



**Divecha Centre for Climate Change  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE  
BANGALORE - 560012  
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SEMINAR NOTICE**

**Title: "Impact of environment and climate change in the prevention and control of kidney diseases during World Kidney Day.**

**Speaker: : Dr Ajit K Huilgol, MBBS, MS, MNAMS(Gen Surg), ARPS,**  
Past President, Indian Society of Organ Transplantation,  
Formerly, Chief Transplant Surgeon,  
NEPHTRANS INDIA, Columbia Asia Hospitals, Bangalore and Mysore,

**Date:** 25 March 2021

**Time:** 5.30 PM

**Venue:** Online using MS Teams

**Abstract:** Global warming is now an established fact, and there is no escaping its reality, nor its impact on all aspects of life. Weather pattern changes, rainfall distribution and its duration, heat waves, drought conditions, and storms and cyclones have all altered life in general, for humans, animals, birds, and plants. In short, on all living creatures. The rather late realization that all this is man-made has now sunk in, and efforts are now on to slow down global warming, and to eventually try to reverse its devastating effects. Whether mankind will succeed, only time will tell.

The impact on humans is now there for all to see. The worldwide increase in temperature has markedly increased morbidity and mortality. The increase in external temperature also increases the internal core temperature, resulting in dehydration and blood hyperosmolality. Our kidneys are particularly susceptible to changes in external temperatures. Sudden increase in body temperature, as in heatstroke, can cause increased risk of AKI, either due to rhabdomyolysis, or heat-induced inflammatory injury to the kidney. The combination of heat stress and dehydration plays a significant role in the formation of kidney stones. The neglect of proper hydration, and poor sanitary facilities, especially for women in the poor and developing countries, can lead to recurrent urinary tract infections, too. Recurrent heat and dehydration can eventually result in CKD as well, thus explaining the 'epidemics' of CKD in the hotter regions of the planet. It is, therefore, imperative that we educate people about the importance of proper hydration and address the issue of providing pure drinking water to all residents.

At the same time, as global warming continues unabated, the demand for kidney care will also grow. Dialysis, including hemodialysis as well as peritoneal dialysis, is a water and power-hungry therapy, and produces vast amounts of waste, and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions and global warming! Hence, there is a pressing need to address the issues of resource use and carbon profile of kidney care delivery.

### **Speaker Bio:-**

Dr. Ajit K Huilgol is a man who wears, and has worn, many hats – pioneer kidney transplant surgeon, hypnotist, cricket commentator, and wildlife photographer. He was in the team that did Karnataka's first successful kidney transplant in May, 1983. Since then, in these 37 years, he has done almost 2500 transplants, both in India and abroad, and specializes in doing multiple artery transplants and double ureter transplants. He started transplant programs in several hospitals – MS Ramaiah Hospital, Wockhardt, Yellamma Dasappa, Ashok Nursing Home, Columbia Asia Hospitals in Bangalore and Mysore, to name a few. He has also established transplant centres in Jalandhar, India, and in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He has been a consultant for Nigeria, Uganda, Ethiopia, and other African countries. Dr Huilgol was a cricket commentator in English for All India Radio from 1972 to 2005 and has been a commentator for Doordarshan for a few cricket matches, including some One Day Internationals. An image that he took in the Nagarhole Tiger Reserve in Karnataka of a leopard descending vertically down a tree won him the coveted Runner-up Award in the highly prestigious BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award in 2009. He is also an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society since 2008. Dr Huilgol was given the title of Hon Special Police Officer in the Karnataka Forest CID wing for his courageous role in nabbing over 40 tiger, and other rare animal, poachers who were operating in the Nagarhole Tiger Reserve. Dr Huilgol is married to Dr Medha, Anesthesiologist, and has two sons (both reputable lawyers in the Karnataka High Court), and two grandchildren.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**