

Profile

Dr. R. Sathianathan, The Director, Institute of Mental Health (IMH) & Professor and Head, Madras Medical College & Government General Hospital., Chennai is an eminent Psychiatrist in Tamil Nadu. Dr. Sathianathan obtained his Bachelor of Medicine, Diploma & Masters in Psychiatry from the reputed Madras University and his Master's in Public Health from University of North California, United States of America. As a blooming psychiatrist Sathianathan has provided his professional consultancy to various renowned National and International. At various times he has been a researcher, clinician, trainer, teacher and a social worker. **He is a visionary who advocates development in the area of Mental Health in the Country.**

Dr. Sathianathan joined the Tamilnadu Medical Service during 1979 and has thirty years of clinical, research, teaching and training experience. He is well known for his rural medical services, where he has **pioneered in establishing Mental Health Centers in rural taluk areas** where the poor and illiterate could access mental health services. He is the first person to organize Mental Health Services in the Taluk Headquarters Hospital at Krishnagiri. He also **pioneered Rural Mental Health Camps** in Bargur, Dharmapuri and Hosur in the early 80's.

Moreover for the last three decades he has been organizing mental health camps in urban areas and has been the **Nodal Officer for 16 Districts in Tamilnadu under the auspices of National Mental Health Program.** He plays a prominent role in the implementation of utilization of mental health services which is made easily accessible to the rural population for quality mental health services.

After taking over as the Director in 2007, Dr. Sathianathan has distinguished and brilliant career & had **contributed significantly to the Institute of Mental Health as a result of which it was designated as an Institute of Excellence by the Ministry of Health, Government of India.** This status was made possible with the outpatient department serving the largest number of outpatients i.e. around 500 per day. Moreover the Institute is the second largest in the country in inpatient strength serving about 1800. It is the only State Hospital (fully funded by Tamilnadu Government) where 95% of patients get free treatment both as inpatient and outpatient. With these enormous and professional services rendered to the community, **the Institute of Mental Health has been recognized as one of the Seven Best Psychiatry Hospitals in the Country (The WEEK, Nov 16, 2008).**

With the Capacity as the Director, he has taken several initiatives and affirmative actions in developing programs and procedures for staff & academic development of the Institute as also other nodal health departments / institutions. He has also been contributing significantly in panels, workshops, at the local, state, national and international level on issues related to Mental Health.

Dr. R. Sathianathan who has been recently elevated to the post of National Vice Chairman for the Alzheimer's Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI), an organization which spearhead the need to create social awareness amongst the elderly population in the county on early identification and management of the alarming illness – **Dementias.** **In order to sensitize and advocate about the dreadful disease Dr. Sathianathan took a major initiative in producing a short film "Ninaithale Marakum"** which has been screened to all school, colleges, health workers and lay public.

International Acclamation to Indian Mental Health Services

Dr. Sathianathan has a very long and rich clinical research experience in the area of Major Mental illnesses. He is a prominent scientific researcher and doctor who has laid the ground work for several mental health concerns in the state of Tamilnadu. He has visited various **Institutes and Ivy League Universities such as John Hopkins University, Royal Free Hospital, London, and Williard Psychiatric Centre, Rochester, for scientific paper presentations and deliberations to bring commendation to the Indian Mental Health Services.**

National Recognitions

Awarded INCLEN Fellowship by Rockefeller foundation and underwent training in Clinical Epidemiology, at the University of North Carolina, USA (Aug. 1990 - 1991).

Member INCLEN Trust, Philadelphia, USA. (July 2001 - 2003).

Secretary, Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI), from 1996 – 2008) and
Currently, the National Vice Chairman.

Director, Clinical Epidemiology Unit, MMC& GGH, Chennai (1998 – 2003).

Serving as Inspector, Medical council of India, New Delhi. (1998 – till date).

Academic Council Member – Dr. M.G.R. Medical University (2004 – 2006).

Member, Capacity Building Sub Committee, India LEN (2001 – 2003).

Medical Examiner (M.D Psychiatry), for various Universities in the States of Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala, New Delhi, and West Bengal.

President, Indian Psychiatric Society, South Zone (2005 – 2006).

Chairman, Continuing Medical Education. Indian Psychiatric Society (2006 – 2007).

Has been appointed by the Government of Tamil Nadu, for Inspection of Mental Health Centers and currently the Licensing authority for Tamilnadu.

Appointed by Medical Council of India as Senior Personnel of carry out the Inspections for the recognition of M.D. (Psychiatry) at various Medical Institutions for Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Had made significant contributions in several National and International conferences across the globe, such as Athens Greece, Rome, Bali, Cairo, Chang Mai, Republic of Maldives, Tokyo, Zimbabwe, Washington, Mexico, Austria, Vienna, and Egypt.

Principal Investigator for Research Studies in Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorders, Adolescent Schizophrenia and Alzheimer's Dementia.

Merits & Awards

Awarded Tour Fellowship Rotation Sites at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, to meet with faculty, October 3 - 4 1989.

Received the “ Sandoz Gerontological Award” for the presentation on Factors tat Influence Disability among the Ages” October 12th – 19th , 1989 at the Vill World Congress of Psychiatry, Athens, Greece.

Awarded ‘INCLen’ Fellowship and underwent training in Clinical Epidemiology, at the University of North Carolina, USA, August 1990 – 1991.

Was Awarded “ The INCLen Grant” for the Research Study “ Predicting the Risk for Repetition for Suicidal Attempts”. At the International Conference, Cairo, in 1993.

Awarded “Leadership Recognition Award” by the Behavioral Health Group, USA, in the Health Care Management in Addiction Financing Conference held in Washington, USA during Sep – 1997.

Awarded “ Rockefeller Foundation Award “ for the study of Adolescent abortions during the “World Safe” Conference and INCLen XV Global Conference held in Mexico, February 1998.

Received the WHO grant from the Ministry of Health, Republic of Maldives to serve as a consultant Psychiatrist, India Gandhi Memorial Hospital at Male and the Guraidoo Rehabilitation Center, Guraidoo Islands, Maldives – 1998.

Awarded a Sponsorship for a presentation on “ Women Abuse” in 2nd World Congress on Health Environment and culture organized by the United Nations University at Tokyo, Japan on November 2000.

Invited as a Member – Expert Committee of the UNDCP at Vienna, Austria, 2001.

Received “Dean’s Commendation Certificate of the UNDCP at Vienna, Austria, 2001.

Awarded INCLEC fellowship for the scientific contributions on “ Strategic Framework for Mental Health Policy and Planning” in INCLen XVIII Global meeting, Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, February 10 – 13, 2002.

Invited as Chair person for the 1st Mid-Term CME for Practitioners of ‘Indian Psychiatric Society’ – South Zone held at Bangalore, April 23- 24, 2005.

Invited as a Guest Faculty for the First International Conference of SAARC Psychiatric Federation held at Agra, December 2nd – 4th. 2005.

Invited for the Presidential Address for the Advanced Training Research in Mental Health during the 38th conference of the IPS South Zone 2005, at Calicut 15th October, 2005.

Conferred the National Champion for the PANSS Training for Principal Investigators in India, by the JANSSENS (2007).

Awarded the Dr. D.S. Memorial Oration Award a the 29th Annual conference on Indian Psychiatric, Society, A.P, Hyderabad, (2009).