. Cell mediated immune responses (CMIR) in human rhinosporidiosis. FIMSA IIS Advanced course on basic and molecular immunology. New Delhi 2001
7.	De Silva R, Gunewardena S , Wickremasinghe G, Ranasinghe B, Nawasivayam Y. Primary immune deficiency in Sri Lanka. Allergy and Immunology Society of Sri Lanka. Biennial Academic sessions Colombo 2006
8.	Food Dependent exercise induced anaphylaxis – Wijesekera D, de Silva R, Gunewardena S et al. Oral Presentation C2 Allergy and Immunology Society of Sri Lanka Biennial sessions 2012
9.	Study of tetanus antibody titre in maternal & cord sera Senanayake HM, Gunasekara S , Ratnayake H Presented SLMA sessions 1999 (won SE Seneviratna award)