



Date/Day: 17th December, 2025 (Wednesday)

Title of Event: International Seminar - 1 "Disease Modelling and the Essentials of *Drosophila* Biology & Lab Setup: Small Flies, Big Impact"

Organized by: MES H.K. College of Pharmacy in collaboration with IQAC, Scientific Committee and Institution Innovation Council (IIC)

Program Outcome: PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4, PO5.

Objective:

- To expose pharmacy students and faculty to international research perspectives in neurogenetics and circadian biology
- To understand disease modelling approaches using *Drosophila melanogaster*
- To gain insights into the essential laboratory setup, techniques, and experimental design for *Drosophila* research
- To bridge the gap between academic learning and global biomedical research practices
- To motivate students toward research-oriented careers in neurobiology, genetics, and translational science

Programs Conducted:

- Formal inaugural welcome of the speaker and participants
- Expert lecture by Dr. Pragya Sharma on *Drosophila* biology and disease modelling
- Detailed discussion on circadian rhythm research and neurogenetic mechanisms
- Explanation of laboratory setup, experimental tools, and handling of *Drosophila*
- Interactive question-and-answer session with students and faculty

Details of the Organizers: Dr. Tushar Lokhande (Principal), Dr. M. N. Saraf (Professor (HOD) of Pharmacology) and Dr. Akanksha Singh (Associate Professor in Pharmacology)

Details of the Resource Person/Event:

- Speaker: Dr. Pragya Sharma
- Designation: Neurogeneticist and Circadian Biologist, Postdoctoral Candidate
- Affiliation: Washington State University, USA
- Date: Wednesday, 17th December
- Time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
- Venue: 4th Floor Auditorium, H.K. College of Pharmacy (HKCP), Mumbai
- Target Audience: Undergraduate and postgraduate pharmacy students, research scholars, and faculty members

Participants Details:

Total no. of college students: 84

Total no of Faculty: 14

Summary of Activity:

The International Seminar Series – 1 titled “Disease Modelling and the Essentials of Drosophila Biology & Lab Setup: Small Flies, Big Impact” was successfully conducted on Wednesday, 17th December from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm at the 4th Floor Auditorium, H.K. College of Pharmacy (HKCP), Mumbai. The session commenced with a formal welcome extended to the distinguished speaker, Dr. Pragya Sharma, a Neurogeneticist and Circadian Biologist from Washington State University, USA. The dignitaries on the dais included faculty members and organizers from the Department of Pharmacology.

Dr. Pragya Sharma delivered an insightful and engaging expert talk focusing on the importance of *Drosophila melanogaster* as a powerful model organism in understanding human diseases. She elaborated on neurogenetic research, circadian rhythm biology, and how small model organisms contribute significantly to large biomedical discoveries. The speaker also discussed the essential laboratory infrastructure, experimental techniques, genetic tools, and ethical considerations involved in *Drosophila* research. The session provided students with global exposure to cutting-edge research methodologies, enhancing their understanding of translational science and experimental pharmacology. Participants actively engaged during the interaction session, seeking guidance on research careers, international opportunities, and laboratory best practices. The seminar was highly informative and aligned with the institution's mission of promoting innovation, research orientation, and global academic exposure. The program concluded with a formal vote of thanks and appreciation to the speaker for her valuable contribution.

Photo gallery/ Brochure:





Key Outcome of the Lecture/Activity:

- Participants gained a clear understanding of *Drosophila melanogaster* as a robust model for studying neurogenetics, circadian biology, and human disease mechanisms.
- Students were exposed to essential laboratory setup, experimental design, and global research practices, motivating them toward research-driven careers in biomedical and translational sciences.

Link for social media:

LinkedIn:	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/h-k-college-of-pharmacy-mumbai-303524222_maharashtra-educational-societys-hk-college-activity-7408730108276019200-JEz2?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAADf2WrMBUFgAeZVznddoMfc3VtpDnyqdS4Y
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1339369011536071&set=a.470185965121051
Instagram:	https://www.instagram.com/p/DSjXwZ_CEmM/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRlODBiNWF1ZA==



Dr. Akanksha Singh
Associate Professor
Pharmacology
Event Co-ordinator

Dr. M. N. Saraf
Professor (HOD)

Dr. Archana Upadhyā
Associate Professor
IQAC Co-ordinator

Dr. Tushar Lokhande
Principal

