

VESALIUS 2025: Advancing Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine Training at AIIMS Nagpur

Date: 7 December 2025

The Departments of Anaesthesiology and Anatomy at AIIMS Nagpur, in academic collaboration with the Cadaveric Research and Academic Board (CRAB) of AORA, successfully conducted **VESALIUS 2025**, a one-day **ultrasound-guided Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine (RAPM)** workshop, on **7th December 2025**. The event was led by a committed organising structure comprising **Dr. Aaditya Tarnekar (Organising Chairperson)**, **Dr. Bhuvaneswari B (Organising Secretary)**, **Dr. Prateek Arora (Co-organising secretary)** and CRAB faculty mentors.

Critical support from the **Department of Anatomy** under **Dr. Tarnekar** and **Dr. Gugapriya T S** enabled seamless cadaveric preparation and scientific execution. The workshop represented a major step forward in integrating advanced pain procedures, catheter-based techniques, and cadaver-guided training into anaesthesia education at AIIMS Nagpur.

Workshop Overview

VESALIUS 2025 was conceptualized as a **fully immersive, hands-on experience**, distinctively designed without didactic lectures. The educational format emphasised:

- **Live ultrasound scanning**
- **Cadaveric dissections for anatomical correlation**
- **Real-time needle manipulation training**
- **Catheter insertion for continuous peripheral nerve blocks (introduced for the first time)**
- **A dedicated MIPSI station (Minimally Invasive Pain and Spine Interventions)**

This upgraded format expanded the scope beyond standard regional anaesthesia, transitioning Vesalius into a **comprehensive RAPM training platform**.

Faculty and Participation

A distinguished team of CRAB faculty guided the sessions, ensuring structured learning, careful supervision, and high-quality skill transfer:

- Dr. Sandeep Diwan
- Dr. Ghansham Biyani
- Dr. Saurabh Barde
- Dr. Rasika Timane
- Dr. Renjith Vishwanath

The workshop drew **over 40 delegates from across the country**, including postgraduate trainees, practicing anaesthesiologists, and clinicians seeking advanced procedural competence.

Hands-On Training Highlights

Delegates rotated through skill stations where they practiced:

- Ultrasound landmark recognition
- Needle placement techniques and ergonomics
- Continuous catheter insertion
- Fascial plane and peripheral nerve block scanning
- MIPSI procedural approach and imaging

The delegates also watched master demonstrations by the expert faculties on the different catheter techniques and blocks with insights into safe needle placement strategies.

Cadaveric models, carefully prepared by and demonstrated by the Anatomists, enabled participants to directly observe relevant anatomical planes, tissue responses, and intervention pathways in alignment with live ultrasound imaging.

There was a unique demonstration displayed by the CRAB chairman- Dr. Sandeep Diwan on the ultrasound guided needling of the fascial planes and the spread of the drug noted by scopic vision using a flexible fiberoptic bronchoscope. These unique features made the workshop even more special.

Organising Team and Acknowledgements

The successful execution of the workshop was made possible through the joint efforts of:

- **Executive Director, AIIMS Nagpur** — for institutional support and encouragement
- **Department of Anaesthesiology**, guided by Dr. Gajanan N. Chavan
- **Department of Anatomy**, led by Dr. Tarnekar and Dr. Gugapriya T S.

The organising team comprised of **Dr. Bhuvaneswari B, Dr. Prateek Arora and Dr. Priya Thappa** whose tireless coordination ensured smooth functioning of scientific, logistical, and delegate support activities.

The in-house faculties were Dr. Prateek Arora, Dr. Priya Thappa, Dr. Tanvi Meshram, Dr. Ridhima Sharma, Dr. Revanth Challa, Dr. Himangi Bhokare, Dr. Anu Kewlani, Dr. Deepali Jamgade and Dr. Chayanika Kutum.

Operational execution was further supported by **Prism Events** and the combined technical and administrative staff of both departments.

Feedback and Impact

Participant feedback reflected:

- High satisfaction with the hands-on learning format
- Appreciation for catheter insertion and MIPSI exposure
- Improved confidence in sonoanatomy and procedural application
- Strong recommendation for annual continuation and expansion

The blend of live scanning, cadaveric learning, and advanced procedural content was widely acknowledged as a **milestone in skill-based anaesthesia training** at AIIMS Nagpur.

Conclusion

VESALIUS 2025 successfully advanced AIIMS Nagpur's mission of establishing a structured, high-quality academic ecosystem for cadaver-based RAPM education. With its expanded curriculum, the workshop positioned itself as a forward-looking model for modern anaesthesia training in India.

The organising committee anticipates building on this momentum through future editions and continued collaboration with AORA-CRAB.









