

Dr Mekhala Sarkar

Assistant Professor (Psychiatry), National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr Mekhala Sarkar, Psychiatrist as well as an Epidemiologist, is currently working as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry in National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Currently Dr Mekhala Sarkar holds the position of Scientific Secretary in Bangladesh Association of Psychiatrists (BAP) in 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 and also the Executive Editor of Bangladesh Journal of Psychiatry (the official journal of BAP). She works as the



Member Secretary of the Scientific Committee in the upcoming 9th International Conference on Psychiatry (9th ICP) to be held on 11-12 December, 2017 in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Dr Sarkar has also done her job successfully as a Member Secretary of Scientific Committee held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 12-13 December, 2015.

Along with these activities, she is actively serving Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) as a Faculty of Psychiatry, Member of Student's Advisory Committee, Member of Medical Education Department, and Resource person for the Research and Training Monitoring Department (RTMD).

Dr Mekhala Sarkar obtained fellowship (FCPS) in Psychiatry in 2010 from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) after undergoing four years postgraduate training in psychiatry in NIMH, Dhaka. After completion of her medical graduation from Sir Salimullah Medical College, Dhaka in 1998, obtained Master degree in Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology from National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM) in 2003 where she stood first. She has also received fellowship from World Psychiatry Association (WPA) as well as World Health Organization (WHO). She completed SSC from Agrani Balika Bidyalaya, Dhaka in 1889 and HSC from Holy Cross College, Dhaka in 1991.

Other than providing psychiatric services and academic activities, she has keen interest in research activities. Dr Sarkar has 28 published articles (research article/ review article/ case report) where 7 articles were to her credit.

Dr Sarkar was awarded with 'Hidayetul Islam Gold Medal Award' in 2015 as the best promising young psychiatrist on the basis of achievement, contribution and research activities in this field in Bangladesh. She has contribution to building up mental health awareness among general population through print and electronic media. She participates regularly various talk shows in TV and Radio regarding mental health issue. Besides, she has more than 100 popular write up to her credit related to different aspects of mental health published regularly in leading daily and weekly newspapers of Bangladesh. Her keen area of interest is in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Parenting, Human sexuality, Substance abuse (drug addiction) etc. Dr Sarkar has long been involved in anti-drug-campaign organised by the Daily Prothom Alo, the leading newspaper of Bangladesh.

Dr Sarkar presented scientific papers in lots of international conferences. Other than scientific ones, she also participated as a guest speaker and mental health expert in seminars organised by various organisations to talk about the psychological aspect of different national/ international issues.