

VESALIUS 2024: Revolutionizing Cadaveric Regional Anesthesia Training at AIIMS NAGPUR

Date: 28-29 September 2024

The Department of Anaesthesiology at AIIMS Nagpur, in collaboration with the Academy of Regional Anaesthesia (AORA), India, successfully hosted **VESALIUS 2024**, a cadaver-based, ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia workshop, on September 28-29, 2024. The event was spearheaded by **Dr. Gajanan N. Chavan** as Organizing Chairperson, **Dr. Bhuvaneshwari B** as Organizing Secretary, and **Dr. Sandeep Diwan** as Course Director. Significant contributions were also made by **Dr. Aditya Tarnekar**, Head of the Department of Anatomy, and **Dr. Gugapriya S**, Professor of Anatomy, ensuring the seamless execution of the workshop.

The primary objectives of the workshop were twofold: to provide anesthesia practitioners with a cutting-edge learning platform that deepened their anatomical understanding and enhanced their proficiency in regional anesthesia techniques, thus fostering improved clinical practice. This was achieved through a synergistic collaboration between the Department of Anaesthesiology and the Department of Anatomy, emphasizing mutual respect and teamwork. Anatomical specimens were meticulously prepared by a team of anatomists, offering detailed cross-sectional views of various regions of interest.

Workshop Overview

The event began with registration, followed by a series of didactic lectures covering the importance of cadavers as teaching tools, the role of cadaveric workshops in anesthesia training, and the clinically relevant anatomy of the lumbosacral plexus. Seasoned faculty members provided clear, thorough instruction to ensure participants had a strong theoretical foundation before progressing to the hands-on sessions.

The program was officially inaugurated by **Dr. Mrunal Phatak**, Dean (Academics), and **Shri Vijay Kumar Nayak**, Deputy Director of Administration (DDA), alongside the organizing team. Nationally renowned AORA faculty, recognized for their expertise, were invited to lead the workshops. A total of 34 delegates participated, guided by 14 faculty members. External faculty included **Dr. Sandeep Diwan** from Pune, **Dr. Harshal Wagh** from Mumbai, **Dr. Archana Areti** from Coimbatore, and **Dr. Saurabh Barde** and **Dr. Rasika Timane** from Nagpur. Internal faculty from the Department of Anaesthesia included **Dr. Amrisha Raipure**, **Dr. Omshubham Asai**, **Dr. Barkha Agrawal**, **Dr. Deepali Jamgade**, **Dr. Prateek Arora**, and **Dr. Himangi Bhokare**, while internal faculty from the Department of Anatomy were represented by **Dr. Gugapriya S**, **Dr. Arunkumar**, and **Dr. Bharat Sontakke** along with **Dr. Jwaalyn Shifani Morgan**.

Before proceeding with the hands-on workshop, a cadaveric oath was taken, paying respect to the cadavers and emphasizing the importance of proper handling. Over the course of five hours, participants practiced ultrasound-guided nerve blocks, developing critical skills under expert supervision. Faculty led delegates through the identification of landmarks, needle insertion techniques, and image optimization for blocks such as the brachial plexus, femoral, sciatic, and erector spinae plane. The live demonstration of injection techniques by **Dr.**

Sandeep Diwan was a highlight, providing participants with a captivating and practical learning experience.

Day Two Highlights

The second day began with further didactic lectures focused on optimizing ultrasound images and troubleshooting failed blocks. A special panel discussion on pediatric regional anesthesia followed, featuring renowned experts **Dr. Bhau Rajurkar**, **Dr. Rashmi Shingade**, **Dr. Amrisha Raipure**, and **Dr. Barkha Agrawal**. Participants then engaged in hands-on needling sessions on cadavers, led by faculty. A key highlight was the post-dissection visualization of dye spread, a unique and exciting experience for the delegates.

Feedback and Impact

Feedback was actively gathered through surveys and informal discussions, with participants expressing high levels of satisfaction regarding the workshop's content, faculty expertise, and hands-on learning opportunities. Most stations were rated excellent for their academic content, practical needling experience, and the dissection-based teaching. The arrangements, including food and venue, were also highly appreciated by both faculty and delegates.

VESALIUS 2024 was a transformative experience, providing participants with valuable anatomical insights that will undoubtedly enhance their clinical practice. This workshop marked a significant step toward AIIMS Nagpur's goal of becoming a premier center for cadaver-based studies in regional anesthesia. We look forward to organizing more such workshops, continually raising the bar for clinical education in this field.

























