



HSNC UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI

Kishinchand Chellaram College

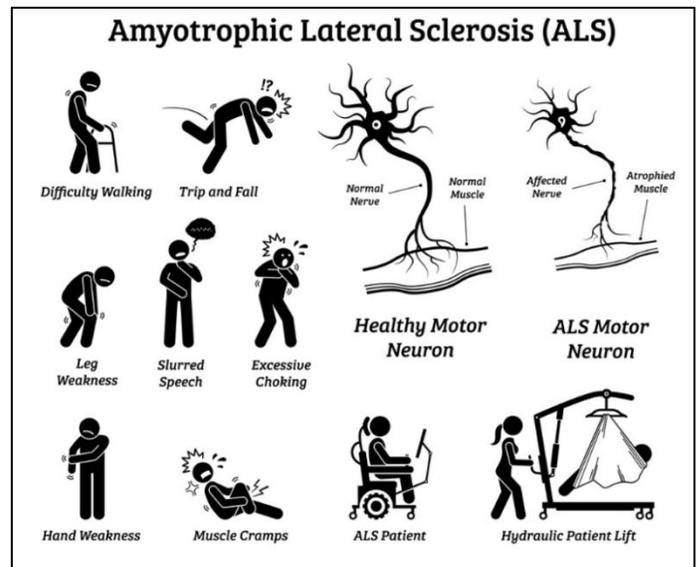
Department of Life Sciences

Under the aegis of DBT Star Status Activity



The Department of Life Sciences of Kishinchand Chellaram College, Mumbai organized a guest lecture on 'Advances in Neurodegenerative Disease Research with reference to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)' on May 30th, 2020. Mr. Ankur Gadgil, a PhD student at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland was invited as the guest lecturer for this event. The event was hosted under the aegis of DBT STAR STATUS of K. C. College and was attended by 189 participants from 29 different Colleges and Universities around India. The event was observed to be of an International reach as there was participation even from Carl von Ossietzky University, Oldenburg.

Mr. Gadgil, who has several achievements for his work on ALS, began his presentation by explaining the root cause of the disease. He mentioned that the causes of about 90-95% ALS cases are unknown, while in 5-10% cases the causes are attributed to genetic disorders. He further went on to illustrating how one studies the genetics of neurodegeneration with reference to ALS in the laboratory. He spoke about the use of various scientific techniques like CRISPR, Immunofluorescence, RT-PCR, etc. in the analyses of ALS-linked FUS gene mutations on U7 snRNP activity. His detailed explanation of the different CRISPR methods was appreciated by the audience along with his photo-documented results and explanation of the FISH technique used in the visualization of cytoplasmic FUS protein. Following his talk, he addressed numerous questions of the audience very patiently.



FEEDBACK:

The participants appreciated this session, most of them felt that it cleared previously known misconceptions and doubts regarding motor neuron diseases especially Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). The talk was inspirational in inculcating curiosity in the field and provided the participants with resource material as well as answers to their questions. This also stimulated an interest in the audience to learn more about ALS and other such neurodegenerative diseases.

As Sir Albert Einstein quoted 'The only source of knowledge is experience' and Mr. Gadgil's presentation was based on his hands-on experience in this field of research which added a lot of value to this webinar making it a successful one.