

## Dr. VP Singh (1947-2016)

*Homoeopath, Scientist, and HIV/AIDS specialist in Delhi, India. He was born on October 21, 1947, and died in Delhi on September 18, 2016, aged 68 years.*

Dr. Vijay Pal Singh was born on October 21, 1947, in Delhi. He completed his high school from United Christian School, Delhi. He completed his Diploma in Homoeopathic Medicine and Surgery from Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College, Defence Colony, New Delhi, in 1971. This was the first batch of students completing their education in Homoeopathy from Delhi. He joined as Research Assistant at Drug Proving Research Unit, Belgaum under Central Council for Research in Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy (CCRIMH) on September 11, 1972. His active researcher career span was of 35 years in the CCRIMH and subsequently in the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) after its formation in 1978. He had extensive experience having worked at CCRH Headquarters for most of his years and for some duration at Drug Standardization Unit, Patna; Drug Proving Research Unit, Ghaziabad; and Regional Research Institute, New Delhi. He began his career as Research Assistant and then moved on as Assistant Research Officer, Research Officer, and Assistant Director. He was also Director In-charge of the Council for a brief period in 2002.

In the era when physicians were ostracizing HIV infected persons as much as the laypeople and fear was the driving factor, Dr. Singh could foresee that the science of Homoeopathy can be successfully used for treatment of HIV infected persons. Thus, he began his journey of more than 20 years in the latter half of his career, to study HIV/AIDS meticulously with its medical, social, emotional, financial, and legal implications. He began treating patients at the CCRH headquarters in his office using homoeopathic medicines. He soon realized that whereas the modern medicine could offer no hope for treatment till the CD4 cell counts fall precariously low leading to AIDS, but Homoeopathy can be administered to reduce this decline of CD4 cells and also to treat opportunistic infections. He applied the “law of similia” and deduced that drugs which are used to induce immunosuppression in crude form



Dr. V.P. Singh at the workshop on Research Methodology and Standardization organised by CCRH in 2006

can be used in the potentized form for the treatment of HIV infection to enhance and modulate the immune system. He used potentized preparations of azathioprine, cyclosporine and other immuno-modulating agents for the treatment of HIV-infected persons with encouraging results.

He combined his medicine with care and empathy and provided a listening ear to his patients for their medical and personal problems. His interactions with them led them build up their confidence in their personal lives. Along with his colleagues and team at CCRH headquarters and its centers, Dr. Singh undertook many studies and subsequently made a number of publications on the subject. Under his dynamic leadership as Principal Investigator, along with Dr. J.J Fahey, american researcher on HIV/AIDS, CCRH undertook the first international collaborative study with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). His visit to the UCLA gave a boost to HIV studies in Homoeopathy by the Council.

In his early years of his career, he was handling the documentation section of the Council. His flair for the English language led an imprint on all the publications that were prepared during his time. This included the regular periodicals, i.e., Quarterly Bulletin and CCRH News. Apart from this, monographs and compendiums were published for the benefit of the researchers and professionals. In spite of a serious accident which left him with lifelong diplopia, he continued to work and evolve himself. He was inspiration to his colleagues and his juniors. He left each one transformed, with his confident, congenial personality.

Even after his superannuation from active service from CCRH on October 31, 2007, he continued to see patients in a charitable clinic in Delhi and continued to get patients from all walks of life. Dr. Singh kept his interest in writing alive in his post-retirement years by writing “Musings of an Idle Mind,” where he would compile, discuss and debate the media reports

Obituary

on medicine and health-related issues. This, he would, regularly send to all his colleagues and followers through E-mail.

The homoeopathic fraternity and the staff at CCRH have fond memories of Dr. Singh and pray God to bestow peace to the departed soul.

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