



American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin

NOVEMBER 2002 NEWSLETTER

Message From The President

As I sit down to write my first message, I can hear the fleeting footsteps of summer outside. However, one of the prettiest times of the year with its myriad of colors is fast approaching ... and so is our AACIO fall dinner meeting. I am pleased to invite you, my cardiologist friends to the upcoming, bi-annual meeting on November 17, 2002 in Chicago.

Last July some of us had the pleasure of attending a joint Consultants Meeting with the members of the ABC (Association of Black Cardiologists) in Toronto, Canada. This brief meeting with their leadership was very productive and led to the formation of a liaison committee between the two organizations to explore further some of our research projects involving health issues especially prevalent in our ethnic communities (e.g. more hypertension in Blacks and coronary artery disease in Asian Indians).

We are in the process of updating our AACIO directory and will appreciate your input in order to complete this immense task. Please contact Lindy Chapman at 205-934-8256 to add or change addresses for our current and new members.

Although there are over several thousand cardiologists of Indian origin in USA, our paid membership numbers are unfortunately far less than desirable. As you all know any organization's strength is its members. This year make it your responsibility to invite one more person to join hands with us. We need a concerted effort to increase our membership, prefer-

ably life memberships. The AACIO website will certainly enhance our visibility and communication. We will continue to improve our website. I will appeal to you all to spread the word to cardiology fellows in-training regarding the AACIO's young investigator bi-annual awards. We want to encourage the younger generation's involvement with the AACIO.



I am very pleased to inform you about our exquisite group of speakers for the upcoming meeting, who will discuss current concepts for the management of very common clinical problems of hypertension and hyperlipidemia. This will be a unique learning experience for all of us and as well as enjoyment too. Our CME committee also requests you to make genuine efforts to seek sponsorships from various pharmaceutical companies, to raise funds to reach our goals.

I would like to convey my thanks to Dr. Navin Nanda for his guidance. My special thanks go to Dr. Lalmalani for all his help in arranging this meeting in Chicago and Dr. Deshmukh, editor of our newsletter.

Beyond beliefs of right
Beyond beliefs of wrong
There is a field
Can we meet there (Rumi - 13th century)

I look forward to seeing you all in Chicago.

Sukh Dev Sharma, MD, FACC

Editor's Page:

The Fall Meeting of AACIO will be held on Sunday, November 17th, 2002 during the Annual Scientific Session of the AHA in Chicago, Ill. Thanks to our local host Gopal G. Lalimalani, M.D., the meeting will be held at the Hyatt McCormick Place. Prior to this meeting, all members are invited to the Annual Dinner Meeting of the Illinois Medical Association (IAMA) at the Oakbrook Hill Hotel & Resort on Saturday, November 16th. The detailed announcement of both these meetings can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Members are requested to respond promptly to the respective RSVP's.

Chicago is a beautiful city and a large number of cardiologists of Indian origin practice there. Please do come and bring your family and friends. This is a nice occasion to get together and meet friends and colleagues. There is no charge for the dinner.

The new office-bearers have taken charge of the Association. The President, Sukh Sharma, MD, who has been active in the affairs of the association since its inception, is known to most of us. Prakash Deedwania, M.D., of Fresno, CA has joined the Board of Directors.

This year the Honoree is Abnash Jain, M.D. He is the Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology at the West Virginia School of Medicine in Morgantown, West Virginia.

To attract applicants for the Young Investigator Award, the Association has been advertising in Circulation, JACC, and Indian newspapers. It is gratifying to note that many of our young cardiologists are mentioned as awardees in the national cardiology organizations. During the March 2002 meeting of ACC in Atlanta, of the twenty who received the ACC/BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB TRAVEL AWARD four were of Indian origin:

Uday N. Kumar, MD et al; Univ. of California - San Francisco; "device development related to arrhythmia and electrophysiology"

Pradeep P.A. Mammen, MD et al; Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; "molecular biology of oxygen metabolism and energy utilization in cardiac muscle aimed at developing future innovative approaches to the treatment of

heart failure".

Nirav J. Mehta, MD et al; Creighton Univ. Cardiac Center; "effects of exercise training on inflammatory markers in coronary artery disease, interaction of ACE inhibitor and antiplatelet agents on endothelial cell functions".

Jagmeet Singh, MD, PhD et al; Massachusetts General Hospital; "interactions between the autonomic nervous system and ventricular repolarization and their role in arrhythmogenic and anti-arrhythmic mechanisms".

Career Development Awards presented at ACC '02:

Debabrata Mukherjee, MD, Asst. Prof. Division of Cardiology, Univ. of Michigan; Keating Career Development award for his project "outcome and appropriateness assessment of peripheral endovascular interventions".

Nalini M. Rajamannan, MD, Asst. Prof. Division of Cardiology at Northwestern Univ. Med. School and a visiting research scientist at the Mayo Clinic Dept. of Cardiology and Biochemistry; ACC/Pharmacia Career Development award for her project "Mechanisms of Aortic Valve Calcification".

For further details regarding the above Awards please see ACC '02 News of February and April.

The AACIO Meeting in Atlanta in March 2002 was well attended and very well organized. However, during the presentation of the scientific topics sponsored by the pharmaceutical company the level of noise was intolerable, and movement of people in the room was distracting to speakers. In fact, one of the speakers had to admonish the crowd and asked for silence. It behooves us to maintain proper decorum, show courtesy towards the speaker, and demonstrate the seriousness of our purpose, and listen to the speakers.

We hope that there will be a large turn-out, and let us make a joint effort to make this meeting successful and enjoyable.

Madhukar M. Deshmukh, MD, FRCP

HONOREE: ABNASH JAIN, M.D.



Dr. Abnash Jain is currently Professor of Medicine and Chief, Section of Cardiology of West Virginia University School of Medicine in Morgantown, West Virginia. He graduated from Punjab University in Chandigarh, India. Initially he did his postgraduate work in England and Ireland and also obtained his Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene & Membership and Fellowship in Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh. In the United States he did his residency and fellowship in Albany Medical Center, Albany, New York and at University of Illinois in Chicago, Illinois. He was Governor of the American College of Cardiology from 1976-1979 in West Virginia and was President of the West Virginia Heart Association. He is highly recognized as an excellent clinician/teacher and has won several awards for his teaching and clinical abilities including "Best Attending Physician", "Clinician of the Year", and "Distinguished Teacher". He also received WVU School of Medicine Dean's award, "Life Time Clinical Excellence Year 2000". He has continued to demonstrate scholarly activity. He has been an excellent role model for a large number of medical students, residents, fellows and has served a vital role in the state in providing state-of-the-art care in cardiology for more than a quarter century.

American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin

cordially invites you to the

FALL DINNER MEETING

Saturday, November 16, 2002 -- Join IAMA-Illinois annual dinner meeting at the Oak Brook Hills Hotel & Resort, 3500 Midwest Road in Oak Brook, IL at 5:30 PM. (630-850-5555). Mr. Shatrughan Sinha, Honorable Union Minister of Health, Government of India, has agreed to preside over the function. Transportation will be arranged. The bus will pick you up from Embassy Suites (Downtown Lakeside) at 5:15 PM and from Hyatt - McCormick Place at 5:30 PM.

Sunday, November 17 -- at the Hyatt McCormick Place in Chicago (312-567-1234)

5:30--6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting

7:30--8:15 PM Registration and cocktails

8:15--8:20 PM Welcome

8:20--8:45 PM Emerging options in the management of Hypertension--Venkata Ram MD.

8:45--9:15 PM Atherosclerosis...current treatment concepts... Prakash Deedwania MD

9:15--9:30 PM Awards

9:30 PM Dinner & Entertainment

RSVP

Pratap Kumar, MD 630-530-2484 -- For Saturday, Nov. 16, 2002

Sukh Dev Sharma, MD For Sunday, Nov. 17, 2002

4914 Tramarlac Lane, Erie, PA 16505

Tel: 814-838-7248... FAX: 814-836-1628

E-mail: sukhdev01@yahoo.com

Sponsored by: Astra Zeneca & Forest Laboratories

I will attend - Name _____

Number of Guests _____

Change of Address, Tel., Fax _____

MINUTES OF THE MEETING - AACIO MARCH 2002

The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the AACIO met at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Atlanta on March 17, 2002.

Following members of the executive committee were present in the meeting: M. Deshmukh, R. Dhurandhar, J.L. Mehta, Navin C. Nanda, D. Naik, R. Sanyal, R. Sharma, S. Sharma and S. Swaroop.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Swaroop and following are the minutes of the meeting:

- 1) Minutes of the last meeting of the Nov 2001 were unanimously passed.
- 2) Dr. Sanyal presented the treasurer's report, which was accepted unanimously. Details of the transactions from Nov. 01 to Feb. 28th, 2002 were discussed.
- 3) Dr. Nanda proposed and it was decided that the treasurer would write all the checks and would file the income tax in future and President will work closely with the treasurer regarding this matter to avoid confusion.
- 4) It was decided that tax exemption certificate of the association will be handed over to Dr. Roychoudhury, who will be official treasurer from July, 2002 for next two years.
- 5) Methods of accepting dues from the members by Visa and Mastercards will have to be clarified from the Northern Trust Bank, so that the present machines for accepting Visa and Mastercards can be used. New members will download the membership form from the web site and will send the dues either by check or visa card to the treasurer or president.
- 6) Directory of AACIO is being updated from Dr. Nanda's office and it was reported that the new listings of the directory would be ready in next 2-3 months.
- 7) All board and executive members will have to be compulsory life members.
- 8) One honorary membership post each from Cardiological Society of India and Indian College of Cardiology will be awarded through invitation in the executive committee of AACIO. Dr. Nanda will discuss the issue with the elected representatives of those associations and will select the names and inform the executive committee. These honorary memberships will change with the tenure of the executive committee.
- 9) Dr. Swaroop proposed the name of Prakash Deedwania MD to induct in the Board of Directors and was unanimously accepted.
- 10) Members of the new executive committee were finalized and unanimously accepted.
New executive committee will consist of:
President: Sukhdev Sharma MD
President Elect or Vice President:
Dayanand Naik MD
Secretary: Rajat Sanyal MD
Treasurer: Debasish Roychoudhury MD
Assistant Treasurer: Rajendra H. Mehta MD (new induction)
Editor: Madhukar Deshmukh MD

All the past Board of Directors will remain in the Committee (except Dr. Ramaswamy, who recently passed away). S. Swaroop MD and Prakash Deedwania MD will be working now as Board of Directors.

- 11) Advertisement for abstracts for November conference would be published in the beginning of July 02 and dead line for submission of abstracts will be end of August 02, and in addition to advertisement in Circulation and American College of Cardiology, advertisement will be published in American Journal of Cardiology.
- 12) A letter of request would be sent from the executive committee to individual members of the AACIO to become a life member of the organization.

As there was no other topic for discussion the meeting was adjourned till the next executive meeting in Nov. 2002, which will take place with the annual AHA meeting in Chicago. With best regards,

Sincerely,
(Rajat S. Sanyal MD)
Treasurer, AACIO

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: OUR UNAPPRECIATED LEGACY

Ivan A. D'Cruz, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Professor of Medicine, University of Tennessee, & Director, Echocardiography, VA Medical Center, Memphis, Tennessee

After having exploited the resources of the Indian subcontinent over two centuries, and transferred immense wealth from that country to England, the British departed reluctantly in 1947. Having enriched themselves on so vast a scale for generations, they inadvertently left behind in India a valuable asset that enriched us - the English language.

Fortunately, neither the United Kingdom nor other English-speaking Commonwealth countries have proprietorial rights over the language. It can be used, and in a sense owned, by anyone who has the diligence and good fortune to learn it well. To any such person belongs the glory and beauty of the finest in English literature.

During the nineteenth century, the British started schools and founded universities (including medical colleges) in several large Indian cities in which English was the medium of instruction and also one of the subjects taught. The first university professors and medical educators were themselves products of British universities, of the Royal College of Physicians or the Royal College of Surgeons, or associated institutions. These worthy gentlemen imprinted not only high standards of scientific and medical discipline on the Indian universities they pioneered, but also demonstrated by example how English should be correctly spoken and written, exemplars who influenced successive generations of physicians that graduated from those esteemed citadels of tradition.

Thus, Indians became literate; a few went further and even achieved literary eminence. Tagore won the Nobel Prize in literature 90

years ago for his translation of his Bengali poems into English. In every decade since then, there have been Indians writing in English who have attained the status of literary luminaries: novelists, poets and essayists, too numerous to mention individually. Most were writers by profession. A few (like Nehru) were statesmen or ambassadors. Some lived and wrote in India, others were emigrants to England, Canada, the USA or elsewhere. V.S. Naipaul, a recent Nobel Laureate, lived first in Trinidad and then in England. He visited India several times and wrote both with the curiosity of an interested observer and with awareness of his Indian heritage.

The last decade has witnessed the burgeoning of a trickle of best-selling Indian novelists and short-story writers into a vigorous stream. Almost every week, one encounters laudatory reviews of a book by an Indian (often female) referred to as Indo-Anglian or Anglo-Indian by American reviewers, in mainstream American newspapers or magazines.

The output of American authors, mostly various forms of fiction, is amazingly prolific, driven no doubt by the affluence and enormous size of the American reading public. The book business is certainly big business. One might expect the average well-educated American to have a broad, versatile and far-ranging vocabulary in verbal as well as written English. However, experience in the real world points in the opposite direction. Apart from technical medical terms, the average medical student or resident uses a surprisingly small repertoire of words or phrases; even such phrases are weighed down heavily by common

cliches and colloquial slang. Not surprisingly, the latter has been adopted by Indian doctors trained in this country.

English is a rich language wherein most words possess a constellation of synonyms that are somewhat similar but also slightly different in meaning, so that nuances of expression are often possible and may even be appropriate. What one finds in reality, is actually the opposite. One encounters certain "overworked" short words which have somehow acquired American meanings other than (even perhaps remote from) their original significance. Examples of these are the words "fix", "hit" and "bunch". These words are in common usage in the USA (but not other English-speaking countries) in everyday medical conversation, for example during ward rounds or morning report. Limitations of space do not permit a detailed discussion of the different senses in which these words are used and understood (or misunderstood by those unfamiliar with their colloquial usage). Perhaps those seeking a topic for etymological research might look into the subject.

For us of the AACIO, the facility in English that we acquired in school and college enabled us to learn medicine from British and American textbooks and then to pass examinations and eventually surmount the hurdles we had to cross before getting trained and qualified in the USA. The English language has been our passport to whatever professional success we have attained here. To use it correctly and well, inside and outside our medical lives, will continue to oil the wheels of our professional, social and intellectual progress.

AACIO Members in the News

SUKH D. SHARMA, MD, FACC

Dr. Sharma is our new President. He has been a leading cardiologist for the last thirty years at Hamot Heart Institute in Erie, PA serving as the chief of division of cardiology and co-director of the medical intensive care unit. He has participated as a principal investigator in a number of international studies in myocardial infarction and unstable angina including ISIS III, ASSENT, and GUSTO I, III & IV. He is assistant clinical professor at the Hahneman Medical School, Philadelphia, PA.

Continuing medical education remains his priority. He has served as a Course Director for "Cardiology Update" held annually at Hamot since 1987. He is an active member of the medical community in the area and served as President of AHA, Northwest Pennsylvania chapter. He is the founder and past president of Great Lakes Association of Physicians from India, and was Chairman of the Charitable Foundation of AAPI.

AACIO is fortunate to have him as our current president and his leadership will make important contributions towards its growth.

RAJENDRA H. MEHTA, MD, FACC

Dr. Mehta of Ann Arbor, Michigan received the W. Proctor Harvey, MD Young Teacher Award during the ACC meeting in March 2002 in Atlanta, GA.

He is Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Michigan. His teaching has been praised by the Fellows at the local VA Hospital, received accolades for weekly ECG morning conferences, and in-patient cardiology services. He also works with the Outcome Research Team at the University Hospital, and teaches research fellows and students.

He is the principal author of the article "Acute Type A Aortic Dissection in the Elderly: Clinical Characteristics, Management and Outcome in the Current Era" on behalf of International Registry of Acute Aortic Dissection (IRAD) Investigators, published in JACC August 21, 2002.

NAVIN C. NANDA, MD

During his professional career Dr. Nanda has received many honors and awards from numerous national and international societies for his contributions to the science of cardiac ultrasound. He is specifically proud of two awards he received this year:

Lifetime Achievement Award by the Govt. of India during the inaugural function of the 6th World Congress of Echocardiography and Cardiovascular Ultrasound held February 8-10, 2002 in New Delhi, India.

The Charak Award, conferred by the Association of Indians in America at a special banquet held in Miami, Florida on Sept. 7, 2002. This award is named after the famous Indian physician who lived during the first century A.D. He enumerated a large number of diseases and gave methods of diagnosis and treatment in his book Charak Samhita.

His new publication "TEE on CD: An Interactive Response" by Steven Konstadt and Navin C. Nanda, Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2001 has been well received. David A. Zvara, MD who reviewed it in the journal Anesthesiology Sept. 2002 wrote "in spite of the steep cost of \$225 the purchaser is receiving more than a simple test. This is a good buy for those serious about maintaining a complete echocardiography library. Information can be easily obtained in a quick and easy manner. The power of this educational tool far exceeds that of a standard textbook. I hope there will be many more textbooks to follow in a similar manner".



Dr. Navin C. Nanda (right) being presented with the Government of India's Lifetime Achievement Award by Dr. C.P. Thakur, India's Minister of Health and Family Welfare (left).

FUTURE CARDIOLOGY CONFERENCES/CONGRESSES

November 16, 2002, 12th Annual International Conference in Echocardiography: Case Studies and Recent Advances in Echocardiography, Chicago, Illinois. Conference Director: Dr. Navin C. Nanda. For information contact: Lindy Chapman, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Heart Station SW/S102, 619 19th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35249-6846. Tel: 205-934-8256; fax: 205-934-6747; E-mail: lindyc@uab.edu. Website: www.iscu.org

March 29, 2003 19th Annual International Conference on Recent Advances in Echocardiography, Chicago, Illinois. Conference Director: Dr. Navin C. Nanda. Held just prior to the American College of Cardiology meetings. For information contact: Lindy Chapman, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Heart Station SW/S102, 619 19th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35249-6846. Tel: 205-934-8256; fax: 205-934-6747; E-mail: lindyc@uab.edu. Website: www.iscu.org

CARDIOVASCULAR SYMPOSIUM AT NAGPUR, INDIA

A cardiovascular symposium is scheduled to be held at Nagpur on February 1st, and February 2nd, 2003. This symposium has been organized by the Fairfax Hospital in Fairfax, Virginia, cosponsored by Cardiological Society of India and American Association of Cardiologists of Indian origin. The program director is Baikunth K. Singh, M.D. of Fairfax, Virginia and Dr. Kirti Tanna of Nagpur is co-director.

This two-day symposium will discuss a variety of current and interesting topics, for example, automatic implantable cardioverter defibrillator, radiofrequency ablation treatment for cardiac arrhythmia, congenital heart diseases, new staging classification for congestive heart failure, management of an acute myocardial infarction, transcatheter revascularization for acute coronary syndrome and brachytherapy, etc.

The guest speakers are Doctors Ted Friebling, Bryan Raybuck, Margaret Bell, John o'Brien, and Baikunth Singh from Georgetown University and Fairfax Hospital and Doctors Devendra Saksena, Satyavan Sharma, and Ashwin Mehta from Bombay. Further information regarding the program may be obtained from Dr. Baikunth Singh, office telephone (703) 591-7770, home telephone (703) 356-7266, fax (703) 591-8162, email bksingh@cox.net.

4TH ANNUAL CME CRUISE MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE THROUGH: SPAIN, FRANCE AND ITALY JUNE 28-JULY 5, 2003

The American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin (AACIO) is sponsoring a CME Conference/Cruise entitled "Medicine in the New Millennium: Cruising Into The 21st Century", to be held in the Mediterranean on the Royal Caribbean "Splendour of the Seas" Cruise Ship from June 28 to July 5, 2003. The Conference Directors are Drs. Rakesh K. Sharma (Florida) and Navin C. Nanda (Alabama). Tentative faculty include: Drs. Madhukar Deshmukh (New York), Amolak Singh (Columbia, Missouri), Umesh Choudhry (Clearwater, Florida), IVS Nath (St. Petersburg, Florida), Geetha Reddy (Columbia, Missouri), Kul Aggarwal (Columbia, Missouri), Tyrone Collins (New Orleans, Louisiana), J. Stephen Jenkins (New Orleans, Louisiana), Patrick Cambier (Clearwater, Florida), Ricardo Blanco (New Orleans, Louisiana) and Thian Lok Tio (Washington, DC).

For further information and special CME group rate, and also if you would like to serve as faculty contact Kris or Shelly at 727-347-4000 or 727-345-1111.

VII WORLD CONGRESS OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY AND VASCULAR ULTRASOUND AUGUST 1-3, 2003 HILTON HOTEL, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

This next World Congress is expected to attract a large number of participants from several countries. Many internationally recognized faculty who have participated in past Congresses will also be present and the tentative scientific program will be available shortly. Tours are also being arranged to Igashu Falls and other interesting places in South America. The Congress is sponsored by the Argentine Society of Cardiology and the International Society of Cardiovascular Ultrasound (ISCU). Congress President: Luis Amuchastegui, MD; International President: Navin C. Nanda, MD. For further information contact: Dr. Navin C. Nanda at nanda@uab.edu or by phone: 205-934-8256 or fax: 205-934-6747.

American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin

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FALL DINNER MEETING

Saturday, November 16, 2002

and

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Please See Complete Announcement Inside



AACIO NEWSLETTER

Sukh Dev Sharma, MD
4914 Tramarlac Lane
Erie, PA 16505

Sukh Dev Sharma, MD
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