



SIG CLINICAL COMMUNICATION

MEDIA QUOTES

National Advisory Session on Clinical Communication

New Delhi | 20 September 2026

In association with: ICAIM and DoctorsAI

Knowledge and Implementation Partner: SigmaMozak Solutions

The following quotations are draft media quotations for approval by the respective speakers before external circulation.

Prof Avinash Supe

Professor Emeritus, G I Surgery and Medical Education, Seth GS Medical College KEM Hospital

Chair, SIG Clinical Communication

“The question is no longer simply whether communication is present in the curriculum. The more important question is whether students are able to practise it repeatedly, receive meaningful feedback and demonstrate progression over time. The consultation shows that this longitudinal link remains an important area for improvement.”

Media theme: Longitudinal competency, medical education, overall consultation findings.

Prof Meenal Mohgaonkar

Dean, SMBT Institute of Medical Sciences,

Nashik, Maharashtra

Co-convenor, SIG

“The findings show that institutions do not necessarily need another statement telling them that communication is important. They need practical ways to make it work — faculty who are supported, usable teaching resources, consistent assessment approaches and better continuity across departments and phases. That is where the implementation effort now needs to concentrate.”

Media theme: Faculty development, Medical Education Units, practical implementation.

Prof Bidita Khandelwal

Professor, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences,

Sikkim Manipal University

Co-convenor, SIG

“Communication cannot become a competency if students encounter it only at selected points in the curriculum. Learners need repeated opportunities. The next step is to make that developmental journey visible and consistent across the years of medical training.”

Media theme: Learner progression, longitudinal practice, feedback and competency development

Prof E. Venkata Rao

Professor, IMS &SUM Institute of Medical Sciences,

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Member, SIG

“Communication competency needs repeated practice, observation, feedback and opportunities for learners to improve over time. What this consultation gives us is a clearer



picture of where institutions are already making progress and where implementation support, measurement and evidence are still needed.”

Media theme: Educational evidence, assessment, longitudinal learning and institutional implementation.

Dr Bhaskar Rajakumar,

CEO, CHARAKA – Govt of Karnataka

Member, SIG

“The challenge with educational innovation is rarely the idea itself; it is whether the idea can work within real institutions. Any approach to clinical communication has to accommodate differences in faculty capacity, workflows, infrastructure and readiness across medical colleges. The opportunity now is to build approaches that are practical enough to be adopted, evaluated and improved in diverse settings.”

Media theme: Institutional innovation, scalability and implementation across diverse medical colleges.

Maj (Dr) Ashlesha Tawde-Kelkar

Representation CHAKRA, MEDD Govt of Maharashtra

Member, SIG

“For an initiative like this to create impact, the conversation has to move beyond identifying the problem. We need pathways through which evidence, educational resources and appropriate technologies can actually reach institutions and become part of routine practice. That requires collaboration between educators, health systems, innovators and implementation partners rather than each working in isolation.”

Media theme: Translation into practice, partnerships, implementation pathways and health-system innovation.

Shri Amitabh Nag

CEO, Digital India BHASHINI

Member SIG

“In a multilingual health system, effective communication cannot depend on a single language or a single mode of interaction. Language technology can help make communication tools more accessible and scalable, including through multilingual medical glossaries that enable consistent understanding of clinical terms across Indian languages. Creation of Medical language Dataset is the most important activity for Health AI.”

Media theme: Multilingual communication, language technology, accessibility and voice-enabled health systems.

Shweta Sharma

Founder and CEO, SigmaMozak Solutions

Knowledge & Implementation Partner, SIG

“A health-tech startup cannot solve a meaningful healthcare problem by focusing only on its product. If the surrounding ecosystem is not ready, if faculty need support, institutions lack practical tools, assessment is fragmented or the real barriers have not been understood, better software alone will not solve the problem. For us, ConversationAlly is one part of a much larger effort to strengthen clinical communication. The cause has to be larger than the product.”

Media theme: Responsible health-tech development, ConversationAlly, ecosystem building and cause-before-product innovation.

Editorial positioning

Taken together, the voices should communicate a single progression:

Prof Avinash Supe: The educational gap

Prof Meenal Mohgaonkar: What institutions and faculty need

Prof Bidita Khandelwal: Learner progression needs to be prioritized

Prof Venkata Rao: How competency must be practised, assessed and evidenced

Dr Bhaskar Rajakumar: How innovation becomes workable within institutions

Maj (Dr) Ashlesha Tawde-Kelkar: How evidence and innovation move into implementation

Shri Amitabh Nag: How India's multilingual reality affects the solution

Ms Shweta Sharma: Why technology companies must work on the underlying cause and ecosystem, not only the product

This allows the SIG to present a genuinely multidisciplinary initiative while keeping ConversationAlly appropriately positioned as one technology response within a wider programme of educational and implementation work.