


Centre 2: CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE, VELLORE

Principal Investigator


Name	:	Dr. John Antony Jude Prakash	
Designation	:	Professor	
Department	:	Clinical Microbiology	
Institute/University	:	Christian Medical College, Vellore -4	
E-mail	:	prakjaj@cmcvellore.ac.in	

Co-Principal Investigator

Name	:	Dr. V. Balaji	
Designation	:	Professor	
Department	:	Clinical Microbiology	
Institute/University	:	Christian Medical College, Vellore -4	
E-mail	:	vbalaji@cmcvellore.ac.in	

Name	:	Dr. Reginald G Alex	
Designation	:	Professor	
Department	:	Medicine	
Institute/University	:	Chittoor Campus, Christian Medical College, Vellore - 4	
E-mail	:		
Name	:	Dr. Karthik G	
Designation	:	Associate Professor	
Department	:	Medicine	
Institute/University	:	Christian Medical College, Vellore -4	
E-mail	:	vbalaji@cmcvellore.ac.in	

Manpower

Name	:	Sugalya S	
Designation	:	Junior Research Fellow	
Department	:	Clinical Microbiology	
Institute/University	:	Christian Medical College, Vellore -4	
E-mail	:		

Objectives:

1) **Fit-for-purpose diagnostics/surveillance tools**

- i) Evaluation of fit-for-purpose diagnostic tools for detection of *B. anthracis* in human cases and environmental samples

2) **Surveillance, epidemiology and risk communication**

- i) Genomics based strain-differentiation and molecular epidemiology of *B. anthracis* of human origin.
- ii) Identification of risk factors for anthrax infection in target human populations
- iii) Development of anthrax surveillance system for high risk populations/regions for humans and animals in association with State Animal Husbandry department

Role in A-INP Network:

- (1) Evaluation of fit-for-purpose diagnostic tools for surveillance and detection of *B. anthracis* in human cases in Southern region;
- (2) Evaluation of genomics based diagnostic tests of *B. anthracis* strains associated with human disease outbreaks or as part of environmental surveillance in Southern region;
- (3) Genomics based strain-differentiation and molecular epidemiology of *B. anthracis* of human origin;
- (4) Identification of risk factors for anthrax infection in target human populations;
- (5) Development of anthrax surveillance system for high risk populations/regions for humans and animals in association with animal husbandry department;
- (6) Development and implementation of strategies for community education and risk communication in Southern region; Development of models and protocols for shared (one health) electronic platforms for anthrax reporting.