

**Department of Geriatric Medicine
Yenepoya Medical College & Hospital**

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Report on inauguration of the First Ever Certificate Course in Music Therapy for Health Professionals from Department of Geriatric Medicine, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University).

On 24th August 2021 at 10.00 AM, an Online programme for the first ever “Certificate Course in Music Therapy for Health Professionals” was inaugurated by Dr. T. V Sairam, President, Indian Music Therapy Association. Dr. M Vijaya Kumar, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) presided over the function.

Dr. CV Raghuvveer, former Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dr. Vijayalakshmi Subramaniam, Course Co-ordinator, Professor & Head, Department of Otorhinolaryngology, sang the invocation song. Dr. Vijayalakshmi Subramaniam welcomed the gathering. Then the dignitaries performed lighting the lamp ceremony.

Dr. T. V Sairam spoke thus: Music has been used for treatment of patients from time immemorial in India. However research by Modern medicine methods to create evidence is lacking. Music is known to have healing powers in mood disorders, neurodegenerative conditions, relieving anxiety and pain. It definitely improves mental and spiritual health and encourages emotional expressions.

Dr. K.S Gangadhara Somayaji, Registrar, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) released Music Preference Questionnaire. Dr. M.S Moosabba, Dean / Principal, YMC, mentioned about Music being used for improving the outcome during the surgery.

Dr. Prabha Adhikari, Professor & Head, department of Geriatric Medicine, mentioned that although Music therapy courses are offered in some centres in India, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) is the first health care institution to offer the course to health care professionals.

This 6 month certificate course involving 60 hours is offered as an online course during the pandemic time and will be offered as offline course subsequently. 14 participants have registered for the course. The course involves interactive lectures, group discussions and few practical hours.

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