

DR. SARATH GOPALAN

BRIEF BIODATA

Dr.Sarath Gopalan is a paediatric gastroenterologist based in New Delhi and is associated with a number of hospitals in New Delhi and the neighbouring National Capital Region. His areas of special interest are (i) paediatric gastroenterology and hepatology, (ii) enteral and parenteral nutrition, and(iii) public health and nutrition.

He completed his graduation (MBBS) from the Madras Medical College, Madras, and subsequently his post-graduation in Pediatrics (MD) from the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh in 1991. He, then, underwent training in Pediatric Gastroenterology and Clinical Nutrition as part of a Fellowship training program of the Royal College of Physicians, UK, at the Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham, UK, from 1994-1996.

He is currently Deputy Director of the Nutrition Foundation of India (NFI), a not-for-profit non-governmental organisation based in New Delhi which has been carrying out research and extension works in the field of nutrition for the past 32 years. The Nutrition Foundation of India works closely with the Centre for Research on Nutrition Support Systems (CRNSS), a non-governmental organization which focuses on hospital-based nutritional intervention. Dr. Sarath Gopalan is the Executive Director of the CRNSS and edits the quarterly publication of the CRNSS "Nutrition in Disease Management". Dr.Gopalan has also been involved in research in the area of nutritional interventions in disease conditions.

In November 2009, NFI conducted a technical workshop of experts from the South-east Asia region to discuss the impact of climate change on food and nutrition security in the region. Dr. Gopalan was involved in organizing and coordinating the programme. On November 30 – December 1, 2010, the World Health Organisation of the South-East Asian region (WHO-SEARO), jointly with the NFI, conducted a Technical Consultation in New Delhi on Hospital Nutrition Practices in South-East Asia. The participants in the Consultation included a multi-disciplinary team of experts (physicians, surgeons, gastroenterologists, pediatricians, nurses, dietitians and clinical nutritionists) from countries in the SEARO (India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines). The Consensus Recommendations for Hospital Nutrition Practices in South-East Asia were published in the WHO Technical Report Series 2012. Dr. Sarath Gopalan organized and co-ordinated this Consultation, including preparation of the initial Background Document and coordinating the drafting of the Consensus Recommendations.

Dr. Sarath Gopalan became a Member of the World Council of Genetics, Nutrition and Fitness for Health (WCGNFH) in 2008. He has participated in activities of the WCGNFH since its inception. He gave a presentation on "The impact of climate change on nutritional status in South-East Asia" in the Session on Climate Change at the Conference on "Healthy Agriculture, Healthy Nutrition and Healthy People" in October, 2010 at Olympia, Greece.

Dr. Sarath Gopalan has publications in national and international indexed journals.