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Corrigendum for April 2021 issue of JABLM: volume 2.0

The original article titled, "**Relationship of Oxidative Stress with Thyroid Hormone Status In Paediatric Tribal Population With Beta-Thalassemia Major**" published in vol 2, 2021 of this issue has been found to have significant high text similarity (more than 20 percent as reported by an external agency). So this article is hereby withdrawn from the vol 2, 2021 issue of the journal.

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From the desk of Editor-In-Chief

Journal of Applied Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine enters into its second issue, the first one for this year. Since the last year we all are facing the grave situation of COVID 19 era, waxing and waning, giving hopes of controlling the pandemic sometimes that is soon followed by uncontrolled waves of repeated outbreaks in several parts of the country once more. The main target of developing the herd immunity among the Indian population seems to be still far away in spite of initiation of a massive vaccination programme and its successful implementation among the several target groups throughout the country by this time. We hope that soon this vaccination programme will encompass every person of the country at its own convenient schedule as that seems the only long lasting solution of controlling the menace of the prevailing COVID 19 situation.

We, the biochemists and other lab specialist personnel have been performing a real challenging task in this era throughout. Our role has not only been limited to its diagnostic part, but also to the monitoring of its treatment process and predicting its outcome in individual persons by performing a series of laboratory tests which are increasing in number with time with newer insights into the pathogenesis and prognosis of the disease. Furthermore, the role of laboratory research and techniques have become also crucial in vaccine development and implementation of a successful vaccination programme against the COVID 19 menace. The concepts of developing a DNA or RNA vaccine or a protein vaccine can be implemented successfully only through an in-depth knowledge about the immunogenic components of virus, competent and non-maleficent vectors for their delivery, side reactions of the vaccine components, interval between the booster doses for maximum effectivity and the duration of immunity that can be provided by the vaccine. It is not also clearly understood how to monitor the effectivity of the protective period after two doses of a successful vaccination programme. However, there is no doubt that this monitoring can only be done using the appropriate laboratory parameters that may include some of the existing ones and may have to incorporate some newer parameters as they are emerging. Generation of the humoral immunity and B cell memory and their longevity after a natural COVID 19 infection versus a successful vaccination against the disease are still being compared and analysed throughout the world as they seem to be the mainstay predictor parameters for the duration of protection against the viral infection and the necessity to plan for any revaccination schedule as required. Hence, all big laboratories should arrange their own preparations in the context of manpower and other logistics regarding implementing and monitoring these activities. Focus should be concentrated on all possible means and ways for promoting, implementing and monitoring of the existing and potential laboratory parameters for monitoring the efficacy of the present day vaccines in the context of their immunogenic response, the duration of protection provided, fixing the time interval between their booster doses for producing the maximum immunogenic response and determining a cut off value of related laboratory parameters beyond which a re-vaccination is necessary.

In this complicated and grave scenario of COVID 19, the emerging aim of making the current vaccination programme successful and effective maximally seems to be the only plausible solution of controlling the COVID 19 menace in the human civilization permanently, and the role of laboratory medicine is going to play one of the most crucial roles in this endeavour.

Prof Dr. Anindya Dasgupta

Editor-In-Chief

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