



**Minutes of the Meeting, Annual General Body Meeting 2024 of  
INDIAN SOCIETY OF TRANSFUSION MEDICINE**

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting (AGM) of Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine was held on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 at 5:30 pm onward at the venue of TRANSMEDCON 2024, Chennai. Eleven Executive committee members were present on dais except who 2 members who could not attend the conference & AGM due to some personal reasons.
2. **Welcome address** - President ISTM – Prof. Debasish Gupta announced opening of the general body meeting after waiting for 10 minutes to reach the quorum and welcomed the attendees and all executive committee members. He thanked the organizers for organizing TRANSMEDCON 2024, the 12<sup>th</sup> annual conference of ISTM.
3. EC and all members present in AGM paid homage to Dr. Meena D who left for heavenly abode. Dr. Maya Devi, her close companion spoke about the life journey of Dr. Meena D and pray for peace of her soul. Members present in AGM observed one minute silence in the memory of departed soul.
4. **Agenda Point 3: Annual report ISTM** - Annual report ISTM presented by Prof R R Sharma, Secretary ISTM. He appraised that membership is continuously increasing and 119 new members joined ISTM in last one year. He said that New Website went live on 15<sup>th</sup> march 2024, Online membership with payment facility available now. In addition, society has its own You Tube Channel and our recordings of webinars/ presentations can be recorded now.

**Educational activities under ISTM**-Secretary ISTM announced that many CMEs and workshops were conducted under ISTM including first national CME at Trivandrum. Dr Suvetha asked that CMEs should be organized on rotation basis in state chapter and there should be more clarity on account for state level CME. He asked the attendees about any question in this matter and no one asked and annual report approved.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

5. **Agenda Point 4: Update on Constitution review** - Prof R R Sharma, Secretary ISTM discussed about update on Constitution review and presented following changes.

**New Objectives** - To promote blood safety through promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation and creating awareness in society through IEC material and blood campaigns, to spread public awareness relating to infection of HIV, hepatitis and other blood TTI, to spread public awareness for anemia, thalassemia, Hemophilia, and sickle cell anemia. to make rules and bylaws in connection with creation in functioning zonal/state chapters of ISTM, To act as an advisory forum to the various appropriate authorities, legislative bodies/committees and Government bodies in regard to all subjects concerning the objectives of the society including recognition of Transfusion Medical as a separate identity in all undergraduate and post graduate courses in medical colleges/institutions in country, To ensure and protect the professional rights of the members and safeguard their interest by all lawful means.

**The same was approved by the General Body**



- **Classification of Membership** –The "Life Member" will be entitled to vote, propose or second on completion of minimum one year of the membership. Life membership fee: **Rs. 5000 +GST/-** one-time, **Associate membership fee: Rs. 4000/- + GST one time.** Paramedical degree holder (technologist and nursing) working in the field of the transfusion medicine at least for a period of 5 years **without any voting rights.** **Corporate Member fee** increased from **2 Lakh to Rs. 5 lakhs + GST** at one time **without any voting rights.**

**The same was approved by the General Body**

- **Criteria for Suspension and Termination of Membership-** Any member, including the Executive committee, found working against the objectives and not upholding the sanctity of the constitution of the society, will be liable for suspension or termination of the Membership on recommendation of the Executive Committee for a period, **minimum of three years** or as deemed fit by the committee.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

- Approval for the appointment of the auditor or any other staff by the EC Society

**The same was approved by the General Body**

- **Powers and Duties of the Office Bearers of Executive Committee are revised**

The President – Experience increased to 25 years' experience in the field of Transfusion Medicine.

The Vice-President – Experience increased from 8 to 20 years in the field of Transfusion Medicine.

The Secretary – Experience increased from 8 to 15 years in the field of Transfusion Medicine.

The Treasurer - Experience increased from 5 to 15 years.

Of the two Joint Secretaries, one will be nominated by the President and Secretary to help them in their work for a period of three year.

Dr Somnath Mukherjee – He asked the requirement of experience of President, Vice President and Secretary should not be increased as this will lead to less participation of young person. Dr Joy Mammen – Not to increase age for election

- The Executive Committee members will not hold similar /key positions in other national societies, Job responsibility of zonal representative added, The President shall not be entitled to contest for any elected position of the Executive Committee again. For other executive posts, one member can hold one post for one term only and will not be eligible to contest for the same post second time. Any executive committee member can be appointed/elected for maximum two tenure (6 years) consecutively in different roles.

**The same was approved by the General Body**



- Election fee increased to Rs 10000+GST from Rs 5000 +GST.

Dr B Abhishek – Rationale of increasing the fee of election

Dr Vijay Kumawat – Election fee of 10,000 is too high

Dr R. N. Makroo – Election fee of 10,000 is high but can have 7,000.

Dr Mohandas – Since election occur in online, the fee should not be increased

Secretary ISTM and President ISTM replied that election fee was not revised since 2012 and based on the members view for election fee, the final decision will be taken.

Members of the Scrutinizing Committee for ISTM election will be at least four - one Chairman, i.e. President of ISTM, Convener/ Secretary (NON CONTESTING) of ISTM, and two scrutinizer nominated by the President, who are also non-office bearers and non-contesting ISTM Life members.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

National/Zonal CME shall be organised in different zones with a gap of 6 months at least from the national conference TRANSMEDCON. Dr Vijay Kumawat requested to kindly include state chapter in constitution.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

6. Criteria for Lifetime Achievement Award added – ISTM member with more than 60 years of age who has contributed significantly in the development of Transfusion Medicine in the country and will be decided by the executive committee. Professor V.L. Ray Memorial Award – Criteria Added

**The same was approved by the General Body**

Secretary ISTM asked the audience about the inputs in the GB Meeting and following members asked the questions:Dr. Prasun Bhattacharya asked to include scientist in the associate membership list. He added that transfusion medicine residents should be eligible for DM Haematology and Immunology.

7. Secretary ISTM told that Zonal CMEs can be organized now. He also informed that these draft changes will be in the ISTM website for 28 days. Members can mail their opinion and final changes based on the mail received from the members, will be amended in this draft in the executive committee meeting.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

8. **Agenda Point 5: Statement of Accounts** - Dr. Ravneet Kaur, Treasurer, ISTM presented the accounts and balanced sheet of the financial year. She added that Seed Money (5L) of TRANSMEDCON 2023 returned to ISTM account and 10 Lakhs was contributed to ISTM by TRANSMEDCON 2023. She mentioned that Darpan IDhas been created by ISTM. She asked the attendees about any question and no question was raised by the attendees.

**The same was approved by the General Body**



9. **Agenda Point 6: SIG Implementation & Its Progress** - Dr .Aseem K Tiwari presented the progress and work of all SIGs. He added that Blood Component SIG will be made based on the request of Dr Hari Krishna Dhawan. Dr Hem Chandra Pandey requested that SIG should start working to formulate guidelines. He also requested to make SIG for education in Transfusion Medicine. Dr Prasun asked to do teachers conclave for uniformity of education in Transfusion Medicine.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

10. A request was received by the society to create a new SIGon **“Standardization and advancements in Blood components”**

**The same was approved by the General Body**

11. **Agenda Point 7: TRANSMEDCON 2025** - Secretary ISTM announced that venue of ISTM 2025 conference to be in Jaipur which was collectively accepted by Dr Amit Sharma (SMS medical College, Jaipur), Dr. Saptarishi Mandal (AIIMS Jodhpur), Dr. R.M Jaiswal (MGMC, Jaipur) as part of organising team TRANSMEDCON 2025.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

12. **Agenda Point 8: TRANSMEDCON- 2026** - Secretary ISTM announced that venue of ISTM 2026 conference will be Odisha. Dr Somnath Mukherjee and Dr Smita Mahapatra said that 4 academic institutions will jointly organize the conference. President ISTM requested that all organizer should work coherently and work as a team.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

13. **Agenda Point 9: Announcement for New Award / Fellowship**-This will be a training program at Rotary TTK BMST, Bangalore with **hands-on training for a period of 2weeks**. The stay and hospitality will be provided by BMST. There is no provision for travel and other related expenses

- a. *Dr. Kamala Balakrishnan Memorial Training Scholarship* for HLA (Transplant Immunology) will be awarded to Best poster Paper awardee. **Financial support for this training programme has been given by Dr. Kamala Balakrishnan’s husband, Col. V. Balakrishnan (retd.).**
- b. *Dr. Zarin Bharucha Memorial Training Scholarship* (for QMS in Blood Banking) Will be awarded to Best Oral Paper awardee and will be announced in Valedictory session of TRANSMEDCON every year **financial support for this training programme - by Dr. Latha Jagannathan, Medical Director and Managing Trustee, BMST.**

**The same was approved by the General Body**

14. **Agenda Point 10: Updates on ISTM newsletter and Journal** - Dr S. S. Das, Editor – ISTM mentioned that First volume of ISTM newsletter “TRANSFUSION 360” officially released in the 11th annual national conference of ISTM- TRANSMEDCON 2023 Chandigarh, on 3rd November 2023, second volume of “TRANSFUSION 360” released on 7th May 2024 and Third volume of



Reference no.ISTM/EB/2024/13

“TRANSFUSION 360” will be published on 7th Nov 2024. He added that JOURNAL OF TRANSFUSION AND IMMUNOHEMATOLOGY (JOTI) (The Official Journal of the Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine) has been planned to be published by ISTM. He presented the design and format of the Cover Front page of the journal in three colours All attendees agree and finalized Red Colour.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

**15. Others - Tenure of the present Executive Committee** - Prof D Gupta mentioned that there was delay in handover from the previous executive committee and because of this next election announcement will be done in the TRANSMEDCON 2026 conference at Odisha. The Next executive committee will take over the charge at TRANSMEDCON 2027 conference. He asked the house for any objection and no objection or question was raised by any of the attendees. Prof. Makroo added that the present Executive Committee is working well should continue as suggested by the president ISTM.

**The same was approved by the General Body**

16. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Joint Secretary, Dr Deepti Sachan.

**Minutes prepared by:**

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Dr Deepti Sachan

**(Dr. Debasish Gupta)**  
President, ISTM

**(Dr. Ratti Ram Sharma)**  
Secretary, ISTM