



Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists

(Established in 1974 at Izatnagar, Registered under the Societies Registration Act of India; Original Registration No. 802/1980-81)



CITATION FOR AWARD OF THE IAVP FELLOWSHIP, 2017

Dr Nitin Virmani (50) is working as Principal Scientist at ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar. He was born on 26th March, 1968 and did his early schooling from New Delhi. Dr Virmani obtained his BVSc & AH degree from Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar followed by Master's degree in Veterinary Pathology from Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, UP. He had a brief stint in Municipal Corporation of New Delhi before being selected as Scientist through ASRB securing first rank. He pursued his Doctorate degree from CCS-Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar as in-service candidate. Dr Virmani was awarded IAVP-Dr Patri Rama Rao Best PhD Thesis Award in 2004. He has to his credit four international trainings in United Kingdom (2), Russia (1) and Germany (1) which provided him varied exposure in the areas of molecular techniques, diagnostics, viral mutagenesis studies, reverse genetics and other advanced techniques in pathology and virology. His prime areas of interest for research are equine influenza and equine herpes virus infections. The principal outcome of the research work on 'Equine Rhinopneumonitis and Equine Influenza' encompasses EHV-1 and EI vaccine, diagnostics and the molecular characterization of field viral isolates. The vaccine for EI and EHV-1 and a recombinant protein base ELISA kit for differentiation of EHV-1/-4 have been released by ICAR. He developed a mouse model for equine influenza which is a global first and internationally accepted. Further he has been instrumental in generating bacterial artificial chromosome of EHV-1 and recombinant virus of equine influenza through reverse genetics approach, which will be a great asset for development of next generation recombinant vaccines. Recently, he and his team have been successful in generating multiple deletion mutants of EHV-1 for sufficient attenuation of EHV-1 to be used further as modified live vaccine candidate.

He has published more than 65 research papers, mostly in international journals of high impact and rating, besides contributing a number of chapters in books and technical bulletins. He was also invited to deliver a talk on Equine Influenza at 3rd Neglected Influenza Viruses Meet organized by ISIRV at Georgia, USA in April, 2015. He was also a member of Peer Scientific Committee for 4th Meet being held at Brighton, UK in April, 2018. He is member of OIE Expert Surveillance Panel on Equine Influenza Vaccine Strain Selection and has attended its Annual Meeting in Paris, France in April, 2013 besides attending the Annual Meetings through video conferencing. A team under his leadership successfully completed an International OIE funded twinning research project on Equine Influenza with Animal Health Trust, United Kingdom which was primarily focused towards capacity building of the candidate laboratory so that his laboratory can act as OIE Referral Laboratory for the region. He is member of various scientific societies including IAVP and has been awarded Fellowship of National Academy of Veterinary Science and is a Diplomate of Indian College of Veterinary Pathologists.

The Association confers Fellowship and the title of Fellow of Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists (FIAVP) on Dr Nitin Virmani for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Veterinary Pathology in India.

(Dr K.P. Singh)
Secretary General

Date: 22-10-2018
Place: SDAU, S.K. Nagar, Gujarat

(Dr R. Somvanshi)
President