Flashback 2000-2014
The College of Forensic Pathologists of Sri Lanka formed in year 2000 with objectives of achieving and maintaining highest standards in forensic medicine throughout Sri Lanka by promoting co-operation, co-ordination and fellowship among the disciplines associated with the specialty and by furthering education, training and research in forensic medicine will be celebrating its 15th Birthday this year.
The College started with a 19 founder members who were board certified as specialists in forensic medicine, has a membership over 50 life members and 25 associate members. The founder president was Dr. L.B.L. de Alwis, Consultant Judicial Medical Officer Colombo.
The first council consisted of 14 members and the inauguration of the College was done on 16th of November 2000 at a ceremony held at the Sri Lanka foundation institute.
The chief guest was Prof Jack Crane, State Pathologist, Northern Ireland and Professor of forensic Medicine, Queens University Belfast and the guest of Honour was Hon. K.C. Kamalasabayson PC, the 23rd Attorney General of Sri Lanka.
Induction of the founder President Dr.
L.B.L. de Alwis
Chief Guest Prof. Jack Crane, Belfast, Ireland
2\textsuperscript{ND} council- 2003-2004
3rd President
Dr. S.M. Colombage
3rd council- 2003-2004
4th President
Dr. Jean Perera
5th President
Professor Ravindra Fernando
5th council- 2005-2006
President- 2006-2007
Dr. L.B.L.de Alwis (2\textsuperscript{nd} Term)
6th council- 2006-2007
6th President
Dr. Ananda Samarasekera
7th council- 2007-2008
Induction of the 6th president
President- 2008-2009
Dr. Ananda Samarasekera (2nd Term)
8th council- 2008-2009
President- 2009-2010
Dr. Uthpala Attygalle
President- 2011-2012
Prof. MSL Salgado
Council 2011-2012
President- 2012-2013
Dr. DL WAIDYRATHNA
Council 2012-2013
Other than the annual activities such as scientific sessions and the annual Lecture by the overseas examiner the College had several workshops as continuous professional development activities. Anthropology workshop by Ms. Cheryl Katzmarzyk, Forensic Anthropologist ICMP, Bosnia- Hercegovnia in 2009 May, Workshop on investigation of Peadiatric deaths by Prof Roger Bayard in 2009 November, Forensic Histopathology and Forensic Anthropology by Prof. Clive Cook and Dr. Alana Buck of Perth, Australia in 2012 April were some to name.
Anthropology workshop - Ms. Cheryl Katzmarzyk
Prof. Byard
Unexplained cases of acute pancreatitis may be fatal.
- The mortality rate from interventional procedures has decreased from more than 60% to less than 10% with the introduction of appropriate management and an effective therapeutic模式.
- Current management of severe acute pancreatitis is a multifaceted approach involving correction of the underlying cause, administration of systemic antibiotics, and supportive therapy to prevent or resolve secondary complications, such as organ failure.
Over the years the College has undertaken several important steps to improve the standards of services delivered by the forensic doctors, i.e. development of National Guidelines in several areas. First of such achievement was the Guideline for clinical examination for drunkenness by government Medical officer released in 2009. The Guidelines for paediatric autopsies on deaths following Immunization issued as a circular 01/25-2012, by the Ministry of Health in 2012 was another such milestone for the college. Guidelines for pediatric autopsies were developed by the College with the partnership of the Epidemiology Unit of the Ministry of Health which commence in 2009 November during a workshop on Pediatric autopsies by Professor Roger Byard, eminent Pediatric Forensic Pathologists from Adelaide, Australia.
College dinner for Prof Byard
During 2009 College went into another important partnership with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) of Sri Lanka to develop National guidelines on examination and management of sexually abused survivors. The first consultative workshop was held in 2010 January with the participation of relevant stakeholders to discuss how to adapt WHO guidelines to suit to our country. Over the years several consultative workshops were held and the proposed guideline was piloted in 2012-2013 in all provinces including the North.
In 2014 May the Launching of the National Guideline on Examination, Reporting and Management of sexually abused survivors for Medico-legal purposes were was done in Colombo and the Chief Guest of the ceremony was Hon. Maithreepla Sirisena, then Minister of Health. Last week the implementation project commenced with launching of the e-guide in the Ministry of Health Web site and awareness workshop for medico-legal doctors in the western province.
Judicial medical officers have unblemished record – Maithripala

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

Health Minister Maithripala Sirisena said he has never heard of any bribery or corruption charges against any judicial medical officer in Sri Lanka which is the biggest victory ever achieved by them.

“Judicial medical officers in Sri Lanka serve under very difficult working conditions without any facilities,” the minister said at the launching ceremony of a guide book. There are instances where forensic medical experts have worked in these conditions for years. The guidebook was prepared by the Department of Judicial Medical Officers.

The minister said that the guidebook had details of laws, procedures and practical issues that forensic medical experts need to keep in mind when conducting any investigation.

Health Minister Maithripala Sirisena with Chief Judicial Medical Officer Dr. Apith Thennakoon after receiving the guide book.
The College also signed another partnership with UNICEF Sri Lanka and Ministry of Justice in 2010 to develop National Guidelines on examination and Management of child abuse for forensic purposes and Guideline on Maternal death autopsy. Child abuse guideline was completed in 2011 with a handing over ceremony to the Ministry of Justice in 2011, while the maternal death Guideline is now almost completed awaiting launching. Further in 2013 College commenced another project, i.e developing an examination guideline on alleged torture victim which is now in progress.
Handing the draft document on proposed National guidelines for pilot study to the chief Guest
MS. Desiree Jongsma  Deputy Country Representative UNICEF
The Medico-legal Journal of Sri Lanka too commenced in 2012 and so far 5 volumes have been released. The journal has now in cooperated to Sri Lanka Journals on line.
Launching of Medico-Legal Journal of Sri Lanka
Other than academic improvements the College members have undertaken several voluntary services as a part of its duty towards society at the time it is needed. Provision of medico-legal services to the internally displaced persons during 2009-2010 on the request of the Ministry of Health was undertaken by several members. Many have visited, Manner and Vawunia immediately after the war.
Over the years the College has strengthened its relationships with other colleges. The College members contributed to develop the National Guidelines on Child abuse Management, developed by the Sri Lanka College of Pediatricians and the guideline was launched in 2013 December. In the year 2014 the college strengthened its bonds with Sri Lanka College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and College of Dentistry and Stomatology of Sri Lanka by jointly holding workshop on Medico-Legal Issues in Obstetrics and Gynecological Practice and dental practice.
Developing comradeship among its members is one of the main objectives of the college. The College has been holding an annual cricket match from its inception in 2000 and best team, best batsman and best bowler is selected annually. Recently the College started a cricket match between SLCOG cricket team. The College annual trip is another event that members participate with their families. The first trip was to Batticaloa (2012), followed by Ambilipitiya (2013), Rathnapura (2014).