Acknowledgements

Thanks can be said in many ways
A word, A pause, A prayer

Language is the most eloquent vehicle of human expression, yet on occasions one finds it difficult to get appropriate words to express a feeling fully. Speech fails me and I fumble for words of gratitude for my revered teacher and research supervisor Dr. (Mrs.) Kusum Harjai, Reader, Department of Microbiology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, whose exceptionally versatile guidance, valuable suggestions, critical appreciation and keen interest brought this thesis to completion. I am extremely grateful to her for giving me an opportunity to work under her tutelage. She provided me with extensive and illuminating guidance, creative suggestions, untiring help, persistent encouragement and formidable supervision. Whenever I required her help she always stood beside me and motivated me during my tough times.

I acknowledge with profundity my obligation and express with felicity my cordial thanks to my co-supervisor Dr. (Mrs.) Saroj Sharma, former professor, Department of Microbiology, Panjab University, Chandigarh. It was a great privilege for me to work under a person so expert in her field. She has instilled a sense of discipline and planning in me. I express my deep sense of respect towards her.

I am highly indebted to my co-supervisor Dr. Sanjay Chhibber, Professor, Department of Microbiology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for his keen interest, constant moral support and guidance at different stages of the study. He always understood my problems and helped me with patience.

I am grateful to Dr. Ram Prakash Tiwari, Chairman, Department of Microbiology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for providing his assistance, cooperation, support and for providing all the necessary facilities. My acknowledgements are also due to the entire teaching faculty for the help rendered whenever it was required.

I take the opportunity to extend my thanks to Dr. Anju Bhandari, pathologist and Dr. Ritambra Nada, pathologist, PGIMER, Chandigarh for providing valuable help in histopathology work.

Thanks are also due to all members of the non-teaching and technical staff of the department, especially Mr. Vijay who made laboratory working and other non-academic tasks convenient for us by performing their duties well.

I render my sincere thanks to my seniors Sonica Sharma, Kanupriya, Vanashree, Vandana, Neeraj, Vishal and Vijay Parashar, for their warm support, care and indispensable help throughout my thesis work. I thank them for their valuable suggestions, moral boost and encouragement, which have certainly made the difference. The help rendered by them literally can’t be expressed in a few words.
I am thankful to Raven for being there and lending me helping hand. I specially extend my heartiest thanks to friends Nidhi, Narinder, Preeti, Tripti, Gursharan & Nalin for their constant support, unstinted help and stress buster company. To all of them I just have to say “Your companionship is a treasure to be cherished long”. Thanks a lot for being there always.

I offer my special thanks to whole bunch of my juniors specially Sanjeev, Himanshi, Simarbir, Lekhar, Sushma, Seema, Roopan, Rajnish, Munish, Rajni, Harsimran, Archana, Seema, Indu, Neetu, Rohit, Jasleen, Divya, Tamanna, Bhavn, Simrit, Varun, Pash, Utpreksha, Ritu, Surbhi, Ramesh & Tanushree. Their wonderful company made my stay in the university enjoyable.

The support and encouragement extended by my loving family cannot be expressed in words. I acknowledge their love and best wishes, which had given me strength to complete this project. No choice of words will suffice to adequately register my love and gratitude to my dear Mummy and Papa for their bounteous love, care, inspiring support and encouragement. I also thank my sister, Saloni, for her unconditional love & support. My family enabled me to pursue this study with confidence and zest. I owe them more than I can express. I take this moment to promise all of them that I would always keep up their faith in me.

I appreciate the cooperation and cheerful assistance provided to me by my would be in-laws, my brother-in-law Shafiut, Dhatria, Puneet, Kedar and Honey, my sister-in-law Manesha, Sheeru and Richa and especially my Father-in-law for believing in me and Mother-in-law for love, encouragement which helped me to achieve my goal.

What is cherished the most is probably always underplayed. I feel inadequate in expressing my feelings for Jeenu Aggrawat my fiance and a dearest friend, who has always been with me during moments of crisis and helped me out with her love and care. She has helped me a lot in writing this thesis. She always encouraged me to do my best. It is only because of her, that I could stand the pressure of work with resilience.

Last but not least I bow in gratitude to the almighty whose grace has enabled me to complete various ventures of life. I thank god for all that he does for us. Above all, all my efforts would be futile without the blessing of Almighty Who guided and directed me all through the project and I sincerely wish that He continue to do so earnestly for the rest of my life.

All may not be mentioned but no one is forgotten.

Thank You Everyone........

Rahul Mittal
(Rahul Mittal)
2010