

## VESALIUS 2026: Precision in Every Plane

27 September 2026 | AIIMS Nagpur

The Departments of Anaesthesiology and Anatomy at AIIMS Nagpur, in collaboration with the Cadaveric Research Academic Board (CRAB) of AORA, conducted **VESALIUS 2026**, an ultrasound-guided cadaveric regional anaesthesia workshop, on 27 September 2026. Its theme, **“Fascial Plane Blocks: Precision in Every Plane,”** made this the **first focused fascial plane blocks workshop under the CRAB–AORA banner**.

The third edition of VESALIUS welcomed **35 delegates** for a day of anatomical demonstration, supervised cadaveric needling and discussion of regional anaesthesia techniques. Dr Gajanan N Chavan was the Organising Chairperson, Dr Bhuvaneswari B the Course Director, and Dr Himangi Bhokare and Dr Anu Kewlani the Organising Secretaries. Dr Divesh Arora, Secretary of CRAB–AORA, served as Lead Faculty.

### Learning across the anatomical planes

The programme began with a cadaveric oath and practical guidance on precision needling by Dr Sanghamitra Ghosh. Dr Divesh Arora, Dr Archana Areti and Dr Shweta Puntambekar then led a master demonstration of truncal blocks and chronic pain blocks.

Delegates rotated through five hands-on cadaveric stations. The anterior thorax station covered PECS, serratus anterior plane and parasternal blocks. The anterior abdomen station included rectus sheath, transversus abdominis plane and other abdominal wall approaches. The posterior thorax station addressed paravertebral, erector spinae plane, intertransverse process and related blocks, while the posterior lower trunk station explored quadratus lumborum and other lower trunk approaches. A fifth station focused on cadaveric approaches to chronic pain interventions, including coeliac plexus, splanchnic, lumbar sympathetic and superior hypogastric plexus blocks.

At a special anatomy station, **Dr T. S. Gugapriya** demonstrated the layers of the thoracolumbar fascia on dissected specimens. This allowed delegates to relate the fascial planes seen on ultrasound to their anatomy and consider their relevance to needle placement and injectate spread.

The inauguration included the samai lighting, a welcome address by Dr Gajanan N Chavan, remarks by Dr Divesh Arora, introduction and felicitation of the faculty, and an address by the Executive Director of AIIMS Nagpur. The Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Nagpur-Dr. Prashant P Joshi who congratulated team AIIMS Nagpur as well as CRAB-AORA for the conduct of the third edition of Vesalius and encouraged the delegates to make the maximum benefit of the workshop. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by the organising secretary, Dr. Himangi Bhokare and the National Anthem.

An afternoon masterclass extended the learning through expert-led live cadaveric demonstration integrating sonoanatomy, applied anatomy, needling and catheter insertion. The expert faculties Dr. Divesh Arora, Dr. Shweta Puntambekar, Dr. Sanghamitra Ghosh, Dr. Saurabh Barde, Dr. Abhishek Lonikar, Dr. Archana Areti, Dr. Rasika Timane, Dr. Anu Kewlani and Dr. Himangi Bhokare demonstrated the injection techniques in PECS, SAP, Parasternal, Rectus sheath block, m-TAPA, EOIPB, thoracic paravertebral, Intertransverse plane block, ESP block and Quadroiliac plane block.

## **Faculty and collaboration**

The faculty contributing from the CRAB side included Dr Divesh Arora, Dr Sanghamitra Ghosh, Dr Saurabh Barde, Dr Archana Areti, Dr Shreya Modi, Dr Rasika Timane, Dr. Abhishek Lonikar and Dr Shweta Puntambekar. They were joined at the stations by faculty from AIIMS Nagpur, whose combined teaching supported close supervision and discussion throughout the workshop.

## **Delegate feedback**

The feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive. They valued the opportunity to practise fascial plane blocks on cadavers, connect ultrasound images with dissected anatomy, and discuss their questions directly with the faculty. Delegates reported that the focused teaching helped them understand the blocks more clearly and resolve doubts they had brought to the workshop.

The organising team thanks the leadership of AIIMS Nagpur for its support, the Departments of Anaesthesiology and Anatomy for their collaboration, and CRAB–AORA and all participating faculty for their contribution. The preparation by the technical, administrative and support teams was essential to the conduct of the cadaveric sessions.

## **Conclusion**

VESALIUS 2026 brought a focused approach to fascial plane block education. For its 35 delegates, the combination of ultrasound-guided practice, dissected anatomy and supervised cadaveric needling offered an opportunity to examine familiar techniques more closely and explore newer approaches. As the first focused fascial plane blocks workshop under CRAB–AORA, it marked another step in the continuing collaboration to advance anatomy-based regional anaesthesia education.