

About the Author



Dr. Rama Jayasundar graduated in 1981 from Madras University in Physics and obtained her post-graduation from Anna University, Chennai. Her Ph.D. was in Physics (NMR) from Cambridge University, UK. Apart from her main training as a physicist, she has completed the 5 ½ years ayurvedic medical course from Chennai in 2008 and holds the Bachelor's degree in Ayurvedic Medicine (BAMS – Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery). She started her post PhD research career in 1990 at the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences, DRDO, Delhi. She moved to the Department of NMR, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi in 1993 as a faculty and has remained there till date. Her area of specialization is Biomedical Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) – RF coil designing and building, RF pulse sequence programming, clinical imaging and spectroscopy. She developed indigenously, a low cost coil for clinical use, for which she received the Young Scientist Award. The developmental cost of the coil was as low as Rs. 2,000 as against the manufacturer's cost of about Rs. 15 lakhs. During her stint as a visiting Professor at the Max Planck Institute of Biophysical Chemistry, Gottingen, Germany (1997 – 1998), she successfully worked on the development of functional MR spectroscopy techniques. She has authored a number of research publications in peer reviewed journals and has also won many awards and honours. In 2002, she became the first Indian to be invited to chair scientific sessions at the conference of International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, USA.

In 2002, she wrote the examination for plus two biology (which is a pre-requisite subject for application to medical courses and which she did not possess) and also took the All India medical entrance exam and obtained admission for both MBBS and Ayurveda. She opted for the 5 ½ years medical course in Ayurveda. She is now a professionally qualified ayurvedic physician, with good knowledge and clinical exposure to both Ayurveda and western medicine. Her current research interests centers on Ayurveda.