



**Name: Dr. Varsha Rani Gajamer**

**Designation in (subject: Assistant Professor (WBES) in Microbiology**

**Highest qualification: M.Phil Ph.D (NET)**

**Contact details/ Office address: Department of Microbiology, Darjeeling Government College**

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**Date of joining to this institution\*: 26.09.2019**

**Date of joining W.B.E.S.: 26.09.2019**

**Previous position(s) held/ Additional charges (if any):** Research Scientist, Viral Research & Diagnostic Laboratory, Department of Microbiology, North Bengal Medical College, Siliguri, Dist Darjeeling.

**Teaching experience in years & months: 4 years 8 months**

**Fellowship, Awards, Recognition and Honours (if any):**

- Awarded with State level young Scientist award during academic year 2019- 2020 by Microbiologists Society India.
- Qualified ARS-NET (National Eligibility Test) in Life Science in 2016 conducted by Agriculture Scientist Recruitment Board (ARSB), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Awarded with best poster for paper entitled “*Prevalence and antibiogram profile of gut pathogens from Sikkim and Darjeeling District*” in the Poster Session of 54th Annual Conference of association of Microbiologists of India (AMI- 2013) Platinum jubilee celebrations for association of microbiologists of India (estd: 1938), International symposium on ‘Frontier Discoveries and Innovations in Microbiology and its Interdisciplinary relevance’ (FDMIR- 2013) at Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak Haryana, India .
- Awarded with Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (JRF & SRF), Government of India during the session 2011-12.

**Courses taught:** Introduction to Microbiology and Microbial Diversity, Bacteriology, Virology, Medical Microbiology, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Microbial Genetics, Industrial Microbiology, Instrumentation and Biotechniques, Microbial Biotechnology, Microbial Diagnosis in Health Clinics.

**Research area/ interest:** Antibiotic Drug Resistance in bacteria, Medical Microbiology, Environmental Microbiology, Molecular Biology

### List of publications-

#### \*Peer reviewed journals:

- **Gajamer VR**, Bhattacharjee A, Paul D, Ingti B, Sarkar A, Kapil J, Singh AK, Pradhan N, Tiwari HK. High prevalence of Carbapenemase, AmpC  $\beta$ - lactamase and aminoglycoside resistance genes in extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamase-positive uropathogens from Northern India. *Journal of global antimicrobial resistance*. 2020 Mar 1;20:197-203. (I.F- 4.24).
- **Gajamer VR**, Bhattacharjee A, Paul D, Kapil J, Sarkar A, Singh AK, Pradhan N, Tiwari HK. The first report of phenotypic and molecular characterization of extended-spectrum beta-lactamase-producing uropathogens in Sikkim and Darjeeling hills of India. *Microbial Drug Resistance*. 2018 Nov 1;24(9):1284-8. (I.F-3.43)
- **Gajamer VR**, Bhattacharjee A, Paul D, Deshamukhya C, Singh AK, Pradhan N, Tiwari HK. *Escherichia coli* encoding blaNDM-5 associated with community-acquired urinary tract infections with unusual MIC creep-like phenomenon against imipenem. *Journal of Global Antimicrobial Resistance*. 2018 Sep 1;14:228-32. (I.F-4.24).
- **Gajamer VR**, Tiwari HK, Bhutia PD, Sen SS, Ghosh R, Sarkar A. Detection of antibiotic resistance pattern with ESBL producers and MRSA among the uropathogens at Tertiary Health Care Centre, North Bengal. *International Journal of Pure and Applied Biosciences*. 2015; 3 (2): 522-533.
- **Gajamer VR**, Singh AK, Pradhan N, Kapil J, Sarkar A, Tiwari HK. Prevalence and Antibigram Profile of Uropathogens Isolated from Symptomatic and Asymptomatic Female Patients with Urinary Tract Infections and its associated Risk Factors: Focus on Cephalosporin. *Research & Reviews: Journal of Medical Science and Technology*. 2018 May 2;7(1):32-4 associated technology 2018 May 2;7(1):32-4
- **Gajamer VR**, Tiwari HK. Prevalence of gastrointestinal disease and its associated risk factors in Sikkim and Darjeeling Districts. *Journal of community health*. 2014 Aug 1;39(4):767-74. (I.F-4.371).
- **Gajamer VR**, Najar IN, Poudyal H, Thakur N. Prevalence of Liver Diseases in Sikkim and its associated Risk Factors. *The Journal of Public Health*. 2013 (115)140-146. ISJN:4367- 5937 (I.F-6.20)

- Singh AK, Das S, Kumar S, **Gajamer VR**, Najjar IN, Lepcha YD, Tiwari HK, Singh S. Distribution of antibiotic-resistant Enterobacteriaceae pathogens in potable spring water of eastern Indian Himalayas: emphasis on virulence gene and antibiotic resistance genes in *Escherichia coli*. *Frontiers in microbiology*. 2020 Nov 5;11: 581072. (IF-6.46)
- Singh AK, Das S, Singh S, Pradhan N, **Gajamer VR**, Kumar S, Lepcha YD, Tiwari HK. Physicochemical and microbiological profile of the potable water of Eastern Himalayan State Sikkim: An Indication of Severe Fecal Contamination and Immediate Health Risk. *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2019;7:174. (I.F-6.46).
- Singh AK, Das S, Singh S, **Gajamer VR**, Pradhan N, Lepcha YD, Tiwari HK. Prevalence of antibiotic resistance in commensal *Escherichia coli* among the children in rural hill communities of Northeast India. *PloS one*. 2018 Jun 18;13(6):e0199179. (I.F- 3.74).
- Choubey T, **Gajamer VR**, Sarkar A, Mallick SK. Molecular Identification of Common Bacterial Infection in Chronic Otitis Media in an Outpatient Department of Tertiary Care Hospital. *Research & Reviews: Journal of Medical Science and Technology*. 2019 May 3;8(1):18-24.
- Khan MZ, **Gajamer VR**. Epidemical disease: a review on swine flu. *Int J Pharm Biomed Res*. 2015;2:11-9

**\*Conference proceedings:**

**\*Books/chapters in books etc. (if any):** Khawas S, **Gajamer VR**. A Comprehensive Review on Covid-19: A Virus Which Has Changed Our Lives. In a book entitled, Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic in India. Edited by Dr Archana Singh. Published by Alok Shrivastava, Shriyanshi Prakashan, Agra. ISBN- 978-93-81247-80-8 pg 65-100.

**Presentations/ attended in conferences/ workshops/seminars/symposium etc:**

Papers presented:

1. Presented paper entitled "Preponderance of NDM-5 genes in extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamase-positive uropathogens from Darjeeling and Sikkim" as an oral presentation in a National Seminar "Microbial World 2020" at North Bengal University on 27th February, 2020.
2. Presented paper entitled "MIC Creep phenomenon in blaNDM producing *Escherichia coli*: A first Report" as a poster presentation in 2nd International Conference on

Contemporary and Antimicrobial Research 2018” at IIT Kharagpur on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

3. Presented paper entitled “*Occurrence of Carbapenemase and Extended Spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamase genes in isolates associated with Urinary Tract Infection in females of Sikkim and Darjeeling*” as an oral presentation in an Annual Conference of association of Microbiologists of India (AMI 2017) Lucknow on 18th November, 2017.
4. Presented paper entitled “*Molecular detection of extended spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamase genes from uropathogens of Sikkim and Darjeeling*” as an oral presentation in international conference on Contemporary and Antimicrobial Research 2016” at Assam University on 17th November, 2016.
5. Presented paper entitled “*A study of prevalence, risk factors and antibiotic susceptibility pattern of human bacterial gastrointestinal pathogens from Sikkim and Darjeeling*” as oral presentation in “Mahamicrocon 2014” Maharashtra chapter conference of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologist, Medical Microbiology conference, 2014 at Nagpur on 20th September, 2014.
6. Presented paper entitled “*Prevalence of Human Bacterial Gastrointestinal Pathogens from Sikkim and North Bengal*” in the Poster Session of UGC Sponsored National Seminar on “Applied Microbiology: Microbial World 2014”, organized by Department of Microbiology, University of North Bengal, Siliguri on March 14, 2014.
7. Presented paper entitled “*Prevalence and antibiogram profile of gut pathogens from Sikkim and Darjeeling District*” in the Poster Session of 54th Annual Conference of association of Microbiologists of India (AMI-2013) Platinum jubilee celebrations for association of microbiologists of India (estd: 1938), International symposium on ‘Frontier Discoveries and Innovations in Microbiology and its Interdisciplinary relevance’ (FDMIR-2013). Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak Haryana, India and awarded with Best Poster Award.

#### **Seminars and conferences attended:**

1. Participated in One-Day National Webinar on “NEP-2020: Overview and Milestones to Achieve” Organised by Microbiologists Society 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
2. Participated in an online seminar on World Health Day ‘Health for all, by all’ organized by Ananda Chandra College, Jalpaiguri on 7th April, 2022.
3. Participated in an International conference on “Ethnic fermented Foods and beverages: Microbiology and Health Benefits organized by Department of Microbiology, School of Life Sciences, Sikkim University, Gangtok in association with Swedish South Asian Network on Fermented Foods (SASNET –FF) on November 20-21, 2015.
4. Participated in 3 days National seminar on “Diversity and prospects of Microbial Resources” organized by Department of Microbiology, University of North Bengal, Siliguri from 26th -28th February, 2010.

5. Participated in one day conference of Frontiers in Biology organized by National Centre for Biological Sciences at Sikkim Government College, Gangtok, Sikkim from 1st -2nd May, 2010.
6. Participated in one day conference of National Institute of Food and Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIMTEM), Indian Institute of Crop processing technology at Gangtok, on 29th September, 2010

#### **Workshops and Trainings attended:**

1. Participated in two-day Training on becoming Virtual Classroom teacher organized by Classle Skillnet in collaboration with Bethune College on 18th June, 2020
2. Participated on a one-day workshop on data entry at online portal organized by National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai on 26th July, 2019 at Department of Health Research, Delhi.
3. Participated on a 4th hands-on training workshop on 'Laboratory Diagnosis of Emerging Viral Diseases' from 07th to 09th February, 2019 at Regional VRDL, ICMR-NICED, Kolkata.
4. Participated in three days training on “Genomics and Proteomics Research” organized by bioinformatics Sub- DIC, Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology with the support of Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India from 20th and 22nd March 2017.
5. Participated in two-day workshop on “Sensitization Workshop on Cellular Biotechnology:Tissue Culture and Stem Cells” conducted by department of Biochemistry, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences (SMU), Gangtok and sponsored by Institutional Level Biotechhub project, NER-BPMC, DBT India & SMIMS on 26th- 28th May, 2016.
6. Participated in two-day workshop held at Department of Horticulture, Sikkim University on System Biology and sustainable development on 17-18 March 2016.
7. Participated at one day workshop on “Biosafety and Bioethics” at Conference Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, Deorali, Gangtok, organized by, Sikkim Biotech Hub, Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology, supported by Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, Delhi on 22nd May, 2015.
8. Participated in two-day workshop on National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) Awareness organized by National Institute of Technology Sikkim, Ravangla, South Sikkim on 26th June, 2015.
9. Attended a Workshop-Program on SPSS Software at Sikkim Government College, organized by ISI Kolkata from 2nd -5th November 2014.
10. Participated in one day workshop on “Career and Business Prospects in Food Processing” organized by National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, New Delhi and Indian Institute of crop processing Technology, Tamil Nadu (Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Govt. of India) on 29th Sept. 2010 at Gangtok.

11. Participated in Workshop on Capacity Building in “Effective management of intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) in Biotechnology by Universities and Research Institutes in Sikkim” at conference Hall, Tourism Department, Tadong, Sikkim. from November 04-05, 2014.

#### **Seminars organized:**

- Collaborative seminar organized by Department of Microbiology jointly with the Department of Botany, Darjeeling Government College on the topic BIOTERRORISM: Preparedness and Response on 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 in the auditorium hall of Darjeeling Government College.
- Organized a one-day lecture on “Studies on seed borne microflora associated with oil seed (mustard) and Cereal crop (Rice) of Indo Gangetic area and their ecofriendly management” on 30<sup>th</sup> of April, 2022 in the auditorium hall of Darjeeling Government College.
- Coordinated and organized a National seminar on online platform on the theme “Only one Earth: Local intervention on Climate Change on Earth” organised by the Microbiologists Society, India (West Bengal Unit) in collaboration with Departments of Microbiology, Darjeeling Government College and St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling on 6<sup>th</sup> of June, 2022 during the World Environment Day celebration.
- Organized a one day workshop on “Literacy Mission on Microbiology” at Ghoom Boys’ Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling in collaboration with Microbiology Society of India on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2022.

#### **Details regarding participation in FIP/OP/RC:**

1. One month Faculty Induction Programme organized by UGC-HRDC, University of Hyderabad held on 1<sup>st</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023.
2. Faculty Development Programme in Biological Sciences organized by UGC- HRDC, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University held on 31<sup>st</sup> Jul to 12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2023.
3. One-week National Level Faculty Development Programme on “Transformation in Indian Education through New Education Policy- Challenges and Opportunities” organised by Government First Grade College for Women, Balmatta, Mangaluru in association with St. Aloysius College (Autonomous), Mangaluru held on 17<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2021
4. Faculty Development Programme in Research Methodology and Data analysis organized by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College held on 5<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021.



