



NEWS LETTER

APRIL 2000

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,
Namaskar,

At the outset I must express my heartfelt and sincere gratitudes for the confidence and faith you have reposed by electing me unopposed for the prestigious post of President of IAC in the New Millennium. You have offered me the best gift of my career. I am deeply honoured and feel privileged to occupy this prestigious post in the Academy, an august National Body. Most of you must have received my greeting cards

for the Very happy and Prosperous New Millennium. Some of the cards have been returned to me due to non-delivery etc. I would like to request you to please inform the Secretary IAC immediately about your changed address, so that you keep on getting Academy's communication well in time.

Our Academy is now 30 years old. The importance, simplicity, integrity and acceptability of cytodiagnosis is well established. By the untiring efforts of our senior members and founder members the cytology has been included in the undergraduate and postgraduate courses and has become an important exercise in P.G. examination. But a lot more is to be done, especially in the direction of cancer control and prevention. Rural population, in particular is

not satisfactorily benefitted by this simple non-invasive and economical diagnostic science. Diagnostic biopsies are still performed instead of FNAC, women are given treatment randomly for gynaecological problems without proper Pap smear examination and the patients with breast lumps are reporting for the first time in 3rd and 4th stage of cancer etc. This is because of lack of public awareness about the cytodiagnosis. My experience has been that even the medicos and paramedical staff, working in remote areas are not well aware of the importance of cytodiagnosis. This gap of knowledge can be bridged by our learned and devoted members of IAC. This is my appeal to every one of you to come forward for the service of humanity. Make your Academy strong by encouraging young colleagues in Pathology, Radiology, Gynae. & Obst. and other clinical branches to join this Academy and attend annual meetings regularly to exchange views and enrich their knowledge by listening to learned speakers from India and abroad. If the clinicians could join hands, the acceptability of the techniques and its limitations will be better understood.

Hope to see you all at Nagpur, Dr. Maitreyee Munshi with her team of organisers is working hard to host the 30th Annual Conference and are leaving no stone unturned to provide you rich academic feast and making your stay comfortable and memorable. We are going to Nagpur 2nd time and certainly we have not forgotten the flavour of fresh orange juice and the rich hospitality of organisers last time

I shall be looking forward keenly to meet you all in a cheerful mood.

Dr. Padam K. Agarwal
President IAC-2000



FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Highlights of the 29th Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Cytologists held at Mangalore 13th - 16th November, 1999.

The organising secretary Dr. C.V. Raghuvver and his group of dedicated volunteers took great pains to see that the 29th IAC Conference of Cytology, last of the millennium, held in the coastal city of Mangalore was a roaring success.

The preconference workshop held on 13th November on thyroid cytology was conducted by no less a person than Dr. Sudha R. Kini from Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit. Her soft style of presentation and her vast collection of slides had the audience's rapt attention for the whole day. The CME on thoracic cytology was equally engrossing with speakers from India and abroad sharing their experiences.

The inaugural function had the Vice Chancellor of Manipal Higher Academy of Education Prof. B.M. Hegde along with revered Professors K P Ganesan and KL Agarwal on a beautiful, culturally aesthetic stage which words fail to describe.

This year's P.N. Wahi oration and Cipla award were conferred on Dr. Geeta Jayaram from Malaysia who spoke on "Salivary gland lesions". The Shirin Mehtajee Award was bestowed on Dr. Sudha Kini who spoke on "Lesions of the Endocervix" an extremely topical problem one is facing more and more today with the frequent use of the endocervical brush. The symposium conducted and moderated by Dr. Kusum Verma brought to the fore the issue of Quality Assurance in Cytopathology and discussed proposals for

both internal and external quality assurance. The Ernest Fernandes award for the diagnostic slide seminar was awarded to Dr. Raje Nijhawan who chose slides on extremely interesting and varied topics including some rare and unusual cases.

The prize paper session elicited a very good response and the Nalini Bai Thakar Award went to Dr. N.K. Alva from Pondicherry who spoke on "FNAC of salivary glands." The Jwala Devi Award went to Ms. Neelam Prabhudesai from Mumbai who spoke on "Modified H & E staining technique for FNAC". The proffered paper sessions had a number of interesting and thought provoking papers. The 50 posters presented matched the oral sessions and the best poster award went to Dr. Asiq Siddeeqe of Mangalore for "Problems in the FNAC diagnosis of papillary of breast."

Besides all the hectic academic activity Prof. Raghuvver kept everyone very busy sampling the exquisite Kannada cuisine specialties which were served at regular intervals of breakfast and lunch. The banquet included an enjoyable and interesting variety show put up by the students from the various medical colleges in Mangalore. The grand finale to the banquet was a spectacular fireworks display. Our sincere thanks to all of them at Mangalore for giving us such an enjoyable and memorable time.



Kasturba Medical College

Prof. C. V. Raghuvver

"About 20 copies of the workshop Manual on FNAC thyroid held during the 29th IAC CON 99 at Manglore in November 1999 are available for sale. Those who wish to procure a copy, may send a D/D for Rs.225/- (Rupees two hundred and twenty five only) drawn in favour of PALM payable at Manglore to Dr.C. V. Raghuvver Pathology Department, Kasturba Medical College, Manglore 575 001.

The Manual will be sent by Registered Post A/D."

Message from Editor Journal of Cytology

Journal of Cytology is now published thrice in a year, thanks to the support from all its readers. With a little more effort, we could bring out the journal once every quarter. I appeal to you all to send your best articles to our journal.

N Jayaram

From Treasurer's Desk

Dear Members,

"Happy New Year 2000 to all the Members of IAC".

I would like to appeal to all of you to strengthen our association by enrolling as many new life / ordinary members as possible. Please note the change in membership subscription fee from April 1st, 2000.

Members Subscription from April 1st 2000 :

Life Membership : Rs. 1500/-

Ordinary Membership yearly : Rs.150/-

Life Associate Membership : Rs.750/-

Associate Membership yearly : Rs.75/-

CPC membership yearly : Rs.150/-

Dr. Jayashri K.

ACTIVITIES IN GOA

The Cytopathology Division of Goa Medical College organised 3 Cancer Detection Camps for women at different areas of Goa (Cuncolim, manpuca and Ponda). The patients were Screened for Breast and Cervical Cancers. At these camps lectures on "Cancers in women - Prevention and early detection were also delivered by Dr. R.G.W.Pinto, Executive member of IAC. Two books 1) Cancers in women and 2) Cytopathology in Clinical practice were also published and edited by Dr. R.G.W. Pinto. The book "Cancers in women" is being distributed to the Womens organisations and groups in Goa and the book Cytopathology in clinical practice is being distributed to the Clinicians, Radiologist and General Practitioners in Goa.

The dates of examinations of Cytotechnicians / Cytotechnologists for this year are as follows :

1. The date for the above examination have been fixed as follows :

Theory : 20.9.2000

Practical and Oral 21.9.2000

2. The Convenor and Venue of examinations will be : Dr. Krishnamurthy, Tata Memorial Hospital, (Tata Memorial Centre), Dr. Ernest Borges Road, Parel, Mumbai - 400 012. Tel.No.414-6750 Fax: 022-4146937

3. Please circulate the information for the same through the next forthcoming issue of IAC News Bulletin.

4. The application forms for the same can be obtained from Prof. Subhash K. Gupta, Chairperson, Accreditation and Examination Committee, Professor and Head, Department of Cytology, P.G.I.M.E.R. Chandigarh-160012.

5. Last date for receipt of application will be 31st July, 2000.

