

## **Curriculum vitae**

**01. Name:** Mahinda Kommalage Don

**02. Contact details:** Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, P.O. Box 70, Galle, Sri Lanka. E-mail: [Mahinda1@gmail.com](mailto:Mahinda1@gmail.com)

### **04. Current Employment/Positions:**

1. Professor in the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka.
2. Head, Information Technology Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka.

### **05. Education**

1. PhD from Uppsala University, Sweden in 2005. The title of the thesis was 'Spinal acetylcholine release – mechanism and receptor involved'.
2. The degree Medicine licentiatexamen from Uppsala University, Sweden in 2001. (This is a two-year research degree, equal to M Phil in British system) The title of the thesis was 'Nicotinic acetylcholine receptor and involvement of the nicotinic receptor agonist Epibatidine in antinociception'.
3. Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) from Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna, Galle, Sri Lanka – From 1991 to 1997
4. Masters in Health Professions Education, Keele, UK.

### **06. Other qualifications**

1. Fellow of FAIMER (Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research), Philadelphia, USA.

## **07. Research Work and Publications:**

### **Publications in peer reviewed journals**

1. Kommalage M, Höglund AU. Nicotinic Acetylcholinergic Receptors Regulate the Intraspinal Release of Acetylcholine in Male Rats *Pharmacol Toxicol.* 2003 Oct;93(4):169-73.
2. Klas S.P. Abelson, Mahinda Kommalage, A. Urban Höglund  
Spinal cholinergic involvement after treatment with aspirin and paracetamol in rats  
*Neuroscience Letters*, Volume 368, Issue 1, 16 September 2004, Pages 116-120
3. Kommalage M, Höglund AU. (+/-) Epibatidine increases acetylcholine release partly through an action on muscarinic receptors.  
*Basic Clin Pharmacol Toxicol.* 2004 May;94(5):238-44.
4. Mahinda Kommalage, A. Urban Höglund  
Involvement of spinal serotonin receptors in the regulation of intraspinal acetylcholine release  
*European Journal of Pharmacology*, Volume 509, Issues 2-3, 21 February 2005, Pages 127-134
5. Mahinda Kommalage, A. Urban Höglund  
Involvement of spinal GABA receptors in the regulation of intraspinal acetylcholine release  
*European Journal of Pharmacology*, Volume 525, Issues 1-3, 21 November 2005, Pages 69-73
6. Kommalage M, Gunawardena S.  
Feasibility of introducing information technology-based activities into medical curricula in developing countries.  
*Med Educ.* 2008 Jan;42(1):113.
7. Kommalage M, Gunawardena S.  
IT-based activity in physiology education: an experience from a developing country.  
*Adv Physiol Educ.* 2008 Mar;32(1):81-5.
8. Kommalage M, Thabrew A.  
The use of websites for disseminating health information in developing countries: an experience from Sri Lanka. *Int J Electron Healthc.* 2008;4(3):327-38.
9. Kommalage M.  
Use of the internet by patients attending specialist clinics in Sri Lanka: a cross sectional study. *BMC Med Inform Decis Mak.* 2009 Feb 12;9:12.

10. Kommalage M, Hewawasm P. Sri Lanka: the aftermath. *Lancet*. 2009 Jul 11;374(9684):116-7
11. Kommalage Mahinda, Thabrew Harshani (2010) Running an ETU in a newly established IDP camp in Sri Lanka, *Medicine Conflict and Survival*, 26: 1, 86 — 94
12. Kommalage Mahinda, Naduni Imbulgoda (2010) Introduction of student-led physiology tutorial classes to a traditional curriculum, *Advances in Physiology Education* 34 June 2010.
13. Mahinda Kommalage and Sampath Gunawardena (2011) Evaluation of Physiology lectures conducted by students: comparison between evaluation by staff and students. *Adv Physiol Educ* 2011 Mar;35(1):48-52.
14. Kommalage, M. (2011) Hidden and informal curriculum in medical schools: impact on medical profession in Sri Lanka. *Ceylon Medical Journal* 2011; 56: 29-30.
15. Kommalage, M. (2011) Using videos to introduce clinical material: effects on empathy. *Med Educ*. 2011 May;45(5):514-5.
16. Kommalage M and Ponnampereuma G (2011) Flexner report and contemporary medical education in South Asia: an exception. *Acad Med*. 2011 Jun;86(6):662.
17. Mahinda Kommalage Association between severity of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and pain in wrist or hand, *Galle Medical Journal*, 16: 1, March 2011
18. Kommalage M, Thabrew H. Student-led peer-assisted learning: the Kuppi experience at the medical school of the university of Ruhuna in Sri Lanka. *Educ Health (Abingdon)*. 2011 Aug;24(2):516.
19. Kommalage M, Pathirana KD. Influence of Age and the Severity of Median Nerve Compression on Forearm Median Motor Conduction Velocity in Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. *J Clin Neurophysiol*. Dec;28(6):642-6.
20. Kommalage M, Analytical essay writing: a new activity introduced to a traditional curriculum. *Adv Physiol Educ*. 2012 Mar;36(1):54-7.
21. Mahinda Kommalage Change of perceived ICT skills of medical students over four years: a follow up study. *Sri Lanka Journal of Bio-Medical Informatics* Vol 2, No 3, 102-106 (2011).
22. Kommalage M. Analytical essay writing: a new activity introduced to a traditional curriculum. *Adv Physiol Educ*. 2012 Mar;36(1):54-7
23. Kommalage M, Senadheera C. Using video to introduce clinical materials. *Clin Teach*. 2012 Aug;9(4):248-52.

24. Kommalage M, Gunawardena S. Influence of age, gender, and sidedness on ulnar nerve conduction. *J Clin Neurophysiol.* 2013 Feb;30(1):98-101

25. Mahinda Kommalage D Nayanarasie S Basnayake Scientific research-based evidence used in drug promotion material distributed in Sri Lanka. *Ceylon Medical Journal* Dec 2016

26. S. A. Madhushani , M. Kommalage Use of antibiotics for patients presenting with symptoms suggestive of upper respiratory tract infections of less than 3 days to an outpatient department of a tertiary hospital in Sri Lanka. *Sri Lanka Journal of Medicine*, 28(1), 2019, pp.3–9.

**Publications at conferences/professional meetings - abstract.**

1. Mahinda KD, Pathirana KD, Mendis ALS. The relationship between body mass index and carpal tunnel syndrome. *Galle medical journal* September 2000 Abstract 10.

2. Somasiri KG, Mendis ALS, Mahinda KD, Does poor English knowledge interfere with active leaning in preclinical medical students?  
*Galle medical journal* September 2000, Abstract 21.

3. Mahinda Kommalage and A. Urban Höglund Different Nicotinic acetylcholinergic receptors regulate the intraspinal release of acetylcholine.  
P159 Abstracts 7<sup>th</sup> IUBMB conference, Bergen, Norway. May 4-8. 2002.

4. Spinal serotonin receptors involvement in intraspinal acetylcholine release.  
AU Hoglund, M Kommalage 4<sup>th</sup> congress of the European federation of IASP chapter (EFIC) Prague, 2003. Abstract presentation.

5. M Kommalage, AU Hoglund, Epibatidine acts as partial agonist on muscarinic receptors in spinal cord of the rat.  
4<sup>th</sup> congress of the European federation of IASP chapter (EFIC) Prague, 2003. Abstract presentation

6. GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor agonist muscimol inhibit spinal acetylcholine release.  
Mahinda Kommalage A. Urban Höglund Abstract of the 4th International Symposium on Microdialysis. June 18-19, 2004. Vienna, Austria.

7. Somasiri KG, Mendis ALS, Nanayakkara AD, Gunawardena S, Imendra KG, Mahinda KD, Wijewickrama DC, Hewawasm SP. Designing a poster on a physiology topic as an active learning experience.

Proceedings of the annual meeting of the physiological Society of Sri Lanka 2006

8. Mahinda Kommalage Sampath Gunawardena, Unequal IT knowledge among medical undergraduates: inequality starts at school level.

Galle medical association annual session September 2007 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal).

9. Mahinda Kommalage and Anoj Thabrew, Composition of Sri Lankan health websites, Galle medical association annual session September 2007 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal).

10. Kommalage M, Gunawardena S. Introduction of analytical essay writing activity in the medical curriculum  
Abstract, 9w/p5, AMEE 2008. Association for Medical Education in Europe, Prague, Czech Republic.

11. Mahinda Kommalage, Manila Chamara, PW Chamika, Use of Internet to retrieve health information by patients attending clinics in Galle. Galle medical association annual session September 2008 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

12. Mahinda Kommalage, Naduni Imbulgoda, A comparison of small group discussions and traditional tutorials: student perception. Galle medical association annual session September 2008 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

13. Mahinda Kommalage, KD Pathirana, Association between age and forearm median conduction velocity in carpal tunnel syndrome. Galle medical association annual session September 2009 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

14. Mahinda Kommalage, Sampath Gunawardena, What do students and teachers expect from a presentation? Galle medical association annual session September 2009 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

15. Kommalage, M. and P. De Silva, Validation of Sinhala version of Boston Carpal Tunnel Symptom Assessment Questionnaire. 10th South Asia regional scientific meeting of the International Epidemiological Association, 2010. Colombo.

16. Mahinda Kommalage, Sampath Gunawardena, Introduction of Problem based learning to preclinical students: Students' and teachers' perception. Galle medical association annual session September 2010 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

17. Mahinda Kommalage, Slow Ulnar nerve motor conduction in males compared with female. Galle medical association annual session September 2010 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)

18. Mahinda Kommalage, Integrated module on blood with the introduction of clinical materials and a PBL tutorial in the preclinical period of a traditional curriculum. Foundation for advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), Poster session 2010 October, Philadelphia, USA.

19. Kommalage M, Association between severity of carpal tunnel syndrome and pain, Annual session, Sri Lanka association for the study of pain (Sri Lanka chapter of the international association for the study of pain), 2010, Kandy.
20. Kommalage M, Changing the curriculum under the radar, 6<sup>th</sup> congress of the Asian medical education association, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2011. Presentation for IMU-RHIME medical education innovation awards.
21. Kommalage M, Assessment in PBL tutorials: Is it an assessment of language skills?, 6<sup>th</sup> congress of the Asian medical education association, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2011
22. Mahinda Kommalage, De Silva PV, HGSS Gamage, AHL Gayathrika, Prevalence of carpal tunnel syndrome among female garment factory workers in free trade zone, Koggala. Galle medical association annual session, September 2011 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)
23. Mahinda Kommalage, Methsala Gunawardena, Indumini Wickramasinghe, Use of functional disabilities in hand to assess the severity of carpal tunnel syndrome. Galle medical association annual session September 2011 (Abstract in Galle Medical Journal)
24. Mahinda Kommalage, Methsala Gunawardena, Indumini Wickramasinghe, Use of functional disabilities and symptoms to assess the severity of carpal tunnel syndrome. Annual scientific sessions, Physiological Society of Sri Lanka 2011.
25. Malitha Patabede, SPT Malshan, ND Maskorala, Mahinda Kommalage. Effect of age and gender on ulnar nerve motor amplitude, Galle medical association annual session, September 2012.
26. Kommalage M, Weerasena HKPM, Functional disability among patients with carpal tunnel syndrome. Annual scientific sessions, Physiological Society of Sri Lanka 2013.
27. M. Kommalage, J. Lenora, Can symptoms be used to assess severity of CTS in elderly patients? 30th International Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology 2014, Burlin, Germen.
28. Mahinda Kommalage, Sivapalan Kanagasaba. The quality of graduate Vs resources in a medical school : a lesson from a war affected medical school. Annual Conference of The Network: TUFH. 2014 Fortaleza, Brazil.
29. M H T Nelumika, Mahinda Kommalage, Reasons for selecting private hospitals over government hospitals: a qualitative study. Galle medical association annual session October 2015.
30. Basnayake SU, Nayanarasie BAD, Mahinda Kommalage, Use of Facebook among medical students: does it adversely affect their academic activities? . Galle medical association annual session October 2015.

31. Nayanarasie BAD, Basnayake SU, Mahinda Kommalage, Quality of the supportive evidences used in drug promotion in Sri Lanka. Galle medical association annual session October 2015.
32. Balasooriya BARK, Kommalage M, Illegal purchasing of medicine from community pharmacy in semi urban area in Galle district. Galle medical association annual session, 2017
33. Nadeeka WGS, Kommalage M, Prescribing pattern and associated cost of commonly used antibiotics. Galle medical association annual session, 2017
34. Deshapriya S, Gunarathna D, Kommalage M, Expectation of foreign medical undergraduate (FMUs) who registered for electives in University of Ruhuna, Galle medical association annual session 2017
35. Mahinda Kommalage, John norcini. Application of Bloom's taxonomy to Physiology OSPE questions. Annual scientific sessions, Physiological Society of Sri Lanka 2017.
36. Madhushani SAN, Madushanthi HJH, Mahinda KD, Prescription of antibiotics for patients with symptoms suggestive of influenza and common cold for less than three days in outpatient department at teaching hospital Karapitiya Galle,. Symposium of Faculty of allied health science, University of Ruhuna 2018.
37. Gamage TD, Mahinda KD, A follow up study on antibiotic compliance of those who take antibiotic from outdoor pharmacy of Teaching Hospital Karapitiya. Symposium of Faculty of allied health science, University of Ruhuna 2018.
38. Wijekoon WMCD, Samarawickrama M B, Kommalage M, Chronic effect of formaldehyde exposure on lung function of medical students of University of Ruhuna, Galle medical association annual session 2018.

**Publications at conferences/professional meetings – Full paper.**

1. The use of websites for disseminating health information in developing countries: an experience from Sri Lanka. Mahinda Kommalage, Anoj Thabrew, 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance. Cairo, Egypt, December 2008. Presented as case report (a Full paper). Included in the proceedings of the conference as a full paper.
2. Usage of Information Technology for the Purpose of Health Education in Sri Lanka. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance. Mahinda Kommalage, Bogota, Colombia, November 2009. Presented as case report of social Applications (a Full paper). Included in the proceedings of the conference as a full paper.

3. Plagiarism in undergraduate essays: the extend of the problem and source of the content. Mahinda Kommalage, Sampath Gunawardena. The role of open and distance learning in 21<sup>st</sup> century: changes and possibilities. OUSL 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary International research conference, Colombo, August 2010.

#### **08. Awards**

1. The most outstanding young researcher 2008, Vice Chancellor's Awards, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka.
2. Website designed and maintain by me was appreciated at the national IT award event, e-Swabhimani organized by ICT Agency of Sri Lanka 2010

#### **9. Current main teaching activities.**

1. Teaching Human Physiology for Medical, Nursing, Medical laboratory science and Pharmacy undergraduate Ruhuna University, Sri Lanka.
2. Conducted training session on Information and Communication Technology for undergraduate and staff of Faculty of Medicine, University of Ruhuna.