

## Complete Biodata

### Personal details

Full Name: Dr. Ganeshkumar Parasuraman  
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### Qualifications

Degree/award	Year	Discipline/field	Organisation and country
MBBS	1999-2005	MBBS	The Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai, India
MD	2007-2010	MD in Community Medicine	University of Delhi, India

### Current and previous appointment(s)/position(s)

Position held	Organization	Department/Centre	Year appointed	Year completed
Scientist E & Head, Division of Noncommunicable Diseases	ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology	Non – Communicable Disease Epidemiology	2023	Current
Scientist - D	ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology	Epidemiology and Biostatistics	2019	2023
Scientist - C	ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology	Epidemiology and Biostatistics	2014	2019
Assistant Professor	Employee State Insurance Corporation Medical College	Community Medicine	2014	2014

	and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Science Research, Chennai India			
Assistant Professor	SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Tamil Nadu, India	Community Medicine	2010	2014
Junior resident	University College of Medical Sciences, University of Delhi, India	Community Medicine	2007	2010

### Ongoing Projects:

1. India Hypertension Control Initiative ([www.ihci.in](http://www.ihci.in)) – funded by Indian Council of Medical Research
2. Scaling Up Interventions to Improve the Control of Hypertension and Diabetes in partnership with the Governments of Kerala And Tamil Nadu: Leveraging India's National NCD Program – Funded by National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) through Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases
3. Strengthening capacity in India to prevent avoidable epidemics, early detection of disease threats, and rapid and effective response – Field Epidemiology Training Program – Funded by Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) USA – [www.indiafetp.com](http://www.indiafetp.com)

### Relevant Teaching and Training Experience:

#### 1. Public health training

I have been deeply engaged in public health training, serving as a course coordinator, faculty member, and mentor for the India Field Epidemiology Training Programs (FETP). In my role as a course coordinator, I have overseen the creation and delivery of training modules that address the specific needs of public health professionals throughout India. These modules have been critical in equipping professionals with the necessary skills to address a wide range of public health challenges especially epidemic preparedness and program implementation.

Mentoring over 25 FETP scholars has been a particularly rewarding aspect of my work. I have guided these scholars in applying epidemiological principles in their professional practice, fostering their development into competent public health experts.

I have also co-designed and implemented the In-state In-service Intermediate FETP, which is uniquely tailored to the specific needs of public health professionals within individual states. This localized approach ensures that training is relevant and directly applicable to the public health issues faced by different regions.

In addition, I have extensive experience with massive online open courses (MOOCs) and e-learning platforms, which I have utilized to reach a broader audience. I have developed and implemented training programs specifically for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), aimed at managers and epidemiologists. These programs have been crucial in enhancing the capabilities of public health professionals in managing NCDs.

I also played a key role in organizing India's first FETP conference ([www.fetpicon.com](http://www.fetpicon.com)), an event that brought together public health professionals from across the country. This conference provided a platform for sharing knowledge, discussing challenges, and exploring innovative solutions in epidemiology and public health.

## **2. Surveillance, pandemic and emergency response**

My work in surveillance, pandemic preparedness, and emergency response has been pivotal during COVID-19 pandemic. I have been involved in framing, implementing, and supporting comprehensive COVID-19 surveillance and response strategies. These strategies have been essential in managing the pandemic across various regions of India. I have published the learnings of COVID-19 in peer review journals.

One of my significant contributions was the establishment of a multi-layered COVID-19 digital surveillance system, which integrated hospital, field, and digital telehealth components. This system provided a robust framework for monitoring the spread of the virus and ensuring timely interventions.

In the realm of disaster response, I have established a continuum of care and field monitoring during major natural disasters, such as the Kerala floods in 2018 and the Chennai floods in 2015. These efforts ensured that essential health services were maintained, and the affected populations received the care they needed.

I have also conducted cluster investigations and led outbreak responses during the COVID-19 pandemic. My experience as a national trainer and nodal officer for India's Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP) has been instrumental in building the capacity of public health professionals across the country, enabling them to respond effectively to disease outbreaks and other public health emergencies.

## **3. Program implementation and evaluation**

My experience in program implementation and evaluation is extensive, having designed, conducted, and reported on 23 funded research projects as Principal Investigator and Co-

Principal Investigator. These projects have spanned a wide range of public health issues, with a particular focus on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). My work in this area has resulted in over 70+ publications in peer-reviewed journals (<https://bit.ly/ganeshkumarpapers>), reflecting my significant contributions to public health research.

Among my notable projects is the IHCI to estimate the cascade of care for hypertension patients at the community level and assess the impact of introducing the WHO HEARTS package under the India Hypertension Control Initiative. This project, funded by ICMR and WHO, is critical in improving hypertension management in India.

Another significant project I have led involves scaling up community interventions to improve the control of hypertension and diabetes in partnership with the governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Funded by the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD), this project has been instrumental in advancing NCD control in these states.

Additionally, I have contributed to the National Noncommunicable Disease Monitoring Survey 2017-18, funded by ICMR, which provided valuable data on the prevalence and management of NCDs in India. My work on strengthening India's capacity to prevent avoidable epidemics, early detection of disease threats, and rapid and effective response, funded by CDC USA, highlights my expertise in program implementation and evaluation.

Considering my contribution in the area of cardiovascular health, I have been awarded the Salim Yusuf Fellowship by World Heart Federation for 2023 as Emerging Leader. (<https://world-heart-federation.org/news/2023-emerging-leaders-cohort-announced/>)

#### **4. Expertise in evidence synthesis:**

I have developed substantial expertise in evidence synthesis and implementation research by the Campbell Collaboration, European Educational Programme for Epidemiology and the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) Implementation Science School. I have led several systematic review and meta-analysis initiatives, resulting in publications in prestigious, high-impact journals. These publications demonstrate my proficiency in evidence synthesis and rigorous analysis methodologies.

As Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator, I have led three systematic review projects funded by ICMR. These projects highlight my leadership and expertise in evidence synthesis, as well as my ability to manage complex research initiatives. I have also collaborated extensively with teams in various databases, including PubMed, EMBASE, SCOPUS, and Web of Science, to develop advanced search strategies.

Currently, I am conducting xx evidence synthesis and evidence gap map studies in the area of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) epidemiology. These ongoing projects will contribute to the advancement of public health knowledge in this area.