Message from the President

I have been busy the last few weeks planning, finding funds and finalizing the Joint IMANE Annual CME Conference and concurrent AAPI Governing Body meetings. The AAPI event is to be held the weekend of April 10 to 12, 2009 at the Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel, and the IMANE conference will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2009, also at the Renaissance Hotel. I would like to thank Drs. Passey, Saldanha, Srinivasan, Sangal and Gupta for their support and guidance on various aspects involved in the planning.

For IMANE, it is a particular honor to be the host for this event, but it is also an obligation to provide the venue, meals and activities for the attending AAPI Governing Body members. I hope you have seen the two agendas we sent last week detailing what we have planned.

Concurrent with the AAPI Governing Body meetings, in an adjoining conference room IMANE will present its Annual Educational Conference entitled, “When Psychiatry and Medicine Intersect.” We have a superb program in the works with three impressive speakers, including Dr. Sajani Shah, a general surgeon at Tufts Medical Center, Dr. Sumer Verma, a geriatric psychiatrist at McLean Hospital, and Dr. Luis Sanchez, Director of Physicians Health Services at the Mass. Medical Society.

IMANE members are asked to register on Sat., April 11 at 8 a.m. and enjoy breakfast with AAPI members, as well as lunch, which will include a presentation by Dr. Alireza Atri, from the Memory Disorders Unit at Mass General Hospital and GRECC at Bedford VA Medical Center.

In the afternoon, IMANE members may wish to enjoy local recreational/cultural activities in Boston, or visit IMANE’s hospitality suite at the hotel, where tea and Indian snacks will be served. The day will culminate with an evening Boston Harbor Cruise that includes a three-course dinner and music on the Spirit of Boston. All IMANE and AAPI members are invited. (There will be no speakers.) We hope that IMANE members will join together for this all day affair. Please see Page 2 for the full event agenda. If you have questions, please call Lynda Layer at 1-781-434-7317. IMANE members may wish to consider booking a significantly-discounted room at the hotel. This rate is available until March 20, 2009.

--Nasir A. Khan, MD

Also in this Issue: Conference Agenda on pg. 2, News Brief on pg. 3 and IMANE Profiles on pg. 4
BOURNEWOOD HOSPITAL

in joint sponsorship with

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND (IMANE)

“Where Psychiatry and Medicine Intersect”

Saturday, April 11, 2009

Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel

606 Congress St., Boston, MA 02210

Moderator: Arun Chaudhary, MD, Secretary, IMANE

8:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:50 a.m. Welcome & Introduction
Nasir A. Khan, MD
President of IMANE

9:00 a.m. “Morbid Obesity: Predisposing Factors, Co-Morbidities and Surgical Management”
Sajani Shah, MD
General Surgeon, Tufts Medical Center

9:45 a.m. “Depression and Medical Illness: A Two-Way Street”
Sumer Verma, MD
Geriatric Psychiatrist, McLean Hospital

10:45 a.m. “Doctors Who Get into Trouble with the Board of Registration: A Review of Problems and Role of Physicians Health Services”
Luis T. Sanchez, MD
Director, Physicians Health Services, Mass Medical Society

11:30 a.m. Panel Discussion
Doctors Shah, Verma and Sanchez

12:00 Noon CME Program Adjourned

12:00 Noon Lunch for IMANE members and AAPI Governing Body Members

“New Thinking on an Old Disease: Alzheimer’s Disease, Current Thinking and Future Directions”
Alireza Atri, MD
Memory Disorders Unit, Mass General Hospital, & GRECC, Bedford VA Med Ctr

1:00 p.m. Adjournment

1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Optional Tour of Boston

6:30 to 10:00 p.m. Spirit of Boston: Harbor Cruise with 3-course dinner and music for IMANE and AAPI Members

Program Description and Objectives: The CME program will focus on identifying the relationship between psychiatry and medicine and explore the use of epidemiology and diagnostic techniques in addressing a patient’s psychiatric and clinical conditions concurrently. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the current best practices and learn to use the latest tools most effectively; examine the current guidelines and options to diagnosis and treat these illnesses medically; learn how to identify patients at risk for psychiatric complications and explore the latest preventative strategies; and analyze the global trends in treating patients with physical and psychological disorders using recommended best practices.

CME CREDIT/ACCREDITATION: Bournewood Hospital designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Massachusetts Medical Society through the joint sponsorship of Bournewood Hospital and Indian Medical Association of New England. Bournewood Hospital is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
I was asked to write an article on the IMANE Goa trip for the AAPI Magazine, which will be published in March 2009. India New England has also agreed to publish this article this month.

The IMANE website needs updating. I have asked Dr. Arun Chaudhary to utilize his programming skills to incorporate some of the new initiatives we are undertaking and provide appropriate links.

The Indian Circle of Caring USA, Inc., whose mission IMANE has endorsed and who will have a link to our new website, will have two standing IMANE members, Drs. Mohani Malhotra and Manju Sheth, who will provide support, orientation and guidance.

The Executive Committee endorsed two insurance agencies that will provide substantial discounted products for IMANE members. These include Long-Term Disability Insurance, Life Insurance, Long-Term Care Insurance from the PKA Financial Group, Inc. and Auto Insurance, Homeowners, Condo and Rental Insurance and Business Insurance from Platinum Insurance Agency. Details will be available on our new website.

The AAPI sponsored 2nd Women’s Health Summit will be held in Jersey City, NJ, March 13 to 15, 2009. Dr. Geeta Trivedi, Dr. Apurv Gupta and I will probably attend on behalf of IMANE.

I nominated Dr. Chander Kapasi on behalf of IMANE to the Most Distinguished AAPI Service Award. She has been a long-time active member of IMANE and AAPI. I said in part, “Chander is a very intelligent, articulate and forceful spokesperson for issues which are meaningful to her. The areas of her concern dovetail with the values of IMANE and AAPI.”

I participated in a lengthy conference call with AAPI Observership Program members. This culminated in a decision that AAPI will develop criteria for participation, cost and curriculum for Indian physicians who are in the U.S. legally but have not been able to get admission to a training or residency program. I have asked Dr. Apurv Gupta to represent IMANE on this National Committee. His experience developing an Externship Program locally will be helpful in formatting an AAPI-sponsored program in New England.

IMANE ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE:
Boston Renaissance Waterfront Hotel, Boston, Sat., April 11, 2009. IMANE will also host the concurrent AAPI Governing Body Meeting. A joint IMANE/AAPI celebration on the Spirit of Boston with a three-course dinner and music will follow that evening.

All IMANE members and their guests are invited.
Profile: Dr. Prasad Srinivasan, Candidate for Vice President, AAPI

The Executive Committee of IMANE has voted to endorse Dr. Prasad Srinivasan for the position of Vice President of AAPI in that organization’s forthcoming elections. Dr. Srinivasan is the current elected Secretary and immediate past Treasurer and past Regional Director Northeast of AAPI. He has also served on several committees and as Chair of the AAPI CME Program in Argentina and Brazil.

Dr. Srinivasan is a member of the Connecticut Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (CAPI), its recent Past President and a Trustee. He is known to IMANE as he often comes from Hartford to attend our activities.

Dr. Srinivasan is a practicing allergist and has been active in civic affairs in Conn. These include Chair, Health Advisory Committee, Public Health Foundation of Conn.; Chair of Hartford County Medical Society; Past Chairman of Finance Committee for the Council on Interreligious Understanding ; and Past Chair of Conn. Valley Hindu Temple Society. He has participated in the AAPI Charitable Foundation, and established with his wife the Prasad Family Foundation to support higher education. His services have been recognized by the Governor of Conn. and the Mayor of Hartford.

Profile: Dr. Janine Saldanha, Candidate for Board of Trustees, AAPI

The Executive Committee of IMANE has voted to endorse Dr. Janine Saldanha as candidate for the Board of Trustees in the forthcoming AAPI elections.

Dr. Saldanha has been a long-term member of IMANE. She has served as a New England Regional Director to AAPI, was Co-Convener of the AAPI Convention in Boston in 1991, is Past-President of IMANE and was a Trustee. She was involved in setting up free charitable clinics within the region.

Dr. Saldanha has also been active with AAPI and serves as the Chair of Ethics and Grievance Committee, as well a member of the Bylaws and Publications Committee among others. In addition, she is very involved with the Mass Medical Society, is a delegate for Suffolk District Medical Society, and is on the IMG Executive Committee and on the Board of Trustees of the Boston Medical Library.

A Board Certified Anesthesiologist at Mass Eye and Ear and Mass General Hospital, Dr. Saldanha is also very involved in a variety of community services initiatives. She has participated in the Rotary Club, and she has served as President of the Indian American Forum for Political Action, Chair of WGBH TV Boston Community Advisory Board and volunteering as an anesthesiologist to Rotoblast Corrective Surgery mission to South America. In addition, she recently helped organize the candlelight vigil for Mumbai terrorism victims in Boston.