

Profile for the Web

Dr. Sunethra Gunasena

Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna

Other professional commitments (National & International)

Member of the South-East Asia Regional Certification Commission for Polio Eradication (2020)

Member of the National Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases (from 2015)

Awards

President award for scientific publication 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2016

National Research Council merit award for scientific publications 2010, 2012, 2017

International Conference on Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance 2018 Dr. C. Palasuntheram Prize for best oral presentation

Sri Lanka Medical Association EM Wijerama award 2016 for oral presentation

Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians 11th annual scientific congress Professor Abraham award for tropical medicine

Oration

Siri Wickramasingha Oration 2020, Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists

Publications

Recent 5 publications out of more than 20 publications

1. Kularatnam GAM, Jasinge E, Gunasena S, Samaranayake D, Senanayake MP, Wickramasinghe VP
Evaluation of biochemical and haematological changes in dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic fever in Sri Lankan children: a prospective follow up study
BMC Pediatrics (2019) 19:87 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12887-019-1451-5> (Open Access <https://rdcu.be/buj7m>)
2. Gamage D, Mach O, Palihawadana P, Zhang Y, Weldon WC, Oberste MS, Gunasena S, Sutter RW
Boosting of mucosal immunity after fractional-dose inactivated poliovirus vaccine
Journal of Infectious Diseases 2018 Nov 5; 218 (12): 1876 - 1882

3. Macklin G, Liao Y, Takane M, Dooling K, Gilmour S, Mach O, Kew O.M, Sutter R.W, The WHO iVDPV Working Group
Prolonged excretion of poliovirus among individuals with primary immunodeficiency disorder: An analysis of the World Health Organization registry
Frontiers in Immunology 2017 (Open Access www.frontiersin.org)
doi:10.3389/fimmu.2017.01103
4. Anna Uehara, Hasitha Aravinda Tissera, Champica K. Bodinayake, Ananda Amarasinghe, Ajith Nagahawatte, L. Gayani Tillekeratne, Jie Cui, Megan E. Reller, Paba Palihawadana, Sunethra Gunasena, et al
Analysis of Dengue Serotype 4 in Sri Lanka during the 2012–2013 Dengue Epidemic
The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 97 (1), Jul 2017, p. 130 – 136
NRC Merit Award for Scientific Publication
5. Tissera H, Amarasinghe A, Gunasena S, et al, 2016.
Laboratory-enhanced dengue sentinel surveillance in Colombo district, Sri Lanka: 2012-2014
2016 PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases 10: e0004477
President's Award for Scientific Publication

List of Oral presentations (last 5 years):

1. Muthugala MARV, Harischandra N, Wickramasinghe D, Abeykoon MM, Dasanayake WMDK, Senanayake KOMDT, Manamperi AAPs, Gunasena S, Galagoda GCS
Hantavirus infections with pulmonary symptoms in North Central part of Sri Lanka
International Conference on Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance, Colombo, Sri Lanka 2018
C. Palasuntheram Prize for oral presentation
First prize in oral presentation
2. Wijewickrama A, Abeyrathna G, Gunasena S, Idampitiya D
Effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) on bleeding and Liver in Dengue infection 129th Anniversary International Medical Congress 2016 of the SLMA
E M Wijerama Prize for the Oral Presentation
3. Jayasinghe CD, Hettigodage AN, Gunasena S, Udagama PV
The mature leaf concentrate of Sri Lankan wild type Carica papaya exhibits anti-tumor activity and regulates anti-tumor immunity 8th Biennial Scientific Sessions of Allergy & Immunology Society of Sri Lanka 2016
4. Wijewickrama A, Abeyrathna G, Gunasena S, Idampitiya D

Effect of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) on bleeding and liver in dengue infection OP # 14.003 17th International Congress on Infectious Diseases Hyderabad, India 2016 / International J of Infectious Diseases April 2016 v 45, supplement 1 Pg 19 – 20

List of Poster presentations:

1. Wijayaratne WMDGB, Vandeburg S, Tillekeratne G, Woods C, Nagahawatte A, Bodinayake C, Devasiri V, Nicholson B, Petzold E, Gunasena S, Danthanarayana N, Piyasiri B, Sellathurai M, Weerasinghe NP, Fonseka CC, Kurukulasooriya R, Gunasekara NC

The respiratory virus outbreak in Southern Sri Lanka in 2018: Results of the active surveillance

28th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Sri Lanka College of Microbiologists 2019

2. Weerasinghe M. Wijayaratne, Sky Vanderburg, Vasantha Devasiri, Ajith Nagahawatte, Champika K. Bodinayake, Eelizabeth Petzold, Sunethra Gunasena, Nayomi Danthanarayana, Bhagya Piyasiri, Muhunthan Sellathurai, Nayani P. Weerasinghe, Chathuranga L. Fonseka, Ruvini P. Kurukulasooriya, Nishantha C. Gunasekara, Brad P. Nicholson, Chris W. Woods, L. Gayani Tillekeratne

An outbreak of adenovirus causing severe respiratory illness in southern Sri Lanka, 2018

68th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene, 21 – 24th November 2019 (Poster presentation)