

## **PRABHA S. CHANDRA, MBBS, MD, FRCPsych, FAMS**

Dr. Prabha S.Chandra completed her medical studies from Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi in 1984 and MD in Psychiatry with honours from the renowned National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, India in 1987. She joined the faculty at NIMHANS in 1993 and is currently a Professor in the same Department.

She is a member of several National and International Organisations and has also served as a Temporary Advisor to the WHO and UNAIDS. She is actively involved with the International Association of Women's mental health as a speaker and was the Regional representative for Women's Mental Health for Asia. She has been a past member of the Women's mental health section of the World Psychiatric Association and an executive member of the Marce society for perinatal psychiatry.

Her main areas of interest are Perinatal Psychiatry, Sexual and reproductive health issues in mental disorders, psychiatric aspects of HIV/AIDS among women and training of health professionals in managing the emotional consequences of partner violence. She has nearly 120 publications in the above areas of research and has edited several books including a multiauthored book with authors from all continents entitled- Contemporary issues in women's mental health in a changing society. This book is considered one of the references by students interested in social determinants of women's mental health. She has been an investigator in several funded national and international projects in collaboration with the following organisations – ICMR, WHO, NIMH- USA, Ford Foundation, Washington University, St. Louis, USA, the World AIDS Foundation, and University of Birmingham, UK; Australian International Health Institute, Melbourne- in the areas of Women's mental health, quality of life, pregnancy, postpartum and psychiatric morbidity in the context of HIV.

Dr. Prabha has been a champion for the cause of perinatal psychiatry in India and mentors an enthusiastic team of young professionals in research and clinical services in the area. She has started one of the first perinatal inpatient and outpatient psychiatry services in South Asia for mothers with mental illness, in a public health psychiatric hospital. In addition to setting up the above service, she has also assisted in setting up of the first Mother Baby Psychiatric unit in South Asia at Colombo, Srilanka.

The above area of clinical and service based research is going to generate much required data related to pregnancy and postpartum issues among women with psychiatric disorders In the region. She is currently the recipient of an ICMR funded project for the first long term cohort study in urban India that assesses the impact of anxiety and depression in pregnancy on pregnancy and fetal outcomes.

She has also developed a Tool Kit for handling the emotional consequences of partner violence and sexual assault for the Government of India, which has been widely used in the South Asian region.

She has had several fellowships and assignments in various parts of the world including as Visiting professor, University of Liverpool and International NHS Fellow at Manchester, UK She has delivered lectures and conducted workshops on various aspects of women's mental health in several countries including several countries in Africa and Asia and has particular interest in promoting women's mental health in the developing world and countries where patriarchy still exists.