# 8th National Bioethics Conference Program

**Pre-conference satellite meetings: between November 15, and December 15, 2020**

## DAY ONE | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2020 | 1430-1900 Hours

### ACCESS, RIGHTS & JUSTICE IN A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

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| 1430-1515 (45 minutes) | Co-Chair 1: [Dr Vina Vayvani](#), Director, Centre for Ethics, YU  
Co-Chair 2: [Dr Sunita Sheel Bandewar](#), General Secretary, Director, FMES  
Welcome note by organizers,  
Introduction to Organisers and the NBC platform, and  
Introduction to speakers  
Inaugural address: [Dr Gagandeep Kang](#), Professor, The Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, Division of Gastrointestinal Sciences, Christian Medical College, Vellore, TN, India [Ten months of the pandemic: The scientific and humanitarian challenges]  
Keynote address 1: [Dr Sundar Sarukkai](#), Founder of the Barefoot Philosophers, Bangalore [The Moral crisis of public health]  
Keynote address 2: [Adv Mihir Desai](#), Senior Counsel and Human Rights Lawyer, Mumbai, [Human rights and social justice in a pandemic]  
Discussion  
Closing remarks by Co-Chairs |
| 1515-1615 [60 mins] |  |
| 1630-1800 | Day 1 | 8th NBC Session 2 |  
**ACCESS TO CARE IN COVID: SHIFTING THE RULES OF THE GAME?**  
A defining feature of Covid-19 in India has been the hurdles faced by ordinary citizens in accessing care. The panel will engage with the following issues  
- Do citizens have a right to affordable care in a public health crisis?  
- Given the limited capacity & acceptance of the public sector & the dominance of private medicine what are the mechanisms to ensure access given the cost barrier?  
- Does the state have a right to safeguard access by curbing costs? How far can it go?  
- Are price caps sustainable for the healthcare industry? Are constitutional rights involved in cost curbs but also in denial of care on cost grounds?  
- Is there common ground between citizens, the state & the healthcare industry  
- to collectively face an unprecedented & existential crisis? How is this realised?  
**Moderators:**  
[Dr Sanjay Nagral](#), Surgeon, Chairperson, FMES  
**Panelists:**  
[Dr Sandeep Budhiraja](#), Group Medical Director, Max Healthcare & Senior Director – Institute of Internal Medicine, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Salet,  
[Dr Bhavin Jhankaria](#), Radiologist, Past President – Indian Radiology & Imaging Association  
[Malini Aisola](#), All India Drug Action Network & Campaign for Dignified & Affordable Healthcare, and Dignified Care  
[Rajiv Nath](#), Forum Coordinator, Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMed)  
[Dr S Prakash](#), MS, FRCS(Glasg), FAIS Managing Director STAR HEALTH INSURANCE - INDIA  
[Sucheta Dalal](#), Business Journalist, Trustee, Moneylife Foundation, Author ‘The Scam’  
[Adv Talha Abdul Rahman](#), Advocate on record, Supreme Court  
[Dr Yipal Aggarwal](#), Dy CEO, National Health Authority, Ayushman Bharat PMJAY |