

Association of Indian Pathologists in North America

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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From the President's Desk



Dear Bhaartiya Pathologists residing in North America:

I am honored and delighted to assume the position of president of AIPNA for the second time (first time 2009-2011).

The organization has come a long way since my first time at the helm, thanks to all those who volunteered their time and skills.

Many thanks to Mitul Amin, the outgoing president, and his team for their efforts to bring AIPNA so far.

I am a hematopathologist in Vancouver. I graduated from Jamnagar, trained at the PGIMER Chandigarh, and took a tortuous route through the Hammersmith Hospital London, the National Institutes of Health Bethesda MD, the University of Chicago, and the University of Western Ontario London, to finally settle in Vancouver.

AIPNA has a dual mission: networking and academic:

- It is about the only forum for networking and socialization for North American Pathologists/pathologists-in-making originating from Bhaarat. Once you are a member (see the Zeffy link above to pay/renew your tax-deductible membership), you will have access to meeting/communicating with hundreds/thousands of us from Bhaarat. For communication related to membership, please email membership@aipna.net.
- AIPNA organizes annual CME conferences in Bhaarat (since 1995), and also puts up companion meetings during annual meetings of North American and global conferences by organizations like the College of American Pathologists, US-Canadian Academy of Pathology, Association of Molecular Pathology, International Society of Laboratory Hematology, International Academy of Pathology et cetera. If you

are attending any of these meetings, register for the AIPNA companion meetings for educational and networking opportunities.

- AIPNA publishes interesting cases on our website and also on social media. Please submit them to newsletter-editor@aipna.net.
- AIPNA fosters academic excellence by recognizing research efforts by residents at the USCAP meeting.
- AIPNA helps promising young Bhaaratya pathologists working in Bhaarat and in North America by providing them with short-term observership.

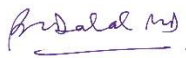
Please visit us on the web www.aipna.net

I invite you all to become a member / renew your association's (AIPNA) membership. Dues are Residents/fellows \$50 annually, staff \$100 annually or \$1000 life membership. Please click on the Zeffy link at the top of the newsletter to pay.

Please also send your name, phone number, and address to info@aipna.net.

We plan to have regional social/educational gatherings of AIPNA members over the year.

Please forward this newsletter to other Indian pathologists (staff/residents/fellows) you may know.



Bakul I Dalal
president@aipna.net

From the Editor's Desk



Prasad for their magnificent leadership as our Past-Presidents.

In this newsletter, you will find the listing of all the office bearers, members of the executive, and various committees. Please approach us if you are interested in helping out or for anything else on your mind. You may also

This and subsequent newsletters will report to you the current activities and future plans of your association, AIPNA.

Firstly, I welcome Dr Bakul Dalal, our new President of AIPNA. I also thank Drs. Mitul Amin and Anil

find us on the social media. Please click on the icons on the first page. Also in this newsletter, you will find summaries of our recently completed activities like the research awards, and the Jaipur Conference. Also included in this newsletter is a report on the annual general body meeting.

I am also excited to share our thoughts on "AIPNA Interesting Case", which we will publish periodically on our social media platforms and website. We invite all residents and fellows to submit cases for the same. Details for submission will be posted on social media and the AIPNA website. Stay tuned!

Binny Khandakar
Newsletter-Editor@aipna.net

Dr. Vijay Vinayak Joshi – in Memorium



Saluting the Creator, the Soul, the Patron of AIPNA

The creator, the soul, and the patron of AIPNA, Dr. Vijay Vinayak Joshi has passed away. AIPNA applauds and salutes VVJ's numerous accomplishments. The membership and the executive committee of AIPNA pay a solemn tribute to Dr. Joshi. He was an *a la grande* pediatric pathologist, a monumental mentor to many of us, and a thoughtful and inspiring human being. AIPNA stands with the Joshi parivaar in this time of unbearable loss.

Bakul Dalal and the whole Executive Committee.

In Memorium:

**Dr. Vijay Vinayak Joshi, M.D., Ph.D., FRCPath
(10-03-1936 to 16-03-2023)**

Megha Joshi and Dhananjay Lanjewar

We are all saddened by the passing away of Dr. Vijay V. Joshi. Born in Pune, on March 10th, 1936, Dr. Joshi lived a very productive life, teaching pediatric pathology well into his mid-eighties and beyond. An erudite scholar, his books: Pathology of AIDS and Other Manifestations of HIV Infection, Common Problems in Pediatric Pathology and Handbook of Placental Pathology were very timely and popular. His passing away was mourned not only in the USA and Canada, but also in India, where he had taught at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Chandigarh, and Seth G. S. Medical College in Mumbai from 1975-1980.

Dr. Vijay Joshi completed his M.B.B.S from B.J Medical College, Pune in 1959, and M.D. in Pathology from Sir J. J. Hospital and Grant Medical College, Mumbai, Mumbai University, in 1962. His zeal and academic rigor led him to pursue further training in the US, where he was a resident alongside the late Dr. Arun Chitale at the Medical College of Virginia from 1965-1968. Ahead of his times, he also completed his Ph.D. from West Ontario University, Canada, in 1970. His scientific approach, honed by his Ph.D. training, led to in-depth analysis of neuroblastomas, pediatric AIDS, and perinatal and placental pathology. In Canada, he was fortunate to have crossed paths with Daria Haust, the "Grand Lady of Pediatric Pathology," who recommended Dr. Joshi for a position at Montreal Children's Hospital. It was at this point, that Dr. Vijay Joshi began his career as a Pediatric Pathologist, and like Dr. Haust worked to promote the specialty of Pediatric Pathology worldwide. Like Daria Haust, who continued to serve as an adjunct at the Queen's Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine until she passed away at the age of 100, on Jan 11, 2022, Dr. Joshi too, continued as an Affiliate Clinical Professor of Pathology at Medical College of Virginia, and a Consultant at Hartford Hospital until his terminal illness took over at age 86.

The promotion of Pediatric Pathology as a recognized subspecialty in India was a lifelong pursuit. After five years of experience in pediatric pathology and clinicopathologic research in North America, Dr. Vijay Joshi felt he had enough experience to start promoting the specialty in India and returned to India with that in mind in 1975. However, the time was not right, and he found himself signing out general surgical pathology cases and realized opportunities for clinicopathologic research were few. He returned to the US in 1980, but his dream to promote the specialty of

"Pediatric Pathology in India" remained as vibrant as ever. He continued to give lectures and organize workshops and mini-CME courses once or twice a year in medical centers in India so that pathologists in India could learn about pediatric pathology and serve India's 400 million children. In 1990, he collaborated with Anand Pandit, a researcher in pediatrics and Dr. Avinash Pradhan, a pathologist on two research projects in Neonatology and Indian childhood cirrhosis. As an extension of that collaboration, Dr. Vijay Joshi along with Ashok Patwardhan, successfully obtained a US \$1.5 million grant (spread over 5 years from 1996 to 2001) to upgrade the departments of Pediatrics, Pediatric Pathology, Obstetrics and Radiology at Pune's KEM research Institute.

A chance meeting with the late Dr. S. J. Nagolathimath in Madrid in 1990, led to the start of an annual International CME in 1991. Subsequently in 1996, this annual CME was named as AIPNA-ICP international CME; a joint venture of Indian College of Pathologists (ICP) and the Association of Indian Pathologists of North America (AIPNA). This collaboration that has continued uninterrupted for 28 years (virtually through the Covid pandemic), brings together US, Canadian and Indian pathologists to enhance and further pathology education. This would not have happened without the far-sighted vision of Dr. Vijay Joshi. As the US coordinator of the annual AIPNA-ICP International CME (1996 through 2001), Dr. Joshi made it a point to include pediatric pathology topics and spread knowledge about pediatric pathology. The initiation of the pediatric pathology fellowship program at St. John's Medical Center in Bengaluru, India was another feather in his cap as was the start of the annual International CME course in Pediatric Pathology starting in 2016. Finally in 2020, Dr. Vijay Joshi realized his dream of "establishing pediatric pathology as a recognized sub-specialty in India", when along with Dr. Ranganathan, Dr. Usha Kini, Dr. Nandita Kakkar, Dr. Anita Gupta, and many others the "Association of Pediatric Pathologists in India (APPI)" was officially instituted.

Dr. Vijay Joshi authored 150 articles in peer reviewed journals, was an active member of the Pediatric AIDS Lymphoma Network, and was appointed Chairman of the Pediatric Oncology Group's Neuroblastoma Pathology Committee. Dr. Vijay Joshi co-chaired the International Neuroblastoma Committee, and was responsible for a new, prognostically significant classification of peripheral neuroblastic tumors. A true renaissance man, Dr. Vijay Joshi co-authored with his wife Jayashree, three Marathi books on Major Ideas of Western Civilization. Dr. Vijay Joshi remained healthy and active into his eighties and credited his good health to regular brisk walks, eating

moderately, reading, and meditation by listening to Indian classical music.

Born in British India and pre-independence, Dr. Joshi had a deep and abiding love for his mother land-India. In 1962, during the Indo-China war, disputing the sovereignty of the widely separated Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh regions, defense forces lacked doctors and the central government appealed to all state governments to recruit young medical graduates and postgraduates for service. Dr. Vijay Joshi and Dr. U. L. Wagholikar, of Grant Medical College, Mumbai responded to the appeal and joined as civilian doctors and were posted along the Tejur Border in Assam for nearly two and a half years (1962-65).

Dr. Joshi believed fervently that those of us who live comfortable lives should strive to improve the lot of those who suffer, and those who live in poverty. He believed that one should look beyond one's immediate close family and treat the whole world as "our" family. A dedicated physician-scientist, educator, mentor, and great role model, Dr. Vijay Joshi will continue to inspire the next generation of pathologists.

Ode to Dr. Joshi

Srinivas Mandavilli

He was our cherished great old Blue Heron, stooped among stacks of glass slides, then standing tall, forefinger pointed to some truth. A balding head effulgent in his congregation of students, and some kind of light streamed from their faces.

He taught those dying arts, writing about the placenta, then unfolding the mysteries small round blue cells. We tried to record everything he said: classifying neuroblastomas, even opinions on liberal arts education, classical music and the beauty of a perfectly pitched leather cricket ball.

His family found him often mulling over some future anthology in his peripatetic walks. He had no use for meaningless rituals - either there was knowledge in what something is, or it was not. I did wonder where next he would stretch his soft wings to fly out into the world that he knew well.

I imagine how generously his hands have sculpted the medical landscape in his beloved homeland, coaxing those tissues to life for generations, and how he flew such a perfect arc, carrying us till we found our places.

I am watching the reflection of rufous treetops in this pond. It is the season of herons, but there are no herons.

SUTRADHAARS OF AIPNA

(Mostly listed alphabetically)

Office Bearers



Left to right: Bakul I Dalal (President), Megha Joshi (Vice president / President elect), Mitul Amin (Past president), Vinay Kumar (Patron)



Left to right: Nirag Jhala (Trustee), Ashraf Khan (Trustee), Anand Lagoo (Trustee), Srinivas Mandavilli (Trustee), Rajal Shah (Trustee)



Left to right: Renuka Melanie (Asst executive director), Vijayalakshmi Padmanabhan (Treasurer), Hansini Laharwani (Jt Treasurer), Binny Khandakar (Newsletter editor)



Left to right: Pranav Patwardhan (Resident representative), Preeti Malik (Resident Rep), Monalisa Sur (Canada Rep)
Education Committee



Left to right: Parul Bhargava (ISLH), Pritish Bhattacharyya (AMP), Rajan Dewar (AMP), Safina Hafeez (AMP)



Left to right: Nirag Jhala (CME, ASCP, IAP), Megha Joshi (CAP, USCAP, IAP), Ashraf Khan (USCAP, IAP), Rifat Mannan (Webinar)



Left to right: Srinivas Mandavilli (CME, USCAP), Anil Prasad (CAP), Sarangrajan Ranganathan (CME, IAP), Vijaya Reddy (CAP)



Left to right: Romil Saxena (CME, USCAP,IAP) Neha Varshney (CAP)

Finance Committee



Left to right: Hansini Laharwani, Vijayalakshmi Padmanabhan (Chair), Rajal Shah

Digital Content Committee



Left to right: Binny Khandakar (Social media), Rifat Mannan (Website, webinar), Raghavendra Pillappa (Social media), Monika Seth (Chair)



Left to right: Pooja Srivastava (Website, social media), Neha Varshney (Website, social media)

Membership Committee



Left to right: Dhanpat Jain (Chair), Preeti Malik, Vikas Mehta, Pranav Patwardhan



Monalisa Sur

Awards Bursaries and Scholarship Committee



Left to right: Nirag Jhala, Binny Khandakar, Anand Lagoo (Chair), Vijaya Reddy



Monalisa Sur

-*Newsletter Committee



Left to right: Binny Khandakar, Pooja Srivastava

Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee



Left to right: Mitul Amin, Rajan Dewar, Megha Joshi (Chair), Anil Prasad

Constitution and Bylaws Committee



Left to right: Nirag Jhala, Megha Joshi, Ashraf Khan, Vinay Kumar, Harish Mani



Srinivas Mandavilli

Report of the 28th AIPNA – ICP CME Conference in Jaipur

Romil Saxena (Photos by Romil Saxena and Megha Joshi)



The 28th AIPNA ICP International CME in Pathology was held at the Royal Orchid Hotel and Conference Center in Jaipur from Feb 3-5, 2023. The CME was held under the patronage of the Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital and Research Center, Jaipur and organized by Dr. Anjali Sharma, HOD of Pathology at this august institution. The CME was coordinated by Dr. Romil Saxena and Dr. Nirag Jhala from AIPNA, Dr. Francisco Couto, Dean ICP and Dr. Usha Kini, Secretary ICP.

KEY FACULTY



The CME theme of “Onco, Digital and Molecular Pathology” was ably handled by an exceptional faculty namely Dr. Anita Bhaduri (Hinduja, Mumbai), Dr. Anita Borges (SL Raheja, Mumbai), Dr. Anjali Sharma (BMCHRC, Jaipur), Dr. Arpita Jindal (SMS, Jaipur), Dr. Ashish Bains (Temple University), Col. DK Mishra (TATA, Kolkatta), Dr. Darshana Jhala (U Penn), Dr. Deyali Chatterjee (MD Anderson), Dr. MC Sharma (AIIMS, New Delhi), Dr. Malini Harigopal (Yale University), Dr.

Maria Guido (University of Padova), Dr. Megha Joshi (Lawrence General Hospital), Dr. Nirag Jhala (Temple University), Dr. PK Mishra (Bengal Medical Education Director), Dr. Rateesh Sareen (Santokba, Jaipur), Dr. Romil Saxena (Emory University), Dr. Sadhna Dhingra (Propath), Dr. Shipra Agarwal (AIIMS< New Delhi), Dr. Sujay Prasad (Anand Diagnostic, Bengaluru) and Dr. Sumeet Gujral (Tata, Mumbai).

The CME was offered in a hybrid format with 503 registrants, approximately 50% of who were virtual attendees. Dr. Anjali Sharma was a stand-out organizer and charming host and who offered a terrific scientific and social experience in the magnificent environs of Jaipur.

NEXT, 29TH AIPNA-ICP INTERNATIONAL CME WILL BE HELD AT PGI, CHANDIGADH, IN FEBRUARY 2024.





Report of the 29th Annual General Body Meeting of AIPNA

Hotel Hilton, New Orleans, LA. 11 March 2023

Renuka Malenie

The 29th General body meeting of the Association of Indian Pathologists of North America (AIPNA) was held at Churchill C hall of Hilton Riverside in New Orleans, Louisiana on 11th March 2023 during the USCAP annual meeting.

The members and guests were welcomed with the mouth-watering Indian appetizers of samosas and mixed chicken kebab with chutneys.

Approximately 115 members attended the session in person and 40-50 attended virtually.

After the formal welcome of guests and introduction of executive members by Dr. Renuka Malenie, Dr. Mitul Amin the president addressed the audience. He introduced the incoming president, Dr. Bakul Dalal and the incoming vice president Dr. Megha Joshi. He shared the various events organized by AIPNA in the past year and also discussed the aspirations/plans for the coming years.

Dr. Vijayalakshmi Padmanabhan shared the treasurer's report with the members and encouraged the members to pay their dues and encouraged new membership which can be easily done through the website now.

Dr. Anil Prasad introduced the guest speaker Dr. Surya Seshan who delivered a wonderful talk on "A Lifetime of Learning as a Pathologist/Renal Pathologist with Shifting Landscapes and Global Perspectives." Dr. Amin presented a token of appreciation to the honorable speaker.

Dr. Romil Saxena, Dr. Megha Joshi and Dr. Srinivas Mandavilli shared their experiences of a very successful 28th AIPNA ICP Conference held on Feb 3-5, 2023 at Jaipur in India.

Dr. Anil Prasad introduced the CAP delegates and invited Dr. Jim Zhai, Dr. Jonathan Myles and ----- to share their thoughts and experiences.

Like every year Dr. Anand Lagoo announced the winners of the residents' abstract award virtually and Dr. Mitul Amin presented them with a certificate and prize checks.

Raffle prize checks were also given to the four lucky winners of the evening.

Dr. Bakul Dalal ended the session with a vote of thanks which was followed by a delicious dinner catered by a local Indian restaurant. The chicken tikka masala, lamb rogan josh, dal makhani, alu gobi, saag paneer, jeera rice, naan, salad, papad, pickles and yogurt was enjoyed by all present. The carrot halwa and the rasmalai provided relief to all who were not able to handle the Indian spices.

The GBM 2023 was a great success and those who could not attend can enjoy the recorded event at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mN3g-OrpPfCscsj6famaOw0iHVTM2WE/view?usp=sharing> and on aipna.net.

The pics from the event will also be available on various social media and on www.aipna.net.

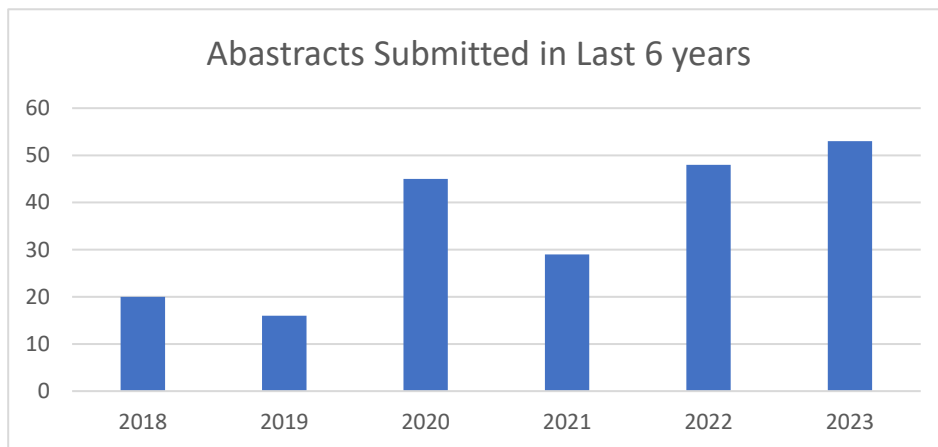


Report of the USCAP Abstract Award Committee

Anand Lagoo

AIPNA Best Abstract Competition at USCAP 2023.

First started over a decade ago, this initiative to attract young pathologists to AIPNA has gained momentum in the past few years. This year we received a record 53 entries. To recapitulate, this competition is open to all pathology GME trainees (residents and fellows) whose abstracts have been accepted at the annual USCAP meeting for poster or platform presentation. To be eligible for the competition, the trainee must be the first author on the abstract and must self-certify that they are a graduate medical trainee in good standing in their country of residence and that they have contributed substantially to the work presented in the abstract. A trainee can submit more than one abstract which meets the above criteria.



The announcement for the 2023 competition was placed on the AIPNA website and communicated to residency program directors. More importantly, the information was widely circulated on various social media and chatgroups frequented by pathology GME trainees, thanks to the young members of AIPNA CME. Special thanks to Drs Raghavendra Pilappa, Binny Khandkar, and Monica Seth for their adroit handling of these modern methods of disseminating such information to the new generation of

trainees. Their participation in AIPNA Best Abstract activities is noteworthy since they joined AIPNA after participating in the competition while in training! Through consistent messaging through these channels, the number of participants has picked up significantly post-pandemic, surpassing the pre-pandemic number of entries, as shown in the chart:

Residents and fellows have been prolific in their research submitted to USCAP – eight trainees submitted two abstracts each and two trainees submitted three each! All but one entries were from US institutions, the exception being an entry from Dr. Truong Nguyen training in Bangkok, Thailand. The US institutions where these exceptional and enthusiastic young pathologists are training are in 17 states. New York institutions led with 10 abstracts followed closely by Ohio (9 abstracts) and California (6 abstracts). Michigan sent 4, while IL, MA, and PA sent 3 each. One or two abstracts arrived from CT, FL, IN, MN, MO, MS, NC, NE, OR, and TX. The institution sending the most abstract was Ohio State University Hospital, with 7 abstracts submitted by three of their productive trainees!

In the first few years of the completion, the Best Abstract award was a cash prize and a plaque. Soon afterwards, a cash prize for the second-place finisher was added, as the number of entries increased. After the recent surge in total entries, more cash prizes for “honorable mentions” have been given. This year the first prize is \$150, the second \$100, and the honorable mention \$75 each.

Reviewing and grading of each abstract is done independently by at least three experienced AIPNA pathologists. A numeric grading system is used to rate each abstract on four parameters: 1. Size, Scope, and depth of Work, 2. Originality: Study idea, new technology/ innovation to overcome limited resources; 3. Clinical relevance, and 4. Applicability to patient care in India. The scores for each abstract by the three judges are averaged and ranked to select the first and second-place winners and the four honorable mentions. In addition to myself, Dr Nirag Jhala and Dr. Binny Khandkar judged these abstracts.

This year's winners, their Institutions, and titles of their abstracts are:

1 st Prize Neslihan Kayraklioglu, UCSF, CA, High Tumor Mutational Burden Predicts Recurrence in Copy Number Low Early Stage Endometrial Cancer and is Associated with ARID1A and TP53 Mutations: Practical Implications for ARID1A and P53 Immunostaining as a Triage Tool (USCAP no 1866)

2nd Prize Hardik Sonani, U Miss Med Center, Jackson, MS. Fine Needle Aspiration Diagnosis of Neck Masses - A Deeper Dive into the Non-Diagnostic Category (USCAP no 1536)

Honorable Mentions (Alphabetically by last name):

Manisha Goel, U Chicago, IL. USCAP no 1971 Evaluation of Intratumoral HER2 Heterogeneity in Endometrial Serous Carcinoma and Carcinosarcoma (USCAP no 1971)

Stephanie Hurwitz, U Penn, PA. Proteogenomic Profiling of High-Grade B-Cell Lymphoma with 11q Aberration and Burkitt Lymphoma Reveals LEF1 as a Novel Biomarker (USCAP 190)

Simmi Patel, UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA. The Detection of Alternative Lengthening of Telomeres using a Novel Chromogenic in situ Hybridization Assay is a Poor Prognostic Biomarker for Patients with Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors (USCAP no 1201)

Mingfei Yan, Case Western, OH. CD47, "Do Not Eat Me" Signal, is Expressed in a Subset of Follicular Lymphomas (FL) and is Associated with Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) Progression (USCAP no 1730)

I am very grateful to the judges (Drs Nirag Jhala and Binny Khandkar) and the AIPNA junior members (Drs. Raghav Pillappa and Monica Seth) for their invaluable help to make this competition a huge success. On behalf of the Best Abstract Committee, I congratulate the winners, thank ALL trainees and their program directors, and wish the participants a successful career in Pathology.

