

NEWSLETTER

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Inauguration of ideSHi's New Conference Room



institute for developing Science and Health initiatives (ideSHi) inaugurated its new conference room at level-2 Blue Moon Gram Tower on January,03,2024.

The inauguration was happened in the presence of ideSHi lead, the visionary Dr. Firdausi Qadri, her esteemed eldest son Ashfaq Qadri, and the COO of ideSHi, Dr Rofiqur Rahman along with ideSHi team.

Dr. Firdausi Qadri, a beacon of inspiration and a driving force behind ideSHi's success, graced the event with her wisdom and visionary outlook. Her tireless dedication to advancing healthcare and research has been instrumental in shaping ideSHi's mission.

Ashfaq Qadri, the eldest son of Dr. Firdausi Qadri, added his thoughts about ideSHi reflecting the spirit of continuity and commitment to excellence within the ideSHi family.

Dr. Rofiqur Rahman, The COO of ideSHi, shared valuable insights into the future endeavors of the organization. His leadership and strategic vision continue to steer ideSHi towards new heights in the field of health and research.

The inauguration marks not just the opening of a conference room but a space where ideas will flourish, collaborations will blossom, and innovation will thrive. This new addition symbolizes ideSHi's commitment to creating an environment that fosters creativity and excellence in all its endeavors.

CMBT (Centre for Medical Biotechnology) Training @ideSHi

ideSHi organized a comprehensive hands-on training program as their regular activities, focused on advanced Molecular Biology, Immunology, Clinical Biochemistry, and Microbiology. The training sessions encompassed a wide range of topics, including DNA extraction, both conventional and Automated Microbiology methodologies. The Primary participants in this training initiative were medical professionals. The participants represented various Government hospitals, highlighting the diverse backgrounds and expertise within the medical field.



The aim of the program is to enhance the participants' knowledge and skills in the mentioned areas, fostering a deeper understanding and proficiency in advanced techniques used in molecular biology, immunology, clinical biochemistry, and microbiology. The training initiative reflects ideSHi's commitment to advancing medical education and promoting excellence in healthcare practices.

ideSHi Annual Picnic 2024

On January, 19, ideSHi team, took a break from their regular work schedule to celebrate their annual picnic at "Qadri Bari" in Zirani. Surrounded by beautiful greenery and with the soothing sounds of nature as a soundtrack, the team found the ideal escape from the hustle and bustle of their daily responsibilities. The picnic was elevated to new heights thanks to the delicious homemade pitha arranged by ideSHi lead Dr. Firdausi Qadri. Her warm welcome set the tone for the event, while the Chief Operating Officer of ideSHi, Dr. Rofiqur Rahman, took it a step further by organizing entertaining games and activities. Altogether, team ideSHi created a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved, enhancing the overall enjoyment of the picnic.





Thalassaemia Awareness and Free Carrier Screening

On 21st January, 2024 and 3rd March, 2024 ideSHi arranged Thalassaemia Awareness and Free Carrier Screening program at Dhaka Community Medical College and Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka with the support of First security Islami Bank Ltd. (FSIBL). These events bring together the community for a dual purpose – raising awareness about Thalassaemia and providing free carrier screening services. ideSHi is honored to have with them distinguished personalities who have delivered their thoughtful speech about Thalassaemia and ideSHi's efforts from both institutes. ideSHi's Thalassaemia awareness program was started by Professor Dr. Syed Saleheen Qadri, esteemed co-founder of ideSHi, whose visionary dream was to ensure "no child in Bangladesh would be born with Thalassaemia".

ideSHi has collected a total of 183 samples for Thalassaemia screening during the events. This initiative reflects a shared commitment to proactive healthcare and community well-being. The samples collected will undergo rigorous analysis, contributing to the identification and understanding of Thalassaemia in our community.

Advanced Hands-on Training Program

ideSHi is delighted to announce the successful conclusion of the 12th Advanced Hands-on Training held from January 21st to 25th, 2024. This intensive program delved into crucial areas of Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Immunology, and more. Led by ideSHi experts, the training sessions provided a comprehensive exploration of both practical skills and theoretical foundations. Attendees actively participated in hands-on activities, discussions, and networking, fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment. ideSHi expresses sincere gratitude to all participants for their unwavering enthusiasm and dedication. Their passion for science is truly inspiring and contributes to the success of such programs. A special acknowledgment goes to the esteemed trainers for their expertise and commitment in imparting knowledge.



School Based HPV Infection, Vaccination, and Cervical Cancer Awareness Program

ideSHi's aim is to disseminate clear, simple, and easily understandable information that will help people distinguish the truth from misconception and improve their level of consciousness to assess the risk and benefits of HPV vaccination. With effective educational initiatives, both students and parents can gain a better understanding of HPV infection, vaccination benefits, and cervical cancer prevention, potentially it will encourage to reduce stigma and will help fostering open dialogue. ideSHi started its school based awareness program from October, 2023 and reached out to over 30 educational institutions and engaging more than 25 thousand students, parents, and teachers. This initiative marks a significant milestone in promoting health awareness and education among the adolescents.

The program featured interactive sessions fostering two-way communication, where participants had the opportunity to ask questions and receive insightful answers. These sessions aimed to address various health-related concerns and provide valuable information on preventive measures and healthcare practices. Renowned gynecologists and vaccine experts graced the occasion, delivering informative speeches aimed at raising awareness about HPV. Their expertise and insights contributed significantly to the success of the program, empowering participants with valuable knowledge and guidance.



Celebrates a Decade of ideSHi with Scientific Seminar Highlighting World Cancer Day



Dhaka, 10th February, 2024 — ideSHi (institute for developing Science & Health initiatives) proudly announces its milestone achievement of ten years of groundbreaking scientific research and innovation. In commemoration of World Cancer Day, ideSHi hosted a prestigious scientific seminar to celebrate this significant milestone and underscore its commitment to advancing cancer research and treatment. The seminar featured distinguished speakers from various domains of cancer research and treatment, shedding light on the latest advancements, challenges, and future directions in the fight against cancer. The event aims to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and strategic partnerships to accelerate progress towards effective cancer prevention, diagnosis, and therapy.

The distinguished Chief Guest of the program, Dr. Ahmedul Kabir, Addl. Director General (Planning and Development) at DGHS, expressed his admiration for Dr. Firdausi Qadri's commitment to health research and encouraged others to follow her inspiring example. He also highlighted the government's steadfast support for the health sector and pledged continued collaboration with ideSHi on future health-related endeavors.

At the onset of the seminar, Dr. Md. Rofiqur Rahman, the Chief Operating Officer of ideSHi, delivered a presentation chronicling the organization's journey from its inception to the present day. During his presentation, he extended heartfelt gratitude towards ideSHi's Lead, Dr. Firdausi Qadri, acknowledging that today's ideSHi is the realization of her visionary dream. In addition, Dr. Md. Rofiqur Rahman also paid tribute to professor Dr. Syed Saleheen Qadri, one of the founding members of ideSHi, whose invaluable contributions remain indelible and unforgettable in the organization's journey. Dr. Firdausi Qadri, a recipient of the Independence Award and the Ramon Magsaysay Award, as well as a co-lead of the Global Declaration to Eliminate Cervical Cancer, delivered a poignant speech on "Cancer: The Killer Disease," outlining pathways for progress and addressing related issues surrounding it.

The eminent Subject speakers scheduled to present at the seminar include: Dr. Habibullah Talukder, Project Coordinator and Professor of Preventive Oncology, Gonoshasthaya Community Based Cancer Hospital, Dr. Sabera Khatun, Founder Chairman & Professor, Dept. of Gynecology Oncology, BSMMU. President, Gynecological Oncology Society of Bangladesh. Dr. Shah Ali Akbar Ashrafi, Chief of MIS, Dr. Rokib Uddin Ahmed, Professor & Head of Radiation Oncology, NICRH, Prof. Rawshan Ara Begum, Gynaecologist. Dr. Rokeya Anwar, Professor & Head of Gynaecological Oncology, NICRH, Dr. SK Farid Ahmed, Oncoplastic Surgeon & Senior Consultant, Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital, Prof. Dr. Ferdousi Begum, Department of Obs, Gynae and Infertility, Birdem General Hospital, Dr. Sufi Hannan Zulfiqur Rahman, Associate Professor & Head of Immunology & Molecular Biology, Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Senior Scientist and Head, Virology Laboratory, Infectious Diseases Division, Md. Shawkat Hossain, Head of R&D, Biotech Plant, Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Dr. Tanbir Habib, Head of Genomics, ideSHi. The seminar provided a platform for meaningful discussions, knowledge exchange, and networking among scientists, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and cancer advocates. It displayed ideSHi's decade-long commitment to excellence in research, education, and healthcare delivery.

Highlights of BoG Meeting 2024

ideSHi's Board of Governors, comprising eight members were present on 24th February, 2024 for the BoG meeting at S. S. Qadri Conference Room. The Board of Governors plays a pivotal role in overseeing funds, approving and monitoring the budget, setting institution-wide policies, and ensuring adherence to Strategic Plan. As ideSHi reflects on these moments of collaboration and foresight, it extends its gratitude to every member for their unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions.



Childhood Pneumonia case diagnosis and management among the FDMN population in Cox's Bazar

Dr. Valentina Picot, Head of Acute Respiratory Infection, Fondation Mérieux visited Cox's Bazar for the study focusing on childhood pneumonia case diagnosis and management among the FDMN population. Dr. Firdausi Qadri, the ideSHi Lead, Dr. Rofiqur Rahman, the Chief Operating Officer of ideSHi and Abu Bakar Siddik, Assistant Scientist, ideSHi visited with her to assess the study location.

This pilot study among the FDMN population has the potential to make a significant impact on childhood pneumonia case diagnosis and may serve as a model for improving healthcare delivery in other crisis settings globally.



A nationwide facility-based study for determination of prevalence of 'Inborn Errors of Metabolism' among high-risk neonates and children in Bangladesh



To shed light on the prevalence of 'Inborn Errors of Metabolism' (IEM) among high-risk neonates and children in Bangladesh, ideSHi, collaborating with NINS (National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital) for a nationwide facility-based study.

IEMs are a group of genetic disorders characterized by the body's inability to properly turn food into energy. These disorders can lead to serious health complications if not detected and managed early. However, in many low-resource settings, including Bangladesh, the prevalence and impact of IEMs remain poorly understood.

The level of consanguineous marriage in Bangladesh is very high and genetic disorders are one of the risk factors especially for IEM. Therefore, Bangladesh is ideal for conducting a national facility based survey on the prevalence of IEM and related information. The findings of this study will be useful in raising awareness of the magnitude of the problem, forecasting service needs, formulating policies, determining program priorities, and selecting appropriate management goals and strategies for IEM activities in Bangladesh. Till now, ideSHi has conducted screenings for Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEM) on 889 suspected individuals ranging from 0 to 17 years of age.

ideSHi celebrates International Women's Day

On March 9th, 2024, ideSHi joined the global celebration of International Women's Day with a small event. The occasion was marked by cutting cakes and extending warm wishes to all the women within the foundation.

Dr. Firdausi Qadri, delivered a speech to commemorate the day.

Dr. Qadri emphasized the idea that the recognition and celebration of women's achievements and contributions shouldn't be limited to just one day, such as International Women's Day. Instead, she suggests that every day should be treated as Women's Day, with continuous acknowledgment and support for women's rights and equality. Additionally, she highlights the importance of starting this practice within the home environment, where attitudes and behaviors towards gender equality are shaped and nurtured.

