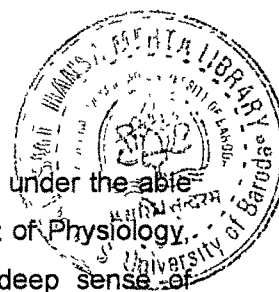


ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



I had the privilege and honour of conducting the study under the able guidance of **Dr. M.B. Jani**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, Medical College, Baroda. I cannot express in words my deep sense of gratitude towards him, for his kind help and masterly directions throughout the course of this study. It is because of his invaluable inspiration, guidance, and great latitude of freedom in planning and execution, that this study has seen the light of the day.

I express my sincere gratitude to **Dr. K.J. Pathak**, Dean, Medical College, Baroda, for allowing me to use the college facilities for the purpose of this work.

I extend my deep sense of gratitude to **Dr. S.B. Saxena**, Superintendent, SSG Hospital, Baroda.

My sincere gratitude to **Dr. (Mrs.) S.S. Karelia**, Professor and Head, Department of Physiology, Medical College, Baroda for giving me the latitude of freedom and timely encouragement and inspiration during my course of study.

My sincere thanks to **Dr. (Mrs.) G.K. Hathi**, former professor and head, Department of Physiology, Medical College, Baroda for her encouragement and sympathetic support during the course of my work.

I am truly indebted to **Father Parmar** and **Madam Iona Dilemma**, Principal and Vice-Principal respectively, of Rosary High School, Baroda, who permitted me to carry out the tests on the students of their school.

I put on record, my appreciation of staff members of the Physiology Department, Medical College, Baroda, for their kind help and encouragement throughout the period of this study.

I can never forget my subjects, who will probably never know their pivotal role in this study, who imparted knowledge- a debt, I can never repay.

With utmost reverence, I regard here the enthusiasm and moral strength of my beloved parents, which formed the roots of this entire effort. To them, I only feel certain that I shall be conferred with much more blessings.