

ASHI MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Shivani Patel

Graduated from: Sardar Patel University, India (M.Sc)

How long have you been an ASHI member?
9 years

Your first ASHI meeting? Haven't had a chance to attend.

What made you decide to work in HLA? My journey into the field of HLA and transplantation was inspired by a deeply personal experience—my younger brother's battle with kidney failure. Witnessing firsthand the emotional and clinical complexities of organ transplantation instilled in me a profound respect for the science behind donor-recipient matching. It was during that time I realized how critical HLA compatibility is to improving transplant outcomes and giving families hope. This personal connection became the foundation of my professional calling. Every test I perform, every result I validate, carries the weight of that experience, driving me to uphold the highest standards in immunogenetics with compassion, precision, and purpose.

What do you find to be the most rewarding aspect of your work? The most rewarding aspect of my work in the field of transplantation and HLA is knowing that my contributions directly impact patient outcomes, often making the difference between life and death. Each time I help identify a compatible donor through precise HLA typing or interpret complex immunogenetic profiles, I know I'm helping give someone a second chance at life. My background in biochemistry has given me the scientific depth to understand the intricate molecular mechanisms behind graft compatibility, immune tolerance, and rejection. Applying that knowledge in a real-world clinical setting—where science meets human need—is incredibly fulfilling. It's not just technical work; it's profoundly personal and purpose-driven.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself: A fun fact about me is that I approach both my work and life with a calm, centered, and holistic mindset. I

genuinely enjoy reading, researching, and analyzing complex topics—not just in science, but in understanding life as a whole. Whether I'm exploring new discoveries in transplantation or reflecting on wellness and balance, I find peace in learning. For me, curiosity, mindfulness, and a thoughtful approach go hand in hand, both professionally and personally.