

Short Biography: Shaman Rajindrajith

Professor Shaman Rajindrajith had his primary education at Mahinda College, Galle. He graduated from the University of Ruhuna with a Second-Class Honours in 1996. He served a brief period in the Ministry of Health after his internship and joined the Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya in 1999. Prof. Rajindrajith completed his local postgraduate training in North Colombo Teaching Hospital and, the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children in Colombo. His postgraduate overseas training was in the John Radcliffe Hospital, University of Oxford, UK, where he was trained in paediatric gastroenterology during 2002-2004. Upon his return, he was appointed as a Senior Lecturer in Paediatrics. He obtained his MD (paediatrics) in 1999 and MRCPCH (UK) in 2004, and FRCPC (UK) in 2014. He was appointed as the Chair professor of Paediatrics, University of Kelaniya in 2017, and currently serving as the Chair professor of Paediatrics, University of Colombo, since 2018. He is also a consultant paediatrician at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children.

He is a keen researcher. After returning to Sri Lanka, Prof. Rajindrajith started researching functional gastrointestinal disorders in children. He published several key papers in number of prestigious journals about the epidemiology, and risk factors of constipation, functional abdominal pain disorders, and aerphagia in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. His work earned him a PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 2015. In addition to functional gastrointestinal disorders, he published widely on other paediatric gastrointestinal disorders including inflammatory bowel disease, and viral gastroenteritis as well. To date, he has 85 publications and a h-index of 32. He is the highest ranked paediatrician in the country in the AD Scientific Index in 2021. In his carrier he has received several esteemed awards which are too numerous to mention in this short biography.

In addition, he is an excellent clinician as well. During his time in the North Colombo Teaching Hospital, he mastered the art of clinical management of sick

children. He also brought his research interest to the clinical field and developed a great service to children with gastroenterological and hepatological ailments. He established and runs the only paediatric gastroenterology clinic of the country. He has also been the key person to develop the Stoma Clinic of the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children. Prof Rajindrajith also an outstanding paediatric endoscopist in the country.

He has held many prestigious posts which are too numerous to be included in this short biography. He served as the head of the Department of Paediatrics, University of Kelaniya from 2015 to 2017. Currently he is the Head of the Department of Paediatrics, University of Colombo. He serves as a member of the editorial boards of several key journals including Journal of Neurogastroenterology and Motility, Indian Journal of Gastroenterology, World Journal of Gastroenterology, World Journal of Pediatrics, and Frontier Pediatrics. He served as editorial board member of Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health from 2011 to 2021 and World Journal of Hepatology. He is a member of ethical review committees of Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians and the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children. He is a member of the prestigious Rome V committee. Prof Rajindrajith is the immediate past President of Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians.