

The Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians

The Sri Lanka Paediatric Association, originally formed in 1953, progressed to become the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians (SLCP) in 1996. The SLCP is the apex academic body for child health care in Sri Lanka. It is closely involved in all academic activities with respect to paediatrics and child health care. This includes continuing professional development, formulation of guidelines and postgraduate activities. In addition, the SLCP helps to refine important statutory provisions on child health issues and advises the Ministry of Health of the Government of Sri Lanka on all aspects of child health.

Election of new office bearers for the year 2011 – 2012 was conducted in September.

The new office bearers are:

Official Position	Name	Qualifications	e-mail
President	Prof. Asvini D. Fernando	MBBS (Col), MD (Paed), FRCP (Lond)	asvinif@gmail.com
Vice President	Dr. Kalyani Guruge	MBBS (Cey), MD (Paed), DFM (SL)	kalyani_guruge@live.com
President Elect	Dr. Srilal de Silva	MBBS (SL), FRCP(Glasg),MD (Paed), DCH (Col)	desrilal@gmail.com
Hony. Secretary	Dr. Anuruddha Padeniya	MBBS (Col), DCH (Col),MD (Paed)	anuruddhapadeniya@yahoo.com
Hony. Asst. Secretary	Dr. Srian Fernando	MBBS (Col), DCH (Col), MD (Col)	srianfdo@yahoo.co.uk
Hony. Treasurer	Dr. Samantha Waidyanatha	MBBS (Col), MD (Paed), MRCP (UK)	swaidyanatha@gmail.com
Hony. Asst. Treasurer	Dr. Rasika Gunapala	MBBS (Col), MD (Paed), DCH (Col), MRCP (UK)	rgunapala@yahoo.co.uk
Joint Editor	Dr. B.J.C.Perera	MBBS (Cey), DCH (Cey), DCH (Eng), MD (Paed), FRCP (Edin), FRCP(Lond),	bjcp@ymail.com

		FRCPCH (UK), FSLCPaed,FCCP, FCGP (SL)	
Joint Editor	Dr. G.N.Lucas	MBBS (Cey), DCH (Cey), MRCP (UK), FCCP, FSLCPaed	drgnlucas@yahoo.com
Public Relations Officer	Dr.Dilrukshi Ruberu	MBBS (Cey), DCH(Cey),MD (Paed), MRCP (UK)	dilki@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Prof. Deepthi Samarage	MBBS (Cey), MD (Paed),MRCP (UK)	deepthiks@sltnet.lk
Council Member	Prof. Harendra de Silva	MBBS (Cey), DCH (Cey), FRCP (Lond & Edin),FRPCH (UK), MSc (Birm), FCGP, FSLCPaed, FCCP,FCPS (Pak)	harendra51@gmail.com
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Council Member	Dr. Manel Fernando	MBBS (Cey), DCH (SL), MD (Paed), MRCP (UK)	manelfernando_g@hotmail.com
Council Member	Prof Dulani Gunasekera	MBBS (Cey), MD (Paed),FRCP (Lond)	attdulag@sltnet.lk
Council Member	Prof. Wasantha Karunasekera	MBBS (Ruhuna), MD (Paed), DCH (Col), FRCP (Lond), MMedSc (Otago)	nimalrsena@gmail.com
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		(Glasg), FRCPCH, FCCP, FSLCPaed, DCH (Eng)	
Council Member	Dr. Priyantha Perera	MBBS (Col), MD (Col), DCH (Col), MRCPCH (UK)	priyanthaprr@gmail.com
Council Member	Dr. Pushpa Punchihewa	MBBS (Cey), DCH (Lond), MD (Paed), FRCP (Lond), FSLCPaed	pushpap265@gmail.com
Council Member	Chithra Vamadevan	MBBS (Cey), DCH, MD (Paed)	chithraga@gmail.com

The theme for the year 2010/2011:

‘Developing Pathways for a Safer Childhood’

Three main areas of focus for this year would be;

- **Creating safe communities for children.**
A pilot project titled “**Creating Safe Communities for Children**” is to be launched in two selected locations in the country soon. This project which has been designed by the Child Protection Committee of the College hopes to establish a network for the protection of Children from Abuse, Exploitation, Violence and Neglect in the community. It is hoped to expand it island wide after analysis of the pilot project.
- **Rational management of infectious diseases.**
The sixth Asian Congress of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ACPID) will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from the 24th – 27th of October 2012. The theme for the congress is ‘Rational management of infectious diseases – a pathway to a safer childhood.’ An abundance of research papers on infectious diseases of valuable interest is expected.

A pre congress workshop on Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) – which is a topic of immense relevance to our region is scheduled. A simultaneous pre congress workshop on neonatal infections is also planned.

Details of the Conference may be accessed via <http://archivusdesigns.net/ACPID/coy/>

- **Optimizing Childhood Nutrition**

This is the third area of focus and will deal with under nutrition as well as obesity in addition to other issues such as iron deficiency anaemia, unethical advertising and access of proper health related advice to parents and children.

In addition to these areas which have been identified the College will carry with its regular activities such as conducting monthly update lectures, courses for paediatric examinations, neonatal life support courses and advanced paediatric life support courses.

The Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health

The Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health is the official publication of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians. The journal was started in the 1950's as the Ceylon Journal of Child Health and the name was changed to Sri Lanka journal of Child Health when Sri Lanka became a Democratic Socialist, Republic. The journal is published quarterly and is the only journal exclusively devoted to child health and paediatrics in Sri Lanka. It entertains scholarly articles on any aspect of child health and publishes a variety of articles ranging from Original Articles to Personal Views. Submitted articles include those from within the country as well as those from abroad. The submissions are put through a rigorous peer-review process and the total turnaround time from submission to publication is around six months to one year, depending on the type of submissions.

The journal is now indexed in SciVerse Scopus and is also available through Google and Google scholar. It is electronically published through Sri Lanka Journals On Line (<http://www.sljol.info/>) and is also available through the College web site (<http://www.srilankacollegeofpaediatricians.com/>). All articles published are available as free full text publications in Portable Document File (.pdf) format. Over the last few years there is a documented exponential increase in the international visibility of the journal with its articles being accessed from right around the globe every day.

Apart from being host to the ACPID in October 2012 at the invitation of the Asian Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ASPID) the College will be conducting its Annual Scientific Sessions in July – August 2012.