Revolution in Information Technology and miniaturization of tools has resulted in sophisticated instruments and diagnostic techniques in 21st century biomedical systems. India with its ancient roots in medicine offers different schools of thought and practice of medicine that have seen a revival in the recent past, as alternatives to conventional medicine. Exploring both the alternative medicine in the context of modern scientific tools of diagnosis and analysis, and possibility of adoption of the logic, philosophy, and diagnostic tools of traditional medicine by the modern conventional medicine, is the goal of two-day long symposium organized by the Department of Applied Mechanics, IIT Madras.

Bringing together researchers from these two diverse fields, this symposium would bring forth insights and new tools benefiting from each other. Recent developments and challenges in Orthopedic Biomechanics, Musculoskeletal Biomechanics, Cardiac Biomechanics, and the traditional Indian Medical systems (such as Siddha and Ayurveda) will be the specific focus of this symposium. Challenges facing scientific community in accepting alternative medicine and the practitioners of alternative medicine system in providing scientific proofs will be debated. Integrating scientifically proven alternative medicine systems into conventional medicine will also be discussed.

This symposium is being organized to recognize and felicitate the contributions of Prof. J.Ramachandran and Prof. S.Radhakrishnan, who retired from the Department of Applied Mechanics only in the recent past. The symposium includes invited presentations and panel discussions from several leading researchers in these and related areas. The objective of the symposium is to provide an opportunity for students, faculty, scientists, and biomedical engineers to interact with the leading researchers in these areas.
National Symposium on Alternative Medicine and Biomedical Engineering (AMBE 2006) will be held at Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, during 12-13 June, 2006. The theme of the symposium is “Patient Safety – the ultimate goal of medicine”.

The tentative program of the symposium is as follows:

**June 12, 2006: Tutorials**

The Tutorials will include topics on each alternative medicine system: Siddha, Ayurveda, Homeopathy, and topics on recent developments and challenges in Orthopedic Biomechanics, Musculoskeletal Biomechanics, and Cardiac Biomechanics.

**June 13: Symposium**

The Symposium will include invited talks by eminent researchers from hospitals, universities, and industry in the theme areas of the symposium.

**June 13: Panel Discussion**

The symposium will also include a panel discussion on the challenges scientific community is facing in accepting alternative medicine and the practitioners of alternative medicine system face in providing scientific proofs. Integrating scientifically proven alternative medicine systems into conventional medicine will also be debated.

**June 12, 13: Exhibition**

On both days of the symposium, an exhibition of some rare herbs, highlighting their importance, will be displayed.

The expected participants are practitioners of medicine, research scholars, faculty from educational institutions, scientists from R&D laboratories, and engineers from industry.

<table>
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<th>Registration Fee:</th>
<th>Tutorials</th>
<th>Symposium</th>
<th>Both</th>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
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Limited accommodation for participants may be available in the Hostels and Taramani Guest House of IIT Madras.