

WEBINAR REPORT

‘Assessing Gastrointestinal Motility through Physiological Investigations’

Organized by

Physiological Society of Sri Lanka

In association with

**South Asian Centre of Excellence in Physiology Education and Research (SACE-ER) and
SAAP Research and Publication Subcommittee**



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The South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP) presented its 5th webinar in the series on the topic *Assessing Gastrointestinal Motility through Physiological Investigations* on 21 August 2026. The webinar was organized by the Physiological Society of Sri Lanka (PSSL) in association with the SAAP Research and Publication Subcommittee and the South Asian Centre of Excellence in Physiology Education and Research (SACE-ER).

The one-hour webinar focused on the physiological basis and clinical application of investigations used to evaluate gastrointestinal (GI) motility. It brought together expertise in esophageal, gastric, and anorectal physiology, providing a comprehensive overview of the assessment

of GI function across different regions of the GI tract.

The program commenced with opening remarks by Dr Kaushik Bharati, Chairman of the SAAP Research and Publication Subcommittee.

The first scientific presentation, *Understanding Esophageal Motility Disorders through Esophageal Manometry*, was delivered by Dr. Nilanka Wickramasinghe, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. The presentation focused on the role of esophageal manometry in understanding esophageal motor function and in the physiological assessment of patients with esophageal motility disorders.

This was followed by Prof. Niranga Devanarayana, Chair Professor, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, who spoke on the topic *The Physiology and Assessment of Gastric Motility and Gastric Emptying*. The session addressed the physiological mechanisms governing gastric motility and emptying, together with approaches used to assess these functions.

The final scientific presentation, *Anorectal Manometry: Revealing Sphincter Function and Dysfunction*, was delivered by Prof. Dakshitha Wickramasinghe, Consultant Surgeon and Professor, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo. The presentation highlighted the use of anorectal manometry in assessing anorectal and sphincter function and its application in identifying abnormalities of anorectal physiology.

Together, the three presentations demonstrated how physiological investigations can translate fundamental GI physiology into clinically meaningful assessments of motility and function. The webinar also highlighted the growing importance of specialized GI physiology services and the value of collaboration between physiologists and clinicians in the evaluation of patients with GI motility disorders.

The scientific program was followed by an address by Prof. Nayma Sultana, Secretary General of SAAP who delivered the closing remarks, thereby concluding the program.

The webinar formed part of SAAP's continuing efforts to promote physiological education, scientific exchange, and regional collaboration among physiologists across South Asia.





South Asian Centre of Excellence in Physiology
Education and Research (SACE-ER)
SAAP Research and Publication Subcommittee

SAAP WEBINAR SERIES

Assessing Gastrointestinal Motility through Physiological Investigations

Understanding Esophageal Motility Disorders Through Esophageal Manometry

Dr Nilanka Wickramasinghe
Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo

The Physiology & Assessment Of Gastric Motility & Gastric Emptying

Prof Niranga Devanarayana
Chair Professor, Dept. of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

Anorectal Manometry: Revealing Sphincter Function & Dysfunction

Prof Dakshitha Wickramasinghe
Consultant Surgeon & Professor, Dept. of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo





21 August

Organized by
The Physiological Society of Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka – 12:00 noon
India – 12:00 noon
Nepal – 12:15 pm
Bangladesh – 12:30 pm
Pakistan – 11:30 am



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