

Obituary



Prof. M. Viswanathan

Everyone involved with diabetology is familiar with the name of Prof. M. Viswanathan who passed away early this year after having completed 50 years of yeoman service in the field of diabetes.

Prof. Viswanathan started his career at Stanley Medical College and Hospital Madras, where he worked for 2 years under Dr. K.C. Paul. He was later Professor of Medicine for 15 years (1956-1971) in the same College and Hospital. During this period he was responsible for starting a well organized diabetes clinic at the Stanley Medical College, first of its kind.

The Prestigious M.V. Hospital for diabetes in Madras was started solely due to efforts of Dr. Viswanathan. The work done at this institute has been a source of inspiration to many diabetologists. Besides this he was also responsible for establishing the Diabetes Research Center, Post Graduate institute for Diabetes and the M.V. Institute for Prevention of diabetes.

At various point in his illustrious career, Prof. Viswanathan had been the President of the scientific section of the Diabetic Association of India and President of the Association of Physicians of India (1981-82), apart from being a guest lecturer at various seminars and conferences in India and abroad. Prof. Viswanathan's contribution towards diabetes care and his eminence as an outstanding clinician, teacher and researcher have been well recognized.

He received numerous awards, which include the Padmabhusahan Dr. P. Siva Reddy oration award, Dr. B. B. Yodh Memorial oration of Research Society, Grant Medical College, B.C. Roy National award, V.S.N. Endowment oration, Distinguished Charles Morseman Diabetes Endocrine Lecturer Award (University of Nebraska, USA). These are but a few awards and laurels out of numerous ones received by him during his career.

We condole the loss of Dr. Viswanathan. His contribution in the field of diabetology are unmatched and his absence will be universally felt.