



NEWS LETTER

MARCH 1993

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EDITORIAL

After a lot of turmoil, apprehension and anxiety our postponed 22nd Annual Congress was held in Pune on 17th and 18th January. This Newsletter is bringing you details of a successful Conference inspite of many odds due to heroic efforts of the Association of practising pathologists of Pune who hosted the conference. Here are all the details for those who wanted but could not

attend and a nostalgic trip for those who attended the conference.

I thank all I. A. C. members for giving me a nice opportunity to be the editor of the newsletter again. I expect a free flow of correspondence for exchange of ideas. Thanks for the confidence shown in me.

Dr. Maitreyee Munshi

Highlights of XXII Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Cytologists, Pune 17th - 18th January 1993

This conference was organised by Indian Association of Practising Pathologists Pune branch and was dedicated to the memory of late Dr. M. B. Gharpure a Senior Practising Pathologist of Pune.

When we landed in Pune; the pleasant weather and quiet atmosphere balmied out anxiety and apprehension about the success of the conference. On 16th January 93 K. E. M. Hospital Pune was buzzing with 25 participants, Dr. Kusum Kapila & her team for the Pre-conference workshop on 'Breast Cytology' a knowledge must for a novice in the field. Typical cool climate of Pune was welcoming about 130 delegates from all over the country for the inaugural function in Hotel Blue Diamond on 17th January. The inaugural function was graced by dignitaries like Padmabhushan Dr. Banu Coyagi & Dr. P. B. Desai, Senior Pathologist Dr. R. V. Junnarkar, I. A. C. President Dr. Shobha Grover and Secretary Dr. Maya Lulla along with office bearers of I. A. C. & of organising committee. In her Presidential Address Dr. Grover wished that the mandate of this twenty two years old academy should be strengthened. This academy advocates that cytology is an easy and cost effective method of diagnosing cancer at an early stage. During the inaugural function our president was wearing a nice Presidential Medal. It is worth mentioning that so far our academy has not had the Presidential Medal but this year through the good offices of Dr. Usha Saraiya we have a medal. The grand old man of Pathology Dr. R. V. Junnarkar was felicitated on this occasion to celebrate his 75th Birthday.

Inaugural function was followed by Shireen

Mahataji oration by Dr. P. B. Desai, Director Tata Memorial Hospital on 'The Impact of Cytodiagnosis on clinical oncology.' In very simple words he gave a bird's eye view about an explosion called cytology and its overall effect on oncology. He did not forget to caution us about its overenthusiastic use and disadvantages. Cipla academy oration by Sreedevi Amma on 'Strategies for Cancer Control in India' and panel discussion on 'Human Resource Development', chaired by Dr. Usha Saraiya made us aware of the practical problems and difficulties in implementing downstaging which requires an infrastructure of trained and competent personnels at all levels. In Diagnostic Slide Seminar by Dr. Nalini Venugopal we saw interesting & brain tickling smears. In this conference we saw a total change in scenario as practical day to day problems were being discussed and stressed upon I. A. C. members.

On both days thirty six young enthusiastic and experienced people including Cytotechnician and cytotechnologists presented papers on various disciplines in cytology. This organization encourages paramedical personnels to share the platform to express their views. Their confident participation in panel discussion and paper presentation assures us that our organization is achieving the goal.

At the sumptuous pool side lunch together after valedictory function everybody was all praise for Neelam Kolte & her team for an organised & successful conference arranged within a short time. We said goodbye to meet again down south for the next conference.

AWARDS

1. **Nalinibai Thakkar Award** : Shared by Dr. Anil Prasad from JIPMER Pondicherry and Dr. Kanchan Sortey from Cama & Albles Hospital Bombay.
2. **Jwala Devi Award** : Bagged by MR. Kalia of JLN Hospital and Research Centre Bhilai. A feat achieved by him for the second time.
3. **Sushil Malhotra Award** : For cytotechnologist for 1991 was awarded to MR. S. P. Bandopadhyaya of Jamshedpur.
4. **Dr. Bhaskar Reddy Award** : For cytotechnician was bagged by MR. T. P. Narayankutty from Trivandrum.
5. **Dr. Satya Monga Award** : No paper was received in field of immunocytochemistry for this award.

Change in Office - Bearers

1. Dr. Kusum Kapila treasurer I. A. C. after a successful tenure since 1988 handed over charge to Dr. Sreedevi Amma. Her Address for correspondence is **Dr. Sreedevi Amma, Treasurer, IAC Superintendent & Chief of Cytopathology, Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum - 695 011 Kerala.**
2. Dr. Kusum Verma who took over from Dr. Usha Luthra consented to look after the committee in capacity of a chairperson.
3. Dr. Neelam Kolte organising secretary of 22nd Annual Conference was inducted into the executive committee along with Dr. Revathi Ananth and Dr. B. Chandralekha in place of Dr. Nilima Dhar, Dr. Kiran Mishra and Dr. Sreedevi Amma.

Report of Accreditation and Examination Committee

Dr. Kusum Verma, Chairperson of the committee gave a very lucid account of the activities of the committee.

Important points which need to be mentioned are -

1. For Accreditation of cytology laboratory for examination and training the workload should be defined as **3,000 cases** instead of 5,000 smears. For diagnostic services it should be **500 cases**.
2. **Cytotechnicians and Cytotechnologists Examination 1993**

Indian Academy of Cytologists would be conducting the above examinations for the year 1993 in **September - October, 1993**. The eligibility criteria for appearing in these examinations are modified as follows :-

Cytotechnician :- Higher Secondary in biological sciences with diploma in Medical Lab. Technology and six months experience in Cytology / Higher Secondary in biological sciences with 5 years experience in cytology.

Cytotechnologist :- M. Sc. medical lab. technology with cytology as special subject / B. Sc. Medical Lab.

Technology with experience in cytology for one year / 5 years experience in cytology as lab. technician following diploma in medical lab. technology / 5 years experience in cytology as lab. technician following passing the cytotechnicians examination conducted by IAC. Those desirous of taking this examination may write to Dr. Kusum Kapila, Convenor, A&E Committee, C/o Department of Pathology, AIIMS, New Delhi - 110 029, for obtaining details of syllabus venue and dates etc.

3. **Cytotechnologists and cytotechnicians Examination, 1992.**

Ten candidates, one cytotechnologist and nine cytotechnicians have been declared successful in the examinations conducted by IAC at Trivandrum on 24 - 25th September, 1992. Heartiest congratulations to all of them from the members of Indian Academy of Cytologists. **Ms. K. A. Sreekala and Mr. T. O. Soy** will be awarded Sushill Malhotra and Dr. Bhaskar Reddy Awards respectively for standing first in the examinations. We hope that both of them will attend the next annual conference and receive their awards in person.

Activities of the Section of Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy

Dr Usha Saraiya, Chairperson C. P. C. briefed us about the activities of the committee. There are three major centres in India for promoting the technique of colposcopy.

1. In Delhi Dr. S. K. Das has been conducting programmes & training personnels. 2. In Madras Dr. Revathi Ananth has opened a, ' **SCHOOL OF COLPOSCOPY** ', It will impart intensive coaching for handling colposcope to maximum five participants for 5 days. This school will be open to doctors as well as their paramedical staff. Those interested may contact Dr.

Revathi Ananth, A. V. Hospital, 8, Sundarajan Street, Abhirampuram, Madras - 600 018. 3. In Bombay Dr. Usha Saraiya, Dr. Darshana Daftary, Dr. Maya Lulla, Dr. Jyoti Taskar and their dedicated band of workers organised 20th Annual Course in April 1992 at Cama and Albless Hospital. Another course was conducted by Bombay obstetric and Gynaecological society. Together 70 participants were trained. Dr. Usha Saraiya chairperson travelled to Australia in May to participate in 11th international congress of cytology and to Eastern Europe as visiting professor in colposcopy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Our XXIII Annual Conference will be hosted by Dr. Sreedevi Amma at Trivandrum in mid December.** You can plan well in advance due to this timely invitation.

2. Donate generously to corpus fund for journal of cytology. Vol. No. 10 will be soon ready to go to the press. Prof. P. A. Trott from the Royal Marsden Hospital, London has kindly accepted to be on the editorial boards of our journal.

3. A fellowship of one month duration carrying a value of Rs. 1000/- offered to medical doctor by IAC. Those interested may apply to **Dr. Maya Lulla, Secretary I. A. C. cytology clinic (AMWI) Cama & Albless Hospital, Mahapalika Marg Bombay - 1** along with self

addressed envelope. Last date for receipt of application form is **31st August 1993.**

' THE PAP SMEAR ' A REVIEW

This new book is written by Mathilde Boon and Albert Suurmeijer from Holland. It is an excellent update on the development of PAP Smear technology. Information on precancerous lesions are updated. Technical difficulties in interpreting the smears are well covered. The last chapter on Mass Screening Programmes is of great interest. Although photographs in black and white take away some of the interest; it has cut down the printing cost. It may be ordered directly from Publisher: Coulomb Press Leyden, P.O.Box 16047/2301 Leiden, Netherlands. It's cost is 64 U.S.\$ **Dr. Usha Saraiya.**

Report of the Treasurer

Following is an account of a successful tenure of Dr. Kusum Kapila who was our honorary treasurer for a period of five years.

1. She is very happy to inform the members that the academy has been recognised under **80 - G of the Income - Tax act, 1961** and donations thus made to I. A. C. will be eligible for deduction. The recognition certificate granted is valid for a period of one year and has to be renewed yearly. In future the period of accounting will be from 1st April to 31st March.

2. All the fixed deposits and accounts has been

transferred and are being maintained a in one branch of state bank of India.

3. All the earmarked funds have been separated and are clearly defined in the statement of accounts along with the earnings of the various subsections.

4. Interest on Corpus fund for the ' Journal of Cytology ' and Colposcopic Section is being utilized for the printing of the journal and the C. P. C. section respectively.

In her last report as treasurer she has thanked all the members for their co-operation during her tenure.

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