

NEELIMA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Microbiology

Event Report: Microbiology NUGGETS – WhatsApp-Based Microlearning

Duration: 11 June 2025 – 05 July 2025

Platform: WhatsApp Group for II MBBS Students

Microbiology NUGGETS – Learning in Bytes, Daily!

In an effort to encourage consistent academic engagement and self-directed learning among second-year MBBS students, the Department of Microbiology successfully launched a **WhatsApp-based Microlearning initiative** titled “**Microbiology NUGGETS**”.

This innovative learning format aimed to complement classroom teaching through **short, concept-based daily interactions**, aligned with the **CBME** framework and designed to promote self-paced learning and peer discussion.

Introduction:

- **Mode:** WhatsApp Group based Micro-learning
- **Faculty Facilitators:**
 - Dr. S. Aruna, Professor & HOD, Department of Microbiology
 - Dr. Yona M, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology
- **Participants:** II MBBS Students
- **Duration:** 11.06.2025 to 05.07.2025 (25 days)

Key Tasks Performed

- Students received **1–3 curated questions daily** on diverse topics across Medical Microbiology, including bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, and immunology.
- Questions were a mix of **conceptual, image-based**, and **clinical case scenarios**.
- Students submitted **handwritten or typed answers**, participated in **daily discussions**, and received **faculty feedback** including **peer discussion**
- Important learning points were reinforced through discussion summaries and clarification of doubts.

Student Feedback

- *“The flexibility to answer at our pace made it manageable despite busy schedule.”*
- *“Bite-sized learning kept us motivated and reduced study-related stress.”*
- *“It felt like friendly competition – everyone was eager to participate.”*
- *“Daily interaction helped build the habit of consistent study and reading.”*

Impact

- Reinforced **daily engagement** with Microbiology in a **low-stakes, high-impact** format
- Encouraged **self-directed and peer-assisted learning** outside classroom hours
- Demonstrated the effectiveness of **technology-enabled microlearning** in medical education
- Strengthened **conceptual understanding, recall, and clinical correlation skills**

Conclusion

The **Microbiology NUGGETS** WhatsApp-based microlearning activity is a clear example of **leveraging everyday tools for impactful education**. It aligns with modern educational strategies by promoting **self paced, student autonomy**, and **collaborative learning**—hallmarks of competency-based training. The Department of Microbiology aims to expand and adapt such models for future modules across the MBBS curriculum.

“Small steps daily lead to big leaps in understanding.”



Microbiology Nuggets - The Bug Bites