

# Designing and Implementing a Structured Dental Ethics Curriculum

Ritu Jain<sup>1</sup>, Abi M Thomas<sup>2</sup>, George Koshy<sup>3</sup>, Anushi Mahajan<sup>1</sup>

1- Department of Periodontics, 2- Department of Pedodontics, 3- Department of Oral Pathology, Christian Dental College, Ludhiana, Punjab

Presenting Author- Ritu Jain, Email- ritumahajain79@gmail.com, Mobile no- 9988218702

## Background

The Dental Council of India in its revised BDS Course Regulations of 2007 has outlined a general course content for dental ethics teaching<sup>1</sup> spanning over 20 hours of instruction. This is mainly focussed on the cognitive domain. But the implementation and delivery of this content is flexible and often left to the individual institutions.

Dental ethics teaching in our college was traditionally concentrated in the 1st yr BDS. With no recapitulation of the topics in the clinical years and no focus on developing skills for ethical practice, the impact of this teaching was often lost.

## Aim

To introduce a comprehensive curriculum for teaching ethics to dental undergraduates in a structured way.

## Material and Methods

### Proposal

For a more comprehensive curriculum presented to the administration

### Designing

- Core team formed
- Documents referred
- Relevant topics identified
- Topics finalised
- Implementation planned

### Implementation

- Adjustments made in the time table
- Topics assigned
- Schedule made

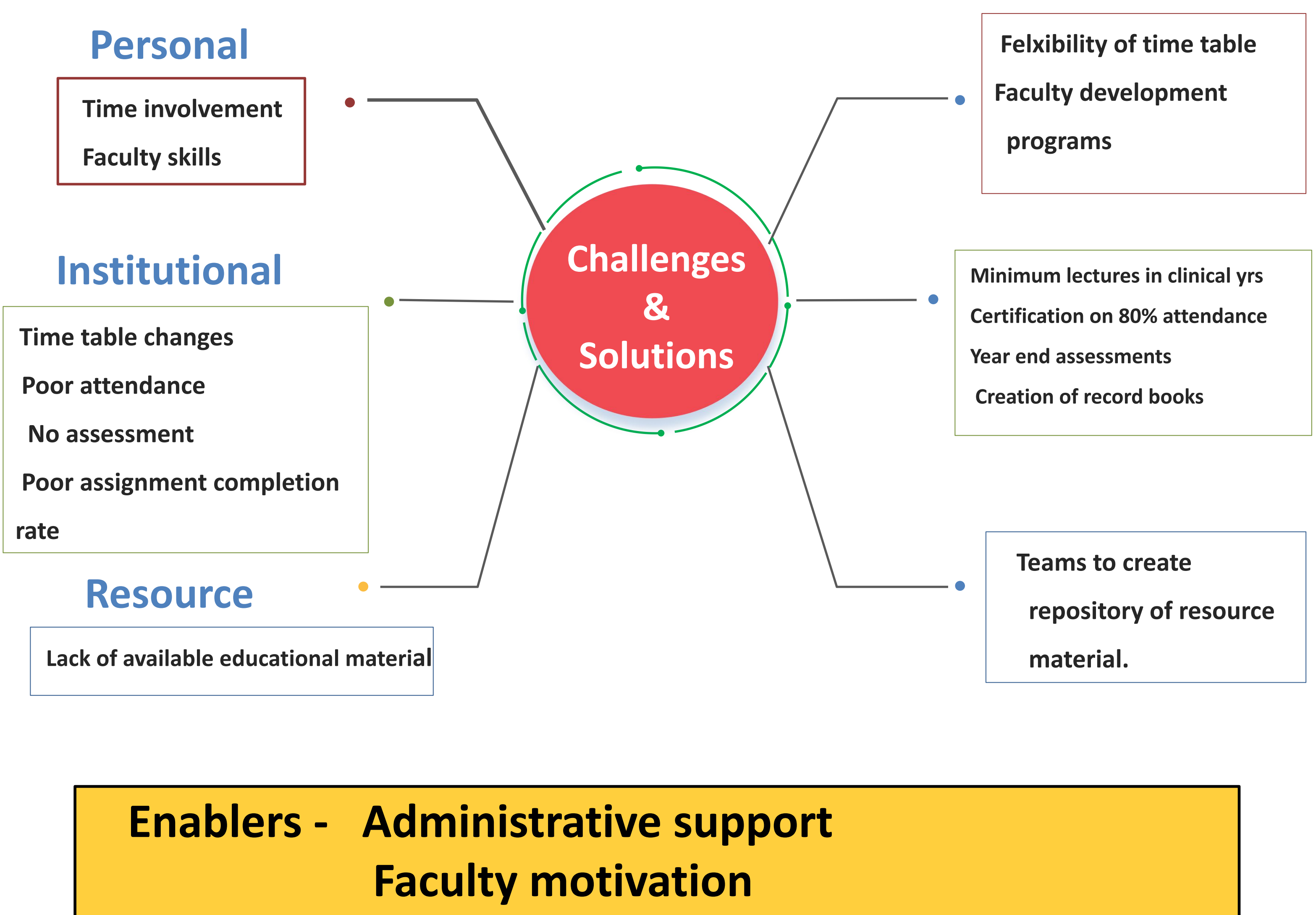
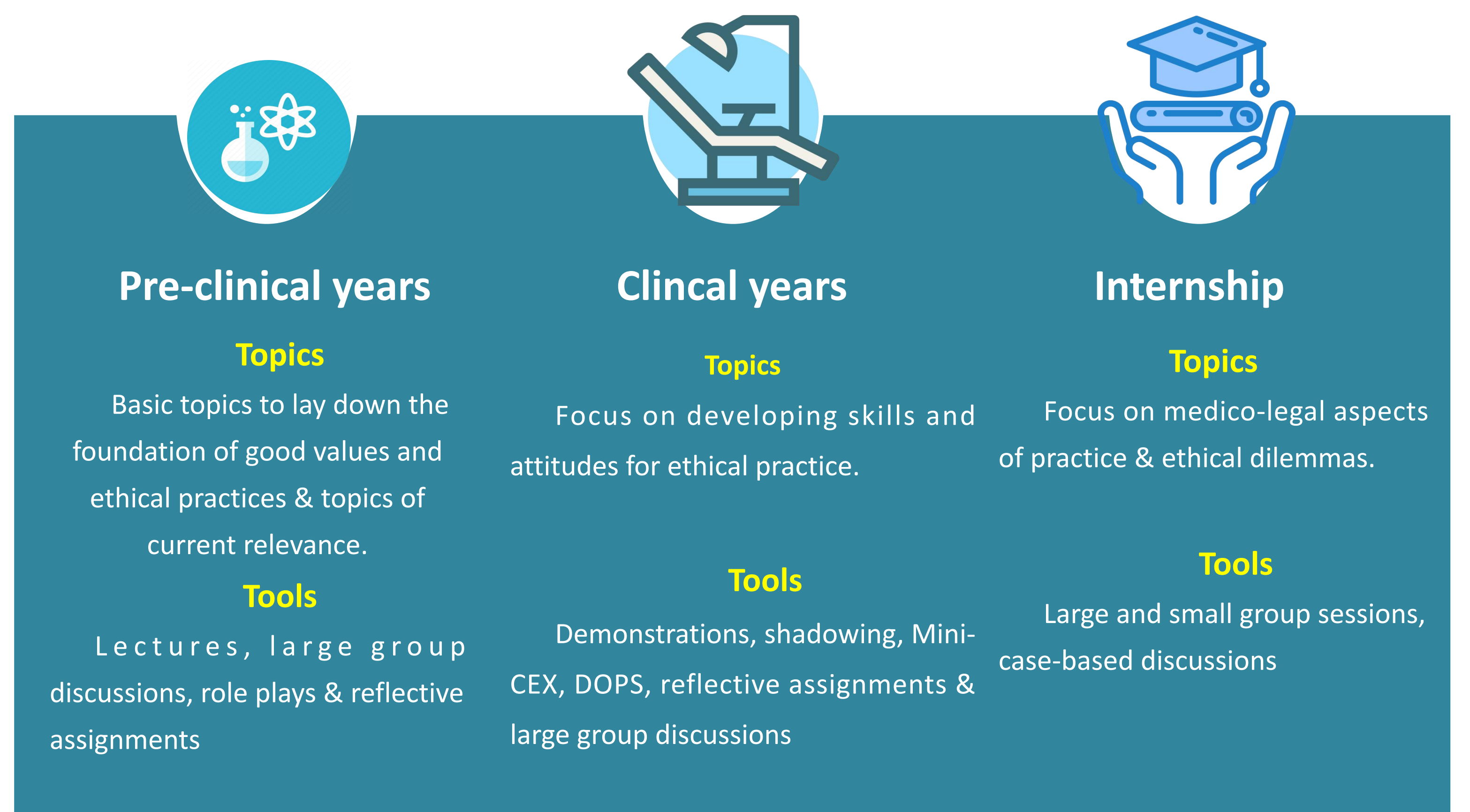
### Review

Review meeting after 2 years held to identify challenges and address them

## Results

### Achievements

- A comprehensive document to teach ethics to dental undergraduates prepared.
- Curriculum implemented in 1st yr, 2nd yr & internship



## Conclusion

- In order to deliver the best possible healthcare to our patients, with changing health needs of the society curricular reforms in education are required.
- The challenges in reforming and implementing a curriculum can be addressed through upgradation of faculty skills, preparedness of the institution and thorough planning.

## References

1. Dental Council of India- Revised BDS Course Regulations 2007. section.
2. Medical Council of India AETCOM- NMC 2020
3. The Center for Bioethics: Emmanuel Hospitals Association

Acknowledgements- Dr Shekhar Kapoor, Dr Sonal Grover, Dr Deepti Sharma, Dr Vivek Vradhan, Dr Joe, Dr Vinaya, Dr Neethu, Reverend Alex Peters for their help in preparing the document.