

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply grateful to **Dr. Prabhudas S. Patel**, my Research Guide and Head, Biochemistry Research Division, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute for his constant direction and expert scientific guidance. I owe sincere thanks for giving me a new perspective to pursue these studies as a Ph.D. student. His persistent help, patience, training and suggestions have been invaluable throughout the course of my work. I am sincerely thankful for his positive criticism to improve my writing skills also.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to my co-guide **Prof. S. D. Telang**, Department of Biochemistry, M.S. University of Baroda, for her encouragement, advice and feedback all the time. This work would not have been possible without her wholehearted support and guidance.

I am sincerely grateful to **Dr. Pankaj M. Shah**, Director, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute for his unconditional support to make this work possible.

I sincerely thank **Dr. Shilin N. Shukla**, Deputy Director, Research & Education, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute for his constant support during the tenure of this work.

I am thankful to **Dr. D. D. Patel**, Ex-Director, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, for permitting me to carry out the Ph. D. work.

I am also thankful to **Dr. R. I. Dave**, Deputy Director, Surgical Services and **Dr. K.M. Patel**, Deputy Director, Medical Services, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, for their support.

Sincere thanks are due to **Dr. G. Naresh Kumar**, Head, Department of Biochemistry, M.S. University of Baroda, for permitting me to carry out this study. I am sincerely thankful to all teachers at the Department especially **Dr. Rasheeda Begum**, for their support during the study.

I express my gratitude to my senior colleagues **Dr. Rakesh Rawal, Dr. Gira Raval, Dr. Mintoo Patel, Dr. Beena Patel, Jayendra Patel** and **Franky Jha** for their valuable suggestions and help during my study. Special thanks

to **Rachana Sainger**, for all her help during work, thesis preparation and a great company all these years. I heartily appreciate my colleagues, **Amisha Desai, Tina Dave** and **Gaurav Pancholi** whose support helped me in many ways. I would also like to acknowledge constant help of **Smt. Kantaben Solanki**.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the staff members of **Surgical Oncology** and the **Pathology** departments for their support during the study.

I wish to thank **Mr. Naresh Shah** and **Mr. Jagadish Dave**, Librarians, The Gujarat Cancer & Research Institute, for their co-operation.

I appreciate help of all the **Research Scholars**, especially **Saiyed** and **Keyur**, Department of Biochemistry, M.S. University of Baroda for their help during the present work.

Words can not express my feelings, gratitude and respect for my parents, **Shri Hasmukhray Shah** and **Smt. Pannaben Shah**. I owe them for their inspiration, care, boundless love and blessings at each stage of my life. I would be failing in my duties if I would not thank my younger sister **Jetal** and brother **Ashish** for innocent love and help. I express my heartfelt gratitude towards my in-law family members for their love and support.

My special thanks to **Dr. Oneel Patel** and **Sonal Kapadia** for their help and for providing constant support for my acquaintance in the new environment in Australia.

In a special way, I thank my soul mate **Hitesh Peshavariya** for his moral support, encouragement and love, all these years that has made this work enjoyable. His ever smiling face and understanding are source of inspiration and strength.

I am deeply indebted to **god almighty** for everything what I am. I also pray to God for the **patients'** well being without whom, this work would not have been completed.

Manisha Shah