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**Report-One-Day Symposium "ONCOAWARE" on World Cancer Day organised  
BY ICEIR (Integral Centre of Excellence for Interdisciplinary Research) and  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOSCIENCES**

2 messages

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Mon, Feb 24, 2025 at 3:27 PM

**A REPORT ON**  
**ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM ON**  
**“ONCOAWARE: Cancer Education and Awareness Initiative”**  
**ORGANIZED BY ICEIR (Integral Centre of Excellence for Interdisciplinary Research) and**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BIOSCIENCES**  
**INTEGRAL UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW**

The Department of Biosciences in collaboration with ICEIR (Integral Centre of Excellence for Interdisciplinary Research) organized a one day Symposium “**ONCOAWARE: Cancer Education and Awareness Initiative**” on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2025. The symposium aimed to raise awareness and foster education to strengthen a collective commitment to fight cancer. This day, which is celebrated as World Cancer Day, is based on a powerful theme-“**United by Unique.**” This theme reminds us that while cancer may be a common battle, each individual’s journey through it is deeply personal, shaped by unique challenges, experiences, and struggles. The theme also focused towards rewriting the future of cancer care - which starts with the collective efforts of the community and the individual action of every person.

The symposium aimed to bridge the gap between translation of latest advancements in research from Bench to Bedside by highlighting the importance of early detection, and most importantly, emphasizing the role of collective support in cancer care.

A poster presentation and a quiz competition was also held during the event, and certificates were awarded to the winners. The symposium saw active participation from over 120 attendees including Faculty , research scholars and students of undergraduate and postgraduate programs contributing to its overall success.

The symposium commenced with a welcome address by Dean, Faculty of Sciences, Prof. Abdul Rahman Khan who stressed upon the urgent need to raise awareness about the devastating impact of cancer. He highlighted the crucial role of public education in promoting early detection, which significantly enhances the effectiveness of treatment. Moreover, he emphasized that greater awareness can inspire individuals to make healthier lifestyle choices. Prof. Abdul Rahman Khan also shared experiences from his own circle providing a heartfelt perspective on the emotional and physical challenges faced when a loved one battles this illness.

The session was followed by an engaging and thoughtful session given by the honored guest, **Dr. Pankaj Kumar, HOD, General Surgery, Integral Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Integral University, Lucknow.** Dr. Pankaj Kumar began his talk by giving a short history of World Cancer Day which is observed on 4<sup>th</sup> February, a global initiative by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC). He highlighted the significance of this day which aimed to raise awareness about cancer and promote its prevention, early detection and treatment to reduce the global cancer burden. World cancer Day is not only meant to create awareness but also bringing people together and giving them support and strength to fight against this disease. Further, he gave a deep understanding of what is cancer, the factors responsible for causing cancer, the statistics of its prevalence, the types of cancer. Moreover, he also discussed the various symptoms associated with the specific cancer, their diagnosis and types of treatments available. He talked about the factors responsible for low survival rates in low and middle-income countries which are mainly due to inadequate healthcare infrastructure, late diagnosis and high treatment costs. He emphasized that a lack of awareness could result in delayed diagnosis and treatment, therefore literacy also plays a significant role in enhancing cancer awareness. Dr. Pankaj emphasized on the establishment of a tumor board in cancer hospitals which comprises experts of varied specializations such as medical oncology, surgeon, radiotherapist, immunotherapist in order to provide a specific and targeted based treatment to the cancer patients. Moreover, customized treatments such as immunotherapy have emerged as promising therapeutic options for cancer patients.

Dr. Pankaj concluded his talk by inspiring and encouraging the people for routine health checks, increasing the public's awareness of cancer, changing specific risk behavior, learning self-examination skills to make the cancer treatable with better outcomes at an early stage.

The next lecture was delivered by another distinguished guest, **Dr. Mohd Saif Zaman, Principal Scientist/ Associate Director Antibody Studio Inc., San Francisco, USA.** He is also a leading scientist in biomedical research and drug discovery with over 18 years of experience in academia and industry. He holds an expertise in the development of bispecific and trispecific antibodies for metastatic cancers. Notably, he played a key role in bringing GB263T, a first-in-class trispecific antibody against cMET/EGFR in NSCLC, to human clinical trials and has contributed to multiple patents on multispecific antibodies. Dr. Zaman delivered a highly insightful talk on:

"Multispecific Antibodies: Novel Therapeutic Modalities – Trispecific GB263T, A Case Study"

During this session he provided an in-depth analysis of GB263T's development, its mechanism of action, and its potential as a game-changer in targeted cancer therapy. Dr. Zaman presented a detailed explanation of GB263T, which is a novel EGFR/cMET/cMET tri-specific antibody with enhanced ADCC function. It also exhibits robust anti-tumor activity both in vitro and in vivo studies. Moreover, he also added that it possess great potential to become an effective therapeutic in the treatment of NSCLC. He emphasized few important functions of multispecific antibodies such as blockade of multiple signaling pathways or disease, facilitate down regulation or signal agonism, redirect adoptive and innate immune cells to recruit clearance mechanisms. Further, he elaborated that the multi-specific Abs also targets multiple disease markers. Besides, he also quoted some examples of immune-interfacing multispecific Abs such as BITE antibody,

immune checkpoint protein-targeted Abs, AFM13, TG-1801 and TrisomAb. Dr. Zaman also gave a deep understanding of four classes of antibody formats or combination forms.

After the insightful lectures given by the speakers, the session was followed by a Poster presentation in which the students participated enthusiastically from Biosciences and other departments as well such as Paramedical, Humanities. A total of 13 students participated during the event. Moreover, a quiz was organized with prize distribution to the winners to create cancer awareness among the students and enhance their knowledge. In the end, the winners were announced for poster presentation and certificates were distributed.

The symposium ended with the vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Snober S. Mir, Head, Dept. of Biosciences. She thanked the esteemed speakers for sharing their valuable insights and expertise on cancer awareness. She appreciated the students for their active participation and making the event successful.



## Glimpse of World Cancer Day

Best Regards  
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