



Global Initiative Against  
HPV and Cervical Cancer

## GIAHC: A Year in Review January 2018-December 2018

**January 2018:** GIAHC and Coimbatore Cancer Foundation (CCF) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to work together to increase awareness about HPV-related diseases in both women and men in the Coimbatore area through social media, film and journalism.

**February 2018:** We spent time preparing for a host of activities that were scheduled for March 2018.

**March 2018:** March was an activity-filled month for GIAHC. We partnered with the International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS) to launch the very first HPV Awareness Day on March 4th. [Click here for details.](#)

Dr. Krishnan was also given the opportunity to speak at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (NGO CSW62) regarding cervical cancer prevention. In addition, she was also invited by the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) to moderate a HPV Panel at AMWA's 103rd Annual Conference March 22 – 25, 2018.

The 2018 Shobha S. Krishnan HPV and Cervical Cancer Champion Award was awarded to Shilpa Darivemula, a fourth-year medical student at Albany Medical College who founded the Aseemkala Initiative, a traditional dance collaborative using the arts to explore women's rights in medicine.

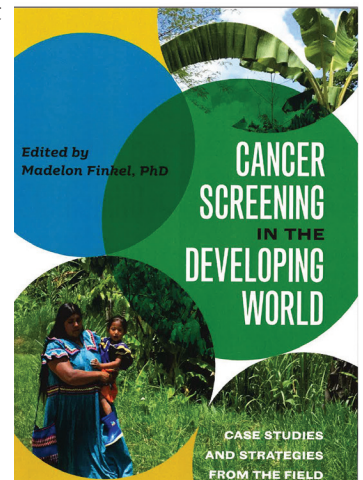
**April 2018:** This month brought the strategic partnership between GIAHC and the Global Film Fund to dub the



**“Lady Ganga” film** in as many languages as possible to promote awareness of the global health concern regarding HPV and cervical cancer.

**May 2018:** The highlight of this month was the book launch of *Cancer Screening in the Developing World: Case Studies and Strategies from the Field*, edited by Madelon L. Finkel, PhD, published by the University Press of New England.

The book describes case studies featuring real-world issues, problems, and solutions for cancer screening programs in the developing world. Dr. Krishnan contributed a chapter describing her experience around cervical cancer screening in India.



**June-July 2018:** GIAHC expanded its activities into Latin and South America by signing a MOU with Uniting for Health Innovation (formerly called PAHO Foundation) and work together alongside Grand Challenges Canada, Cayetano Heredia University in Lima, Peru and Dr. Patricia Garcia, former Minister of Health of Peru on Project HOPE.



Shilpa Darivemula

The HOPE Project will target Peru with the goal of reducing the number of women contracting cervical cancer in the region to serve as a model for the rest of Latin America. GIAHC is helping the project raise awareness about HPV, cervical cancer through video, film and various other platforms.

**August 2018:** *Future Science Open Access* interviewed Dr. Krishnan for an article published for global audience entitled “The world could end cervical cancer if it tried: an interview with Dr. Shobha S. Krishnan.” The interview can be accessed [here](#).

**September 2018:** Much time was spent in preparation for Dr. Krishnan’s overseas trip to India, Malaysia and Australia in order to follow-up on community activities and make presentations at international conferences.

**October 2018:** Dr. Krishnan made a presentation at the World Cancer Congress at the Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia regarding cervical cancer prevention through youth empowerment. [The World Cancer Congress \(WCC\)](#) is a recognized international conference which encourages effective knowledge transfer and best practices exchange amongst 3,500 cancer control and public health experts from 150 countries. It was hosted by the National Cancer Society of Malaysia from October 1-4 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

This was followed by her presentation at the [32nd International IPVS conference in Sydney, Australia](#) on October 2 – 6, 2018, which included the award presentation of the very first Lady Ganga Trailblazer Award.

The award celebrates those who have demonstrated exceptional creativity in proposing and executing impactful grass roots approaches to raising awareness about HPV and HPV related diseases, HPV vaccines, cervical cancer screening and early treatment. Their contributions may be artistic, academic, social, cultural, economic, technical or media related.



The 2018 award was shared between Drs. Silvia San Jose, President, IPVS and Joel Palefsky, Chair, HPV Working Group, IPVS.



**November 2018:** GIAHC entered into a partnership with [Cervical Cancer Prevention Initiative \(CCPI\)](#) to collaborate on updating the global maps depicting the progress made in cervical cancer prevention world-wide.

**December 2018:** Planning is in progress for [Us vs. HPV](#), an online webinar series hosted by the American Medical Women’s Association and GIAHC with a webinar made possible through Indiana University. Our mission is to create a collaborative community dedicated to educating clinicians and the public about the HPV virus, its disease consequences, prevention and management. Embracing participants from all walks of life and backgrounds, we are energized by the goal of “All-of-Us” working together to launch our “power-full” cancer initiative.



We need your help in making this campaign a success by distributing flyers and participating in the webinar series! Please [click here to view and download the flyer!](#)

In addition, if you would like to support our programs, you can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution in one of several ways at the [GIAHC website](#).

Thanks!