## Dr. T. B. Patel Oration Award - 2023

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## **Online Teaching Program for Post Graduates of Pathology**

The online teaching program for post graduates of pathology (OTPPGP), a free curriculum based program was initiated at our centre on July 7, 2020. It went on for almost 20 months and ended on March 28, 2022. It included 161 talks and 82 slide seminars and a few workshops and debates. Three classes were arranged every week, Monday slide seminar and Tuesday/Thursday talks (all at 7pm IST). It is followed by OTPPGP2 which started on April 5, 2022 and completed on October 10, 2023. OTPPGP3 plan is ready and starts from October 17, 2023. OTPPGP2 and OTPPGP3 have two classes per week (Tuesday talk and a Thursday slide seminar at 7PM IST).

Curriculum include topics from biology, general and systemic pathology, clinical pathology, blood bank, haematology, cytopathology, various techniques from staining to routine tests, to advanced techniques like IHC, flow cytometry, cytogenetics and molecular diagnostics. Most of the talks give practical teaching to students, important in understanding of the subject and in day to day practice. We have been lucky to have best teachers in this program. Chairperson is selected from a clinical field. These theme based slide seminars have been extremely popular among students as well as teachers, where we select five to seven post graduate students/residents from different parts of country and outside. These students discuss cases live with the teacher/s, while remaining majority of students are attendees. The topic/theme is informed at least a month in advance, and slides (digitized or a ppt) are shared on the telegram app group (OTPPGP) two weeks in advance. Students are selected primarily based on recommendations by their teachers. Head of the Departments and few are volunteers. The replay link for all talks is kept till Sunday evening for those who missed the live session for some reason. The program has been very popular among Indians as well as other Asian and African countries. This OTPPGP is just a small supplement to the regular teaching within the department of Pathology.

Students and other pathologists can download the telegram app and join the OTPPGP group using the link https://t.me/+T-K7qS4eOAD6mAoQ. This way they will get all links and notifications. We have also created WhatsApp group with various Medical colleges across India, Asia and Africa. It helps us involve students from all across the Asia and Africa.