ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to record my sincere gratitude to Dr. V. K. Vinayak, Additional Professor, Dept. of Experimental Medicine, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, who not only introduced me to this area of research but also provided me invaluable guidance throughout this work. His constructive criticisms, inspiring advice and constant encouragement are gratefully acknowledged. I am also grateful to him for providing me the facilities required to carry out this study.

I am thankful to Dr. P. J. Asnani, Reader, Dept. of Microbiology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for his supervision and keen interest in the progress of my work.

I am also thankful to Dr. S. R. Bhusnurmath, Additional Professor, Dept. of Experimental Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh, for his ever readiness in being more than helpful to me in carrying out histopathological studies during the course of this work.

I acknowledge the facilities for the electron microscopic studies provided by Mr. Madan Lal Sharma of RSIC, Panjab University, Chandigarh.
My affectionate thanks are due to my friends, Mrs. Usha Gupta, Mrs. Arvinder and Mrs. Meena, for their cooperation, encouragement and good wishes extended to me during the course of this study.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the help of my family members, especially my parents, who always encouraged me to study as well as provided me a strong and stable backup, all through my study. I hope I will be able to reciprocate their feelings and concern for myself.

Lastly but not least, I am immensely indebted to my husband Mr. Dhruva Kant Shukla for his understanding and encouragement. It would have been impossible to complete this work without his help.

Financial assistance provided by Indian Council of Medical Research is gratefully acknowledged.

April 16, 1990.

(Mrs. GEETA SHUKLA)