

An educational excursion was organized under the **DBT Star College Scheme** to a pathology laboratory – Mr Riju Nair’s ADEP Clinical Research & Diagnostics* – for students of B Sc (H) Zoology III year, SGTB Khalsa College in two groups, one each on the 15th and the 22nd Jan. 2012 respectively. They were accompanied by two research students and three faculty members – Dr Komal Kamra, Dr Laxmi Narula and Mr Raj Kumar. The main aim was to make the students familiar with a pathology laboratory. They were exposed to the gamut of clinical tests that are regularly conducted in the laboratory. They were apprised of methodologies of sample collection, transportation and storage.



Each group was divided into three sub groups and each subgroup had the opportunity to get hands on experience of conducting some tests with actual patients’ samples. This was done under the expert guidance of Dr Rai, Ass Professor, UCMS, and his team. The students were able to perform ELISA test and tests for Tuberculosis using traditional sputum staining and microscopy as well as molecular methodology using real time PCR.



This day long programme thus enhanced the understanding of the students regarding clinical diagnostics. The trip was extremely informational and satisfying. The one hour interaction cum discussion session after the practical work brought forth a lot of ideas including one where students were anxious to know how one could set up a pathology laboratory as a career option.



Talks are on to have long term training and research collaboration with Mr Riju Nair and co-workers with the faculty and students. This is likely to pay rich dividends.

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