

TCGA



**PROJECT**

# **2ND TCGA (2020) VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

Towards Team Science for Multi-omics Cancer Research in South Asia

# Introduction

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, even though initially planned, it was not possible to organize a 2nd TCGA-themed conference in Pune in 2020. However, considering the strong interest and several requests from participants and stakeholders alike, the 2nd TCGA themed workshop and conference were organised virtually on December 3-5, 2020.

The conference was inaugurated by Honorable Dr Harsh Vardhan, the current Union Minister of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Conference Website: [www.tcga.ctcr.in](http://www.tcga.ctcr.in)

# Objective

Recently, TCGA received the prestigious 2020 American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) 'Team Science Award.' Meanwhile, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), GoI has initiated 'GenomeIndia Project' aimed at sequencing 10,000 healthy individuals. India is already a partner in the International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC), with a special focus on gingivo-buccal cancer.

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), GoI has expressed commitment towards establishing Cancer Consortia to generate genomics data on Indian cancer patients. More such initiatives/projects are expected to be rolled out in the coming years from various Governmental and non-Governmental agencies. These positive developments make it imperative that a collaborative structure is needed in India to help share big data for performing meta-analyses on the lines of TCGA.

Therefore, based on the consensus between the attendees of the TCGA 2019 conference, the establishment of an 'Indian Cancer Genomics Atlas (ICGA)' has been proposed. The 2nd TCGA-themed conference, in collaboration with TCGA and key ICGA stakeholders, deliberates on the vision, design and plans of the ICGA project with regards to common SOPs, operations, logistics and governance models.

More importantly, conference sessions were planned around the central theme of building a culture of team science for undertaking mega-cancer research projects in India and neighboring countries. Global experts discussed technical aspects of data/biospecimen/multi-omics studies and applications of Precision Oncology in clinical cancer management.

# Stakeholders

## Organisers



The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), USA  
[www.cancergenome.nih.gov](http://www.cancergenome.nih.gov)



Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune  
[www.iiserpune.ac.in](http://www.iiserpune.ac.in)



Prashanti Cancer Care Mission (PCCM), Pune  
[www.prashanticancercare.org](http://www.prashanticancercare.org)



**PERSISTENT**

Persistent Systems  
[www.persistent.com](http://www.persistent.com)



CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology  
[www.igib.res.in](http://www.igib.res.in)



Institute of Cancer Research, London, UK  
[www.icr.ac.uk](http://www.icr.ac.uk)

**IndiaAlliance**  
**DBT wellcome**

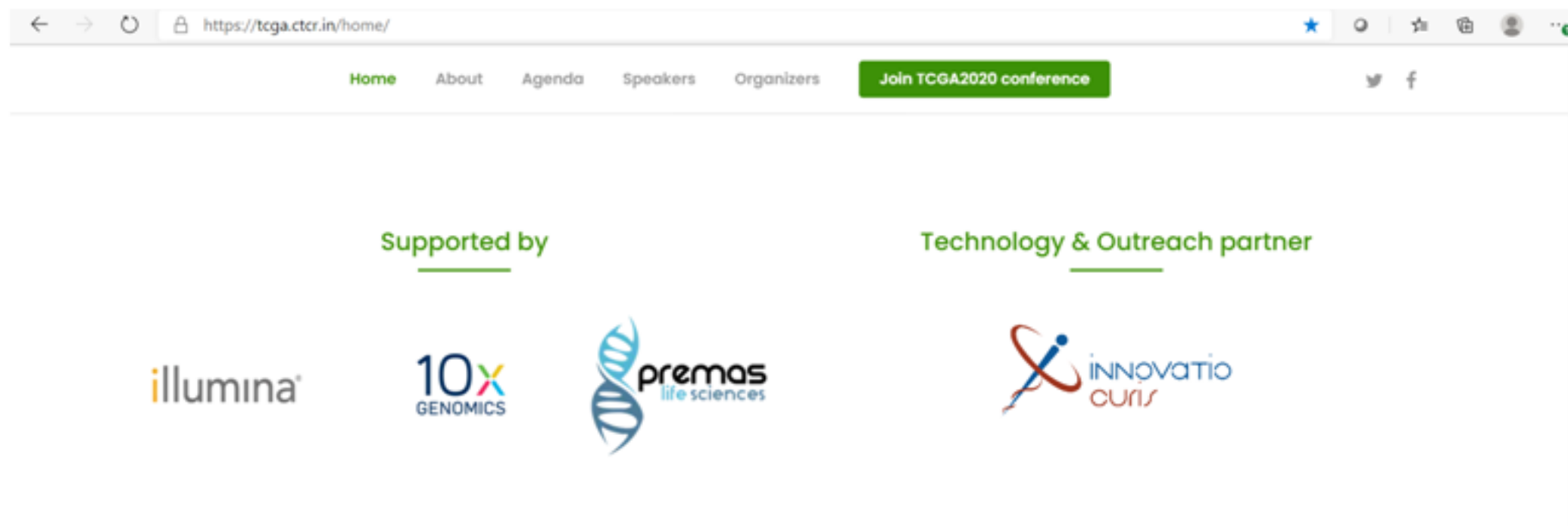
DBT-Wellcome Trust India Alliance  
[www.indiaalliance.org](http://www.indiaalliance.org)

# Technology & Outreach partner



InnovatioCuris Pvt Ltd  
[www.innovatiocuris.com](http://www.innovatiocuris.com)

InnovatioCuris (IC) and IC Foundation of Healthcare Excellence are focused on Healthcare Innovations, they work with an ecosystem of top experts, healthcare organisations, governments and clusters to promote innovation in the health sector. The organisation has a mission of bringing down the healthcare delivery cost and improving the quality of care. We do this by writing books (one, two), publishing a magazine, running webinars, organising innovators club meetings, organising international conferences, market access programs and Training and Consulting. Right now our reach is global with a growing community of **86,000+** health experts.



# Structure

## One day pre-conference workshop

- ▶ Talks from 10 international speakers
- ▶ Speakers from countries like the (USA, UK, Israel, Singapore and India)

## Two days Conference

- ▶ 12 sessions over two days
- ▶ 56 national and international speakers participated
- ▶ Speakers from around the globe (USA, Bangladesh, Spain, India, UK and Canada)

*2nd TCGA conference and pre conference sessions are now available on demand on the official website of TCGA 2020.*

*Login and enroll to watch entire discussions, here:*

**[www.tcga.ctcr.in](http://www.tcga.ctcr.in)**

# Responsibility (as a technology partner)

## Pre event

Organise, record and collect the session talks from the speakers of the event

Edit recordings of speakers/presenters from various time zones

Stitch the program into a non-stop format to give a seamless attendee experience

Event website creation

Creating a YouTube channel for the event

Integrating the live feed for the event on the website to communicate with event participants/delegates

## Event day

End to end technical support

Production management of the sessions

## Post event

Presentation recordings uploaded on video hosting platforms optimised for search engines

Analytics reporting



# Digital Footprint

**77000+**

website views

(November 25, 2020 - December 5, 2020)

**1500+**

Registrations

**900+**

Workshop  
participants

**3500+**

Pre conference  
workshop  
video views

**2700+**

views on  
conference day 1

**1200+**

Views on  
conference day 2

**60**

Countries/476  
cities attended

**17**

Hours of live  
streaming  
over 3 days

**2160**

Hours of  
watch time

# Media mentions

Home / India / Need to create molecular profiles of all cancers in Indian population: Dr Harsh Vardhan

## Need to create molecular profiles of all cancers in Indian population: Dr Harsh Vardhan

He was addressing a large gathering of oncologists, researchers and academicians from India, USA, UK and Bangladesh who had gathered to discuss modalities of working together to find more customized solutions to treat cancer.

**Dr Harsh Vardhan** @drharshvardhan · Dec 4

Identifying unique underlying cancer-causing factors in diverse population segments can help reduce burden of cancer on society.

It was a pleasure to address the inaugural session of 2nd @TCGAIndia, a gathering of renowned global oncologists & researchers focused on this task.



2:29 4.3K views

13 48 279

**Dr Harsh Vardhan** @drharshvardhan · Dec 4

Our Govt is fully committed to making cancer treatment more accessible & affordable.

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**Relevant people**

**Dr Harsh Vardhan** @drharshvardhan [Follow](#)

Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Science & Tech, Earth Sciences, Govt of India. ENT Surgeon, Chairman, Exec Board, WHO. Author - A Tale Of Two Drops.

**TCGA India Conference** @TCGAIndia [Follow](#)

Official handle for 2nd #TCGAIndia Conference & Workshop! Organized by @persistentsys, @IISERPune, Prashanti Cancer Care and TCGA. cctr.tcga@gmail.com

**India**

Posted at: Dec 5 2020 8:49PM

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**Govt committed to reduce burden of cancer in country: Harsh Vardhan**




New Delhi, Dec 5 (UNI) Minister of Science and Technology Dr Harsh Vardhan on Saturday said that the government is committed to reduce the burden of cancer in the country by employing latest technologies in the genomics, proteomics, metabolomics and artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Inaugurating the 2nd TCGA 2020 conference virtually, he said "Diverse molecular mechanisms including genetic and lifestyle factors contribute to cancer, posing significant challenges to treatment. Therefore, it is necessary to better understand the underlying factors patient by patient. In this context, it is important that we create indigenous, open-source and comprehensive database of molecular profiles of all cancer prevalent in Indian population population".

The Union Minister acknowledged the efforts of the consortium comprising of scientists and clinicians from across the world, who have come together to build an Indian Cancer Genomics Atlas (ICGA).

He also urged them to focus on important issues of uniformity and integrity of specimens representing different parts of India, to make Indian Cancer Genomics Atlas (ICGA) useful for clinicians throughout India. He said this would set a way forward in making cancer treatment accessible and affordable.

By: **Express News Service** | Pune | December 8, 2020 1:04:44 am



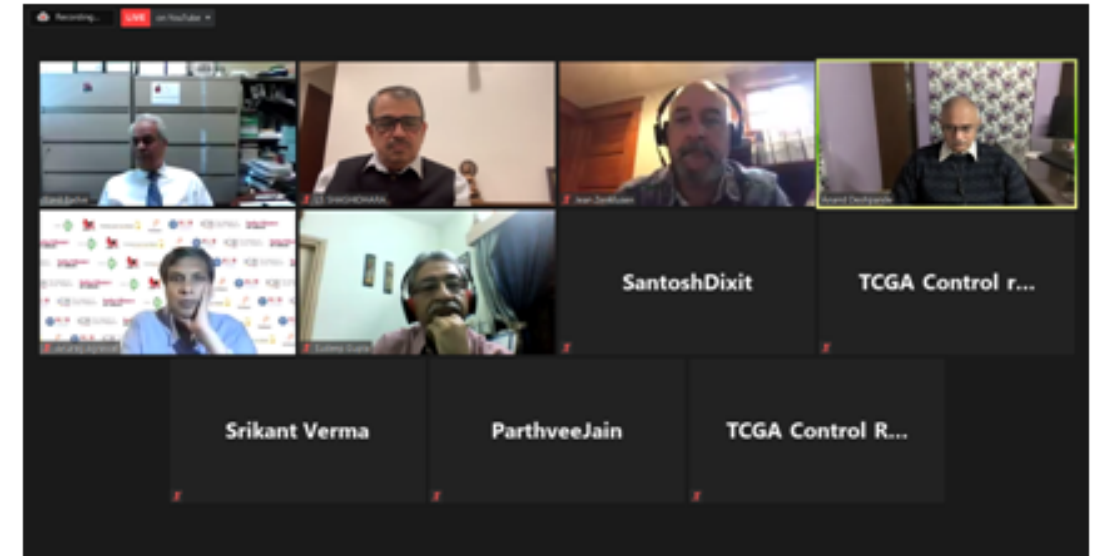
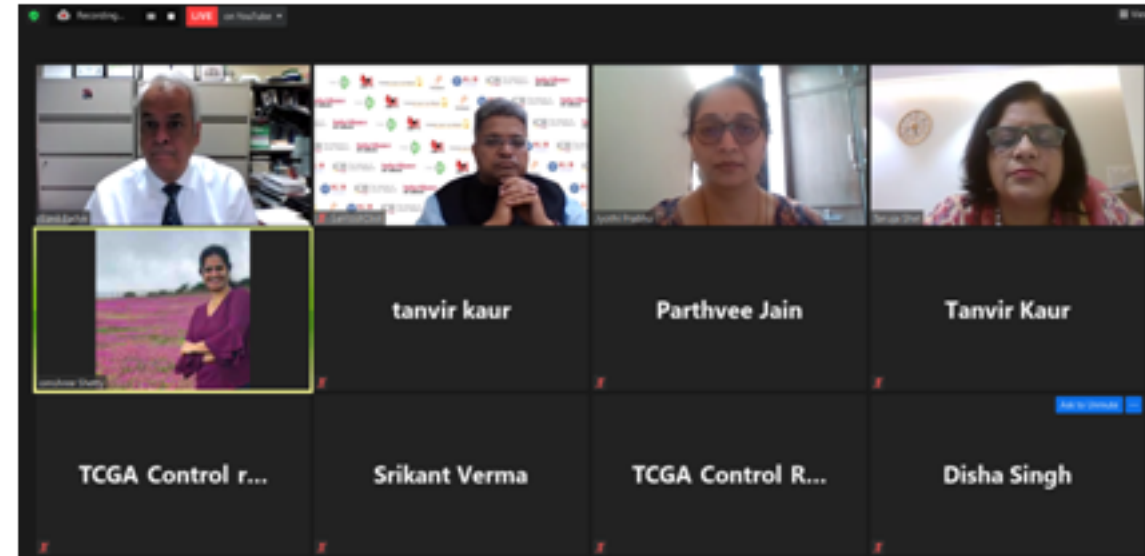
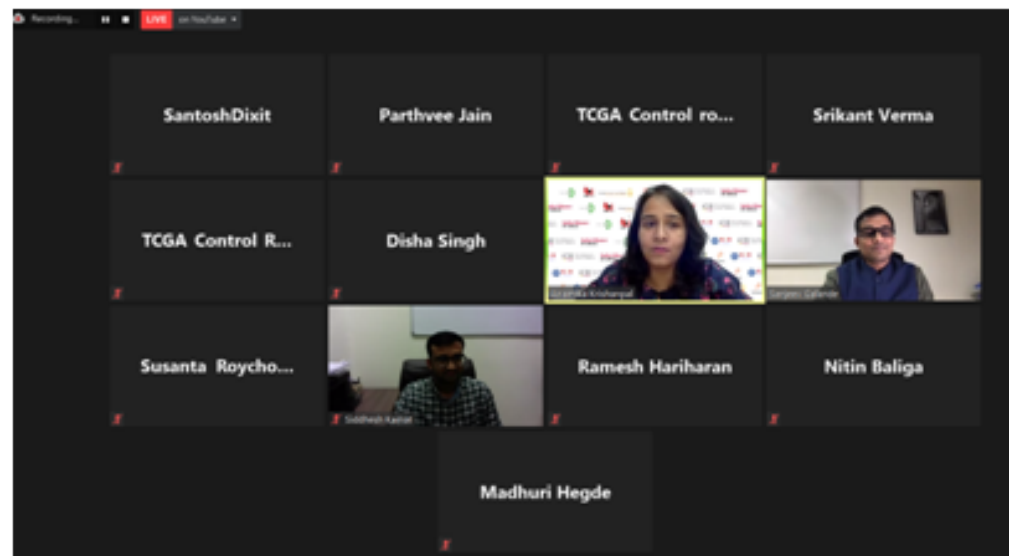
Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan. (File)

Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said that it was important to create indigenous, open-source, comprehensive database of molecular profiles of all cancers prevalent in the Indian population.

He was addressing a large gathering of oncologists, researchers and academicians from India, USA, UK and Bangladesh who had gathered to discuss modalities of working together to find more customized solutions to treat cancer.

The Union minister recently inaugurated the international conference of The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) 2020 jointly organised by the Centre for Translational Cancer Research — a joint initiative of Prashanti Cancer Care Mission and IISER-Pune, Persistent Systems, CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology and DBT-Wellcome Trust India Alliance from December 3-5.

# Moments



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