



## NADISHA SEWWANDI PIYARATHNE

**SUMMARY STATEMENT** I am a dedicated, motivated, self-driven mid career academic with an outstanding research profile. Expertise includes research methodology, oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders, diagnostic sciences, saliva analysis, and artificial intelligence in healthcare.

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**PERSONAL** [nadisha.piyarathne@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:nadisha.piyarathne@abdn.ac.uk)  
[piyarathnenadisha@dental.pdn.ac.lk](mailto:piyarathnenadisha@dental.pdn.ac.lk)  
TP: (+94)773437942, DOB: 19-January-1989  
Gender: Female, Ethnicity: Sri Lankan

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**WORK EXPERIENCE** **SENIOR LECTURE, DEPARTMENT OF BASIC SCIENCES, FACULTY OF DENTAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA. SRI LANKA.**  
23/11/2022 – TO DATE  
Key responsibilities include teaching (conducting lectures, small group discussions, tutorials), exam procedures (exam invigilation, exam paper preparation, paper marking, course coordinator), Research (conducting independent research and supervision of undergraduate / postgraduate research projects).

**LECTURER (PROBATIONARY), DEPARTMENT OF BASIC SCIENCES, FACULTY OF DENTAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA. SRI LANKA.**  
14/03/2016 – 23/11/2022

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**EDUCATION** **PhD, UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN, UNITED KINGDOM (2018-2022)**  
Examination by Thesis titled “Salivary Biomarkers and Risk Factors in Oral Cancer and Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders” and viva voice.

**BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY DEGREE WITH FIRST CLASS HONORS, UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA, SRI LANKA (2009-2014)**  
Top of the batch D/08, First class honors in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Final BDS examinations with distinctions in Pharmacology, General Pathology, General Surgery, Community

Dentistry, Dental Materials, Oral Pathology, Periodontology, Restorative Dentistry and Oral Medicine.

**MSc in BIOSTATISTICS (Reading, 2025 onwards)**

Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Peradeniya

Registration Number: 25053

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**LANGUAGE  
PROFICIENCY**

**English:** Excellent reading, comprehension, speaking and writing skills.

IELTS Academic Module (Test report form number: 22LK004339PIYN011A)

Overall band score =8, CEFR level =C1

Speaking = 8, Writing =7, Reading = 8.5, Listening =8

**Sinhalese (Native):** Excellent speaking, writing, and reading skills

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**AWARDS / MEDALS/  
PRIZES**

Researcher Recognition Award (Tier 2 Category), Faculty of Dental Sciences, 2024

Researcher Recognition Award (Q1 paper), iPURSE 2024

Researcher Recognition Award (Tier 2 Category), Faculty of Dental Sciences, 2023

Elphinstone Scholarship, University of Aberdeen, 2018

General Convocation, University of Peradeniya; Sri Lanka. 2015

- Prof. Brito Muthunayagam gold medal
- Dr. Ranjan Abesinghe prize for Dental surgery
- Lakshman Samaranayake award for excellence in oral medicine and oral pathology
- Gold medal for excellence in Restorative dentistry

Sri Lanka Dental Association – Gold Medal for the Best student of the year 2014

Commendable Oral Pathology Project at Oral Pathology open day,  
University of Peradeniya (2014)

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**OTHER  
APPOINTMENTS**

- Course coordinator of DS5104 Undergraduate Research course, 2025
  - Member of the International Affairs Committee, 2024 -2025
  - Course coordinator of DS1101- Blood and Circulation course, 2024-2025
  - Secretary of the Centre for Research in Oral Cancer (CROC), Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya from 2022.01.25 up to date
  - Faculty co-representative for the SER Writing Team for Institutional Review-Criteria 3 on Teaching and Learning in 2021.
  - Resource person for the Handson Workshop on Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis Organized by CROC, conducted in October 2025
  - Resource person of the Preparatory course for Selection examination in MD-Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics and Restorative Dentistry-2025
  - Evaluator at the Science Undergraduate Research Symposium (SURS) 2025, organized by the Faculty of Science, UoP, on 4th April 2025
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- Senior student counsellor (2025-2026)
- Assistant Deputy Proctor, Faculty of Dental Sciences (2026-2027)
- Member of the Multidisciplinary AI Research Centre (MARC), Satellite Centre for Health and Wellbeing (2025)
- Reviewer for the European Journal of Dental Education, 2024
- Reviewer for the International Dental Journal, 2025
- Editor of the SLDA-Kandy Branch, 2023
- Member of editorial team of SLDA International Dental Conference, 2023

#### TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES

- DS1101–Blood and Circulation
- DS1102-Cells Tissues and Molecular Genetics
- DS1201- Alimentation and Nutrition
- DS1202 –Endocrinology, Metabolism and Excretion
- DS1204 – Nervous System

#### CONTINUE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Induction Program for Academic Staff, Staff Development Centre, University of Peradeniya – March 2017
- Certificate Course on Leading and Managing Universities, Staff Development Centre, University of Peradeniya – June 2023
- Completed training as a Senior Student Counsellor, Staff Development Centre, University of Peradeniya– December 2024
- Completed training course on “Introduction to One Health in Sri Lanka” offered by the FAO, United Nations
- Completed ‘Examiner Training’ program by the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, University of Colombo – March 2026

#### HONORARY APPOINTMENTS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Honorary appointment as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee on Oral Cancer Prevention and Control by the National Cancer Control Program (NCCP), Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka (2025-2027)
- Honorary member of the Resource Pool of Expertise for Research Review and Roadmap Development (Tier II category) appointed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Sri Lanka (2025-2027)
- Honorary Research Fellow, Institute of Dentistry, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition, appointed by the University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom (2023-2026)
- Registration of the Sri Lanka Medical Council (Reg no: 2900)
- Lifetime member of the Sri Lanka Dental Association
- Lifetime member of the Peradeniya Dental Faculty Teachers Association

RESEARCH PROFILE ORCID: [orcid.org/0000-0001-5834-6854](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5834-6854)

ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nadisha-Piyarathne>

GoogleScholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Kg8h4CIAAAAJ&hl=en>

(H index=5, i10 Index=2, Number of total citations=170, by 2026 March)

- **Research grants (3)**

PI of the Multidisciplinary Research Grant (2025-13) worth 2.5 Mn SLR for the project titled "Expression of Salivary miRNAs and its Relationship with Habit Pattern, Clinical and Histopathological Features in the Early Detection of Oral Cancer: Statistical Modelling and Machine Learning Approach".

Co-PI of the study "Applicability of metabolites and P53 gene mutation in saliva of oral cancer patients for early diagnosis" which received a competitive research grant from the University of Peradeniya Alumni Association – Victoria Chapter in 2024, in collaboration with the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Co-investigator for the study "Applications of white light images and artificial intelligence for the early detection of oral cancer in Sri Lanka" which received a competitive 2.5 Mn LKR worth Multi-disciplinary Research Grant -2022, (Grant no: 127) from the University of Peradeniya. In collaboration with Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, and Cancer Research Malaysia (local and foreign collaboration).

- **Supervision of undergraduate research (>10 projects)**
- **Co-supervision of postgraduate research (1 Mphil student)**

Ms Raasiya Rummy (DF /PG/2026/03 ), Master of Philosophy (MPhil). Title: "Expression of Salivary miR-15a and miR-200a in Early Detection of Oral Cancer and Their Association with Risk Habits, Clinical and Histopathological Features: A Statistical Modelling Approach"

- **Full paper publications**

Piyarathne NS, Nawarathna GS, Wijesingha WJ, Abeyasinghe U, Hettiarachchi PVK. Role of Stem Cells and Stem Cell Markers in Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders and Malignant Transformation: A Systematic Review. Stem Cells Int. 2026 Mar 2;2026:9371262. doi: 10.1155/sci/9371262. PMID: 41778103; PMCID: PMC12951545. **(Impact factor – 3.3 , SJR 2023 – 0.99 , Q2).**

*NP role: First and corresponding author, concept development, data validation, protocol design, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review*

Piyarathne N, Sinclair S, Elsayed KS, Cook C, Gupta E, Abu-Eid R. Oral health-related quality of life in head and neck cancer: a systematic review. Front Oral Health. 2025 Nov 19;6:1691065. doi: 10.3389/froh.2025.1691065. PMID: 41347226; PMCID: PMC12672552. **(Impact factor – 3.1 , SJR 2023 – 0.869 , Q1).**

*NP role: First and corresponding author, concept development, data validation, protocol design, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review*

Piyarathne NS, Dhanushka KR, Wijesingha WJ, Jayasinghe J, Abu-Eid R, Gupta E. Oral health-related quality of life in patients with oral squamous cell carcinoma and oral epithelial dysplasia - A cross sectional study in Sri Lanka. *Community Dent Health*. 2025 Nov 21;265539X251400601. doi: 10.1177/0265539X251400601. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41270785. **(Impact factor – 1.0 , SJR 2023 – 0.346, Q3).**

*NP role: First author, concept development, data validation, protocol design, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review*

Wijesingha WJ, Abeyrathne S, Kuruppu D, Liyanage N, Jayasekera S, Karunarathne SI, Piyarathne N. Efficacy of autologous platelet-rich plasma therapy in the management of oral submucous fibrosis: an exploratory case series. *Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol*. 2026 Jan;141(1):61-67. doi: 10.1016/j.oooo.2025.08.016. Epub 2025 Aug 27. PMID: 41046183. **(Impact factor – 1.4, SJR 2023 – 0.584 , Q2).**

*NP role: Corresponding author, concept development, data validation, protocol design, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review*

Nisansala T, Gunasekara YD, Piyarathne NS. Phenotypic and genotypic landscape of antibiotic resistance through One Health approach in Sri Lanka: A systematic review. *Trop Med Int Health*. 2025 Jan 6. doi: 10.1111/tmi.14084. PMID: 39763328. **(Impact factor – 2.6, SJR 2023 – 0.83, Q2).**

*NP role: Corresponding author, protocol design, data extraction, formal analysis, manuscript review*

Devindi G.A.I et al., "Multimodal Deep Convolutional Neural Network Pipeline for AI-Assisted Early Detection of Oral Cancer," in *IEEE Access*, vol. 12, pp. 124375-124390, 2024, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2024.3454338. **(Impact factor – 3.4, SJR 2023 – 0.96, Q1).**

*NP role: Co- author, concept development, clinical protocol designs, data cleaning validation and categorization, software testing*

Piyarathne NS\*, et al., 'A Comprehensive Dataset of Annotated Oral Cavity Images for Diagnosis of Oral Cancer and Oral Potentially Malignant Disorders'. *Oral Oncology*, 2024. 156, DOI: [10.1016/j.oraloncology.2024.106946](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oraloncology.2024.106946) **(Impact factor – 4.0, SJR 2023 – 1.26, Q1).**

*NP role: First and corresponding author, concept development, data validation, protocol design, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review*

Wijesingha WJ, et al., Characteristics of patients presented with primary oral cavity malignancies to the Tertiary Dental Teaching Hospital Peradeniya Sri Lanka during 2020-2022. *Sri Lanka Journal of Medicine*, 2023, pp 38-43. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4038/sljm.v32i2.461>. (Peer Reviewed)

*NP role: Corresponding author, formal analysis, manuscript writing and review.*

Piyarathne NS, et al., Salivary Interleukin Levels in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma and Oral Epithelial Dysplasia - Findings from a Sri Lankan Study. *Cancers*, 2023, 15 (5), 1510. doi:10.3390/cancers15051510. **(Impact factor – 6.5, SJR 2023-1.39, Q1).**

*NP role: First author, study design, participant recruitment, sample collection, laboratory analysis (ELISA), data analysis, manuscript writing, collaborating with multiple groups.*

Hettiarachchi PVKS, et al., Controversies in Verruco Papillary Lesions of the Oral Cavity - A Systematic Review. *Oral Dis.* 2022, Doi: 10.1111/odi.14306. PMID: 35801381. **(Impact factor-3.21, SJR 2023 – 0.9, Q1).**

*NP role: Second author, protocol design, data extraction, quality assessment, data analysis, manuscript writing.*

Piyarathne NS\*, et al., Diagnostic salivary biomarkers in oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders and their relationships to risk factors – A systematic review, *Expert Review of Molecular Diagnostics*, 2021, Doi: 10.1080/14737159.2021.1944106 **(Impact factor-5.22, SJR 2023-0.83, Q1).**

*NP role: First and corresponding author, Protocol design, conducting literature research, data extraction, quality assessment, data analysis, manuscript writing.*

Paranagama MP et al., The Porphyromonas gingivalis inhibitory effects, antioxidant effects and the safety of a Sri Lankan traditional betel quid - an in vitro study. *BMC Complement Med Therapeutics*. 2020, 20(1):259. Doi: 10.1186/s12906-020-03048-6. PMID: 32819379; PMCID: PMC7439561 **(Impact factor-3.47, SJR 2023 -0.67, Q1).**

*NP role: Second author, Sample collection, laboratory analysis including antioxidant assays, colorimetric assays, herbal extraction methods.*

- **Conference proceedings / Abstracts / Posters (>15)**

*References can be furnished on request.*