Welcome to the Tarang, the Annual newsletter of the Association of Indian Neurologists in America. The Tarang complements our website (www.4aina.com) and monthly update emails in order to provide information about our organization, medical and professional topics, and upcoming professional meetings of interest to our readers. If you have any interesting events, awards, recognitions, activities to report about neurologist of Indian origin, please email a brief summary along with photographs to aina@badgerbay.co.

Dear colleagues:

The past year has been very active for the Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA). The AINA presence at subspecialty meetings has expanded. Under the leadership of Drs. Sanjay Singh and Prakash Kotagal, AINA continues to host a program in conjunction with the American Epilepsy Society. AINA also held its 2nd “Meet & Greet” dinner in association with the Neurocritical Care Society. AINA also hosted a reception at the Society for Vascular and Interventional Neurology (SVIN) meeting and an educational presentation during the International Stroke Conference in 2019.

The AINA Resident & Fellow (R&F) section has continued to be active in conducting interviews for our website. The R&F section interviews have been with leading neurologists such as Lifetime Achievement award recipients or experts on issues pertaining to global neurology.

The Indian neurological community has had a banner year in the past 12 months. We congratulate our community members who have received AAN awards. AINA continues to sponsor, in partnership with the American Brain Foundation, a lifetime achievement award. Dr. Ram Ayyar is the highly deserving recipient for 2019. I hope you will read this newsletter to learn about noteworthy developments within AINA and its members.

Thank you to our sponsors, the volunteer efforts of the Executive Committee and Membership Committee, and our management company Badger Bay Co for their support of AINA. I look forward to meeting all of you in Philadelphia and wish you a very productive and enjoyable Annual Meeting.

Seemant Chaturvedi, MD, FAAN
AINA President

Thank You to Our 2019 Annual Meeting Sponsors

Infucare Rx, Alexion Pharmaceuticals and Eisai, Inc.
AINA 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award - Dr. Ram Ayyar

Ram Ayyar, M.D., is Emeritus Professor of Neurology at the University of Miami. He had his postgraduate training in Neurology in India and subsequently went to England to work under the renowned neurologist Lord Walton at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. His further training was at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Ram had the good fortune of training under Dr. Edward H. Lambert, the pioneer in the field of Electromyograph “the father of EMG”. After a short stint at Wayne State University, Ram joined the faculty at the department of Neurology University of Miami in 1976. He became a Tenured Professor of Neurology and was Vice Chairman for Clinical Affairs for several years. He was also Director of the Neuromuscular Medicine Fellowship Program and Director of EMG Laboratory from 1976 until his partial retirement in 2018.

During his tenure of directorship of the fellowship program he had the opportunity to train more than 70 fellows. They were from USA, India, Pakistan, Europe, Japan and South America. Many of them now occupy prestigious positions in different parts of the world. Ram maintains a close relationship with his former fellows. He is held in high esteem by the residents, fellows and faculty members for his clinical expertise and teaching ability. He has been invited to many countries as a visiting professor.

He has published over 100 papers in peer reviewed journals and has been given outstanding teacher of the year award many times. In addition to his expertise in neuromuscular diseases in the last 3 decades he has developed a special interest in ciguatera fish poisoning. His close work with the Rosensteil Marine School at the University of Miami has been productive and has resulted in several papers. Ciguatera is one of the most common food poisoning that is seen. Ciguatoxin interferes with sodium channel function. Ram is well known to the members of AINA and was actively involved in the early stages of the formation of the association.

AINA extends sincere congratulations to Dr. Ayyar for his lifetime of great work! Dr. Ayyar will be recognized at the 36th Annual AINA Dinner Meeting in conjunction with AAN’s annual meeting.

In 2007, the AAN Foundation partnered with the Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA) to create an award recognizing those who have been committed to advancing the Indian neurologic community. The AINA presented the AAN Foundation Chair Austin Sumner, MD, with a $50,000 check to endow the award.

The AINA Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a leader in neurology by her/his peers. The recipient will be a North American neurologist chosen based on her/his dedication in advancing the training of North American neurologists of Indian origin and promoting innovation and research in the field of neurology. The recipient will have supported Indian neurologists over a significant period of time in achieving meaningful progress toward expressed goals.

Highlights from the 2018 AINA Annual Meeting

Dr. Vinay Chaudhry was given the 2018 AINA Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Vinay Chaudhry, MD, shared comments with the audience reflecting on his career and his hopes for the future growth and strengthening of AINA. He shared his views on mentorship and the importance of having a leader and colleagues to connect with to move neurology forward. Dr. Chaudhry is Professor of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine where he is the co-director of EMG laboratory and was Vice-Chair of Clinical Affairs and Director of the Neurology Outpatient Center. He is internationally recognized as a clinician, teacher, researcher, and a leader in field of neuromuscular medicine and electrophysiology.

2018 Featured Speaker - Dr. Justin McArthur, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

The 2018 Annual Meeting Featured Speaker was Dr. Justin McArthur. He joined our 150 attendees to discuss “The Future of Neurology”, Dr. Justin C. McArthur is nationally and internationally recognized for his work in studying the natural history, development and treatment of HIV infection, multiple sclerosis, neurological infections and immune-mediated neurological disorders. He serves as the Director of the Department of Neurology at the Johns Hopkins University and the Johns Hopkins/National Institute of Mental Health Research Center for Novel Therapeutics of HIV-associated Cognitive Disorders.
2018 Neurology Practice Update – Dr. Rajesh Pahwa, University of Kansas School of Medicine

The 2018 Annual Meeting invited Dr. Rajesh Pahwa to share a neurology practice update that was entitled: Treatment Advances in Parkinson’s Disease Psychosis: Transforming the Standard of Care for Hallucinations and Delusions. Dr. Pahwa shared updates to the engaged attendees regarding the pathophysiology of Parkinson’s Disease and understanding the symptoms, diagnosis and impact. Dr. Rajesh Pahwa is the Director of the Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorder Center at The Parkinson’s Foundation Center of Excellence, University of Kansas in Kansas City.

2019 AINA Neurology Trainee Awards Announced

AINA is pleased to announce the winners of the 2019 AINA Neurology Trainee Awards. There were over 25 abstracts that were reviewed this year - an AINA record! The process was very competitive to determine the final winners! These winners will be presented a Trainee Award during the AINA Annual Meeting on Monday evening, May 6th at the Le Meridien Hotel in Philadelphia, PA.

1st Place
Neal Parikh
Liver Fibrosis and Outcomes after Primary Intracerebral Hemorrhage

2nd Place
Aravind Ganesh
Factors Associated with Discrepancy Between Post-treatment Infarct Volume and 90-day Functional Outcome in the ESCAPE Randomized Controlled Trial

Trainee Award Runner Ups:
Shamik Shah
TBI and PTSD are associated with higher risk of Ischemic Stroke in veteran population: VA retrospective study

Parneet Grewal
Improving field Identification of Large vessel occlusion: A retrospective review analysis

Saurav Das
Tumors in the cauda equina: a SEER analysis of tumor types and predictors of outcome

Congratulations to these winners! What great work being showcased by these individuals, as well as all of the trainee abstracts. An exciting time in Neurology!

AINA Trainee Awards History

In keeping with AINA's mission of advancing the training of neurologists and promoting research, the AINA Executive Committee has instituted the AINA Trainee Award for the annual meeting. The first awards were given in the 2013 annual meeting at San Diego, CA Residents or Fellows of Indian origin currently enrolled in a training program in North America, who are registered for the AINA annual meeting, and who are the 1st or senior author of an abstract presentation at the 2019 American Academy of Neurology annual meeting, are eligible to apply for this award. The 1st place recipient will receive a check for $500, free Life Membership (valued at $500) and a recognition certificate at the AINA meeting.

Past Recipients of the AINA Trainee Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Dr. Pavan Bhargava Dr. Srikant Rangaraju Dr. Wazim Mohamed</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Dr. Rajbeer Sangha Dr. Partha Ghosh Dr. Monika Mishra</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>No award submissions</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Shivam Mittal, Ajay Goenka, Rajbeer Sangha</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Vamshi Krishna Sai, Balasetti, Deepak Gupta, Vasu Saini, Apratim Chatterjee</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Aravind Ganesh, Aaron Desai, Lakshman Arcot Jayagopal</td>
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Photos from the Annual Meeting 2018
First reception Held at the Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology

AINA held its first reception for the interventional neurology community on November 16, 2018. The reception was held during the Annual meeting of the Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology (SVIN). Thanks to Drs. Sandra Narayanan, Ashutosh Jadhav, and Vishal Jani for helping to organize the event. AINA looks forward to adding the energy of interventional neurologists to the AINA family.

The SVIN’s mission is to represent the advancement of interventional neurology as a field with the ultimate goal of improving clinical care and outcomes of patients with stroke and cerebrovascular diseases.

AINA-Neurocritical Care Section Update

Dr. Neha Dangayach and Dr. Aarti Sarwal coordinated the 2nd AINA NCS get together at the Neurocritical Care Society in Boca Raton at the 16th Annual Neurocritical Society Meeting in September 2018.

AINA Members Contribute to 2018 World Stroke Congress

Several AINA members contributed to the World Stroke Congress in Montreal, Canada Oct 17-20. The roles included invited speakers and oral abstract presenters.

AINA members shared an informal networking dinner. Pictured are (L to R): Drs. PN Sylaja, Aneesh Singhal, Rohit Bhatia, Dheeraj Khurana, Jeyeraj Pandian, Dileep Yavagal, Pooja Khatri, Seemant Chaturvedi.
AINA - Resident and Fellows Section Contributes to Podcast Series

The Resident and Fellow Section of AINA was established in Fall 2017 with the goal of nurturing upcoming Neurology trainees and receiving mentorship in their professional practices. The section is overseen by the President of the association, Dr. Seemant Chaturvedi and by Executive Committee members - Prachi Mehdiratta and Vishal Jani.

The benefits include a subsidized membership fee, a mentorship program for trainees and networking opportunities with leading neurologists across the country. The primary work has been focused on interviewing and recording a series of podcasts with faculty members and leaders in the neurology field to educate and inspire our members. Please go to the AINA website to view these podcasts. Podcasts have been conducted with: Dr. Manjari Tripathi, Dr. Aneesh Singhal, Dr. Jeyaraj Pandian, Dr. Vinay Chaudhry, and Dr. Nirmal Surya. More interviews and podcasts to come!

We encourage all trainees to join AINA and to take advantage of the opportunity to connect with colleagues and foster collaborations.

International Stroke Conference hosts AINA Reception

AINA held a reception and educational program at the International Stroke Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii on February 7, 2019. After a social reception, there was a presentation by Dr. Maarten Lansberg from Stanford University on current concepts regarding brain perfusion imaging in acute stroke.

AINA Holds Meeting in Conjunction with the American Epilepsy Society in New Orleans

On Sunday, December 2nd, the AINA-Epilepsy Section held their meeting in conjunction with the American Epilepsy Society. Approximately 100 people in attendance from the U.S., Canada and India. Information about AINA was shared, along with featured presentations. See below a few photos from the event! Thank you all for coming, and we look forward to future opportunities with all! Special thank you to Dr. Sanjay Singh and Dr. Prakash Kotagal for organizing the event!
**Neurologists of Indian Origin in the News**

Dr. Vineeta Singh was involved in NIH sponsored randomized controlled trial investigating the use of iron chelator deferoxamine to prevent secondary injury by iron in patients with intracerebral hemorrhage. The results published in the Lancet included participants from 40 hospital sites from across the US and Canada, showed safety but no signal of efficacy. The trial did not reach its primary objective of further study of efficacy at 90 days. However, an improvement in recovery seen between three to six months has prompted the investigators to consider that for future studies a later time-point may be more appropriate to examine effects of such treatment in intracerebral hemorrhage.

Dr. Abhimanu Mahajan received the sole Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) Clinical Fellowship Award for 2019-2020. The award money is towards salary support and research in his second year of fellowship at University of Cincinnati under Dr. Alberto Espay. His research proposal is entitled “Cerebellar Degeneration in Tremor-Dominant Cervical Dystonia: Clinical and Neuroimaging Cohort Study.” Dr. Mahajan also serves on the Graduate Education Subcommittee of the AAN and is past chair of the AAN Consortium of Neurology residents and fellows.

Dr. Gurdesh Singh Bedi, received the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation’s Kenneth M. Viste, Jr., MD, Young Physician Leadership Award. The Viste Award is presented each year to a young physician who demonstrates outstanding commitment to patients, the medical profession and the community. Dr. Bedi is a neuromuscular neurologist who practices full time and serves as director of medical and musculoskeletal specialties at St. Croix Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Pooja Khatri is Professor of Neurology at the University of Cincinnati. She is well known as a leading authority on acute stroke trials dealing with thrombolysis and stroke intervention. She served as lead author for the PRISMS trial, investigating role of thrombolysis in patients with mild stroke. The ESO thrombectomy in acute ischemic stroke guidelines are published in the *European Stroke Journal*.

Dr. Shyam Prabhakaran, MD MS, has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the University of Chicago. In addition to his leadership in reorganizing the stroke system of care in Chicago over the past decade, Dr. Prabhakaran has a strong track record of extramurally funded clinical and translational research that focuses on uncovering the underlying causes of recurrent strokes, improving the delivery of stroke care, and optimizing patient outcomes and recovery.

Dr. Prachi Mehndiratta and Dr. Divya Singhal both received the 2019 A.B. Baker Teach Recognition Award for their contributions to improving neurology now and in the future. This award demonstrates respect and appreciation for neurologic teaching. In addition, Dr. Singhal has been asked to be a member of the AAN Graduate Education Subcommittee and AAN’s new joint coordinating council on wellness.

Dr. Aarti Sarwal and Dr. Vineeta Singh were appointed to the Editorial Board of Critical Care Medicine. Critical Care Medicine is the premier peer-reviewed, scientific publication in critical care medicine. Directed to those specialists who treat patients in the ICU and CCU, including chest physicians, surgeons, pediatricians, pharmacists/ pharmacologists, anesthesiologists, critical care nurses, and other healthcare professionals, Critical Care Medicine covers all aspects of acute and emergency care for the critically ill or injured patient.
Dr. Jeyaraj D Pandian was elected in 2018 as the Vice-President of World Stroke Organization (WSO) for a two-year term. Dr. Pandian is a Professor of Neurology and the Principal of Christian Medical College (CMC), Ludhiana, Punjab, India. Dr. Pandian is the first Asian to take up this position.

Dr. Aarti Sarwal was selected for the 2018-2019 AAN Emerging Leaders Program. The 16 selected participants started the program in October and will work in two groups on projects assigned by AAN committees, with one group working on “How can the AAN educate residents about practice management issues, including coding and reimbursement?” and the other “How can the AAN develop a framework to score and measure engagement in order to improve the AAN’s member engagement?”

Dr. Usha Misra lead a trial that was published in the August 2018 Journal of the American Medical Association regarding fludrocortisone in TB meningitis called Safety and Efficacy of Fludrocortisone in the Treatment of Cerebral Salt Wasting in Patients With Tuberculous Meningitis - A Randomized Clinical Trial.

Dr. Raghav Govindarajan, University of Missouri, and Dr. Ashutosh Jadhav, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, have recently been elected as AAN Section Chairs. Dr. Govindarajan has been elected for the Neuromuscular Section, and Dr. Jadhav elected for the Interventional Neurology Section.

Dr. Mike Sharma, Professor of Neurology at McMaster University in Hamilton, ON, Canada, was one of the lead authors of the NAVIGATE-ESUS study published online May 16 in the New England Journal of Medicine. The large international study compared rivaroxaban vs. aspirin for stroke prevention in patients with stroke of undetermined etiology.

Become a Member of AINA!

AINA is a dynamic organization that was set up to bring together neurologist of Indian origin for a common goal of promoting patient care, teaching and research. Your feedback into the ongoing efforts of the association to achieve this goal is extremely important to us. For any feedback about the organization, or your wish to contribute, please email below or use the link through the AINA website.

Contact the AINA office or visit www.4aina.com to learn more!

Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA)
Email: aina@badgerbay.co | Web: www.4aina.com

AINA Welcomes New Life Members

*These individuals are new members since May 1, 2018. This has been a record year for lifetime membership with over 25 new members!

Samir Belagaje
Nirav Bhatt
Sunita Dergalust
Amar Dhand
Sushrut Dharmadhikari
Divyanshu Dubey
Gautam Ganguly
Chaitali Ghosh
Archana Hinduja
Priyank Khandelwal
Balaji Krishnaiah
Prashanth Krishnamohan
Paul Mathew
Bijoy Menon
Rajiv Narula
Rajiv Padmanabhan
Shyam Prabhakaran
Sashank Prasad
Kiran Rajneesh
Kottil Rammohan
Bappaditya Ray
Manan Shah
Rahul Shah
Mukul (Mike) Sharma
Diya Singhal
Parthasarathy Thirumala
Ambooj Tiwari
Neeraj Badjatia Received the INCLINE grant for his research project at the Neurocritical care society 2018

Dr. Aarti Sarwal teaching ENLS (emergency neurological life support) at St. George hospital in Sydney, Australia. This was taught as a course offering at the International Hypothermia Symposium.

AINA members part of Emerging Leaders Program at AAN

Raising money for research at Neurocritical Care Society Annual meeting through football match - US vs World

Deepa P Malaiyandi presented at the Neurocritical Care Society meeting
AINA 36th Annual Meeting

Make plans now to attend the AINA Annual meeting and dinner held during the AAN meeting on May 6, 2019 at Le Meridien, 1421 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. Please register yourself and guests today! We look forward to connecting with colleagues, recognizing the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award winner and hearing from our special guest speakers.

Thank you to our Meeting Sponsors:

Sponsorship Opportunities Available. Please contact the AINA office by email at AINA@badgerbay.co