

GLOBAL INDIAN PHYSICIANS IN THE NEWS (NOVEMBER 2024)

DR. PRABIR ROY-CHAUDHURY APPOINTED AS NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY

Dr. Prabir Roy-Chaudhury, MD, PhD, FASN, has been named the next President of the American Society of Nephrology (ASN), succeeding Dr. Deidra C. Crews, whose term concludes on January 1, 2025.

Currently serving as the Drs. Ronald and Katherine Falk Eminent Professor and Co-Director of the University of North Carolina Kidney Center, Dr. Roy-Chaudhury also practices as a nephrologist at the WG (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Contributions to Kidney Care and Research:

- *Research Focus: Uremic vascular biology, particularly addressing dialysis vascular access dysfunction and cardiovascular complications in kidney disease.*
- *Leads a multidisciplinary translational research program funded by the NIH, Veterans Administration, and industry grants.*

Leadership and Public Policy:

- *Dr. Roy-Chaudhury has held leadership roles across key organizations, including:*
 - *American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology*
 - *Vascular Access Society of the Americas*
 - *Kidney Health Initiative (ASN co-chair)*
- *He also served as Past President of the American Nephrologists of Indian Origin and is a member of the Kidney X Innovation Accelerator Steering Committee.*

Recognitions:

- *Author of over 250 publications and book chapters.*
- *Recipient of numerous awards, including the Gerald Beathard Award (American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology) and the KS Chugh Oration (Indian Society of Nephrology).*

Dr. Roy-Chaudhury's appointment marks a significant step toward advancing global nephrology care and research, further strengthening the American Society of Nephrology's mission to improve kidney health worldwide.

Source: Docwire News, 8/11/2024

Link: <https://docwirenews.com/post/prabir-roy-chaudhury-named-next-asn-president>



INDIAN RHEUMATOLOGISTS SHINE GLOBALLY: RECOGNIZED AMONG WORLD'S TOP 2% SCIENTISTS

In a significant recognition of India's growing prowess in medical research, four renowned Indian rheumatologists have been honored as among the world's top 2% of scientists. This prestigious accolade comes from a database curated by Stanford University, in collaboration with the Elsevier Data Repository.

The four esteemed individuals who have brought laurels to India are:

Dr. Arvind Chopra

A distinguished figure in the field, Dr. Chopra, Director & Chief Rheumatologist at the Center for Rheumatic Diseases Pune, is globally recognized for his pioneering work in population-based rheumatic disease studies, particularly through the WHO ILAR COPCORD program. His research has significantly contributed to the understanding and management of rheumatic diseases in India.



Prof. Durga Prasanna Misra

Prof. Misra, an Associate Professor at the Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, is a leading expert in vasculitis, endothelial biology, and the epidemiology of rheumatic diseases. His research has been instrumental in advancing the field of rheumatology in India and globally.



Dr. Amita Aggarwal

Dr. Aggarwal, Professor and Head of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute, Lucknow, is a renowned clinician-scientist with a focus on juvenile arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Her contributions to the field, including the establishment of a multi-institutional lupus network, have significantly impacted patient care and research.



Dr. Aman Sharma

Dr. Sharma, a distinguished professor of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, is an international expert in rare rheumatic diseases, particularly systemic vasculitis and relapsing polychondritis. His research and clinical expertise have made significant contributions to the field.



This recognition by Stanford University highlights the exceptional contributions of these Indian scientists to the global scientific community. Their work has not only advanced the field of rheumatology but has also improved the lives of countless patients.

Source: Medical Dialogues, 02/11/2024

Link: <https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/4-rheumatologists-scientists-earn-global-recognition-in-standford-university-2024-list-of-worlds-top-2-scientists-137353>

DR. GOPIKA GANGUPANTULA HONORED WITH FREDERICK K.M. PLESSNER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR RURAL DIABETES CARE

Dr. Gopika Gangupantula, a renowned physician from Modesto, California, has been recognized with the prestigious Frederick K.M. Plessner Memorial Award by the California Medical Association. This award celebrates her outstanding commitment to providing culturally competent care and expanding access to healthcare for underserved patients, particularly those battling diabetes across rural areas.

Known affectionately as "Dr. G," she has been a pillar of diabetic care in the Northern San Joaquin Valley, catering to patients from Modesto, Stanislaus cities, San Joaquin County, Merced, Los Banos, Madera, and the Sierra Nevada foothills. With over 22 years of medical practice, Dr. Gangupantula has transformed the lives of countless patients, ensuring personalized care and compassion at every step.

Her exceptional ability to relate to patients and provide family-like care has earned her widespread admiration. A patient, Brande Carney, shared, "She treats them as if they are family. With diabetes, you need to have a doctor who cares."

Dr. Gangupantula's award highlights her vital role in advancing diabetic care and addressing the epidemic of diabetes in rural California, setting a standard for excellence and compassion in rural healthcare.

Source: Mod Bee, 02/11/2024

Link: <https://www.modbee.com/living/health-fitness/article294858679.html>



DR. B. SREERAMA MURTHY APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF OTOLOGY

Dr. B. Sreerama Murthy, a renowned ENT surgeon from Visakhapatnam, has been appointed as the President of the Indian Society of Otolaryngology (ISO), also known as the All India Ear Surgeons Association. He will serve a two-year term, succeeding Prof. Ravi Ramalingam of Chennai.

The announcement was made during the annual conference of ISO, which concluded in Agra on November 10. With over 2,500 members nationwide, ISO focuses on advancing education and research in otology, providing the latest treatment methods to medical students, and facilitating knowledge exchange through collaboration with international experts at its annual conferences.

Dr. Murthy's leadership is expected to further strengthen ISO's mission to enhance patient care and otological research across India.

Source: The Hindu, 12/11/2024

Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/visakhapatnam-ent-surgeon-elected-president-of-indian-society-of-otology/article68860065.ece>



DR. SANDHYA KULKARNI HONORED WITH RSSDI/USV BEST INNOVATION AWARD 2024

Dr. Sandhya Kulkarni, a renowned physician and diabetologist from Dharwad, has been conferred with the prestigious RSSDI/USV Best Innovation Award 2024 for her pioneering contributions in the field of diabetes. The award, instituted by the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI) and United States Vitals (USV), recognizes her outstanding advancements in diabetes care.

The honor was presented at the 52nd annual RSSDI conference held at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi, on November 15, 2024, by Union Minister for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh.

Dr. Sandhya is the only physician from North Karnataka to receive this award this year.

For the past 25 years, Dr. Kulkarni has been at the forefront of diabetes management, conducting free diabetes check-up camps through the Tejas Charitable Trust and organizing awareness programs on prevention and management of diabetes. Her tireless efforts continue to empower patients and healthcare professionals alike to combat diabetes effectively.

Source: *The Hindu, 12/11/2024*

Link:<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/visakhapatnam-ent-surgeon-elected-president-of-indian-society-of-otology/article68860065.ece>

DR. ASHU RASTOGI HONORED WITH 'DR. SUBHASH MUKHERJEE' ORATION BY ENDOCRINE SOCIETY OF INDIA

Dr. Ashu Rastogi, Associate Professor in the Department of Endocrinology at PGIMER, Chandigarh, has been awarded the prestigious "Dr. Subhash Mukherjee" Oration by the Endocrine Society of India (ESI). The award was presented during the 53rd Annual Meeting of the ESI, held in Vizag, recognizing his significant contributions to endocrinology.

Dr. Rastogi is internationally acclaimed for his pioneering work in the management of diabetic foot complications, which has transformed patient care and clinical outcomes. His innovative research on Charcot neuroarthropathy, a severe diabetic complication, has gained global recognition and contributed to the formulation of international clinical management guidelines.

Furthering his commitment to advancing treatment, Dr. Rastogi's research on topical esmolol for diabetic foot ulcers has introduced a novel and promising treatment modality, aligning with the 'Make in India' initiative. This breakthrough has played a pivotal role in preventing amputations and improving the quality of life for countless patients.

Source: *Medical Dialogues, 15/11/2024*

Link:<https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/pgi-endocrinologist-dr-ashu-rastogi-awarded-dr-subhash-mukherjee-oration-for-diabetic-foot-research-138066>



**PROUD MOMENT FOR AIIMS BHUBANESWAR: DR. MANITA TAMANG
WINS UC CHAKROBORTY AWARD**

Dr. Manita Tamang, Senior Resident in the Department of Pediatric Surgery at AIIMS Bhubaneswar, has been conferred with the UC Chakroborty Award at the recently held IAPSCON 2024 at AIIMS Rishikesh. This award is one of the most prestigious recognitions for outstanding research by Pediatric Surgery residents in India.

The UC Chakroborty Award is adjudicated by a distinguished panel, including the Chief Editor of the Journal of the Indian Association of Pediatric Surgeons and other eminent experts. Among numerous nationwide applicants, Dr. Manita's exceptional research stood out, earning her this distinguished honor.

Dr. Manita's groundbreaking research in pediatric surgical care highlights her perseverance and commitment to advancing medical standards.

Source: Kalinga TV, 22/11/2024

Link: <https://kalingatv.com/odisha/proud-moment-for-aiims-bhubaneswar-senior-resident-dr-manita-tamang-honoured-with-uc-chakroborty-award/>



**DR. KAUSHIK BHATTACHARYA HONORED WITH NATIONAL
BEST MEDICAL TEACHER AWARD**

Dr. Kaushik Bhattacharya, a senior surgeon and Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at Mata Gujri Memorial Medical College, Kishanganj, has been awarded the prestigious National Best Medical Teacher Award by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Headquarters in New Delhi for the second time. He will be felicitated at the upcoming IMA National Conference in Hyderabad next month.

Dr. Bhattacharya, who hails from Siliguri, has made remarkable contributions to the medical field. He was recently designated as the International Surgical Ambassador by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh—the first doctor from North Bengal to receive this prestigious international recognition.

With over 200 publications in national and international medical journals, Dr. Bhattacharya has delivered numerous lectures and orations across the country. Notably, he will deliver the “Ramesh Nigam Memorial Oration” at the All India Surgeons Conference in Agra next month. He also serves on the editorial boards of several reputed surgical journals.

Dr. Bhattacharya's accomplishments extend beyond medicine, as he has been awarded the Director General Border Security Force Commendation Roll thrice and the Director General Sashastra Seema Bal Commendation Roll once during his service with the armed police forces.

Source: Medical Dialogues , 24/11/2024

Link: <https://medicaldialogues.in/news/health/doctors/dr-kaushik-bhattacharya-conferred-with-imas-national-best-medical-teacher-award-for-second-time-138589>



DR. NARAYAN MISHRA HONORED WITH INDIAN CHEST SOCIETY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2024

Dr. Narayan Mishra, a renowned pulmonologist from Odisha, has been honored with the Indian Chest Society-Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 for his exceptional contributions to respiratory medicine. The award was presented at the National Conference of Pulmonologists held in Coimbatore, where over 2,500 chest physicians from India and abroad participated. Dr. Mishra's remarkable dedication to respiratory care, innovation, and education has earned him widespread recognition, inspiring generations of medical professionals. Throughout his illustrious career, he has been the recipient of two international awards and over 100 national honors.

A champion of the anti-tobacco movement in India, Dr. Mishra has conducted more than 670 anti-tobacco workshops. Notably, he organized a historic rally on World Cancer Day in 2009, with over 10,000 students in Berhampur, which was recognized in the Limca Book of Records.

This latest honor underscores Dr. Mishra's unwavering commitment to advancing respiratory healthcare and promoting public health awareness across the nation

Source: Odisha Bytes, 22/11/2024

Link: <https://odishabytes.com/odisha-pulmonologist-narayan-mishra-gets-national-award/>

DR. DIGAMBAR BEHERA TAKES OVER AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Dr. Digambar Behera, Professor Emeritus at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, and a Padma Shri awardee, has been appointed as the President of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS). He succeeds Dr. S.K. Sarin, the outgoing President, during a convocation function held at AIIMS Jodhpur, where the Vice President of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr. Behera, a former Dean at PGIMER and currently Director of Pulmonary Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, will serve as President of NAMS for a three-year term. He joins an illustrious list of PGIMER stalwarts, including Dr. P.N. Chutani, Dr. B.K. Sharma, Dr. N.K. Ganguly, and Dr. K.K. Talwar, who have previously led NAMS.

Renowned for his expertise in pulmonary medicine, Dr. Behera has played a significant role as an advisor to the National Task Force for India's TB Elimination Program. His contributions include 602 scientific publications, authorship of two textbooks on Pulmonary Medicine, and receipt of over 35 national and 9 international awards.

Source: Northwell Edu , 25/10/2024

Link: <https://www.northwell.edu/news/the-latest/rimda-wanchoo-honored-american-nephrologists-indian-origin>



DR. SHYAM SUNDAR NANDI HONORED FOR DEVELOPING RAPID MPOX DIAGNOSIS TEST AND ADVANCING POLIO SAFETY PROTOCOLS



Dr. Shyam Sundar Nandi, a scientist at the National Institute of Virology (NIV), has been awarded by India's top medical research body, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), for his groundbreaking work in developing a rapid molecular test capable of diagnosing mpox in just one hour. This innovation significantly improves upon conventional PCR tests, which can take up to a full day, and surpasses rapid antigen tests that are often prone to inaccuracies.

Dr. Nandi was felicitated during the annual Health Research Excellence Summit hosted by ICMR in New Delhi. His pioneering contributions also include the innovative use of gene-editing technology (CRISPR) to enhance polio safety protocols in research labs nationwide.

Highlights of Dr. Nandi's Achievements:

- **Rapid Mpox Testing Kit**
 - Utilizes LAMP technology for quick and visual virus detection through a color change, eliminating the need for advanced lab equipment.
 - Plans are underway for global distribution in public and private healthcare settings.
- **Addressing Mpox**
 - Over 24,000 cases reported globally this year; India saw two cases in 2024.
 - Mpox spreads through close contact, causing painful rashes, blisters, and fever.
- **Polio Safety with CRISPR**
 - CRISPR technology prevents polio virus growth in labs by creating non-permissive cells, ensuring safety for researchers and reinforcing India's polio-free status.

Source: Times of India, 18/11/2024

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/breakthrough-in-mpox-testing-indian-scientist-develops-rapid-kit/articleshow/115393416.cms>



INDIAN AMERICAN PHYSICIAN DR. DANNY AVULA ELECTED MAYOR OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Dr. Danny Avula, a pediatrician and public health leader, has been elected as the Mayor of Richmond, Virginia. Known for his decades-long service to Richmond's diverse communities, Dr. Avula prioritized affordable housing, public safety, transportation, and climate resiliency during his campaign.

His leadership includes serving as Director of the Richmond and Henrico Health Districts, leading Virginia's successful COVID-19 vaccination effort, and implementing reforms as Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Social Services.

A first-generation Indian American and a celebrated physician, Dr. Avula expressed gratitude in his acceptance message: "Richmond! Thank you so much for putting your trust in me as the next mayor of our amazing city."

Source: WRIC, 06/11/2024

Link: <https://www.wric.com/news/local-news/richmond/dr-danny-avula-appears-set-to-win-richmond-mayors-race/>

DR. JAY BHATTACHARYA NOMINATED AS DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD, Professor of Health Policy at Stanford University, has been nominated to serve as the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Announced by President Donald J. Trump on November 26, 2024, Dr. Bhattacharya will work alongside Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to lead the nation's medical research efforts, with a focus on addressing chronic illness and improving public health outcomes.

Dr. Bhattacharya, an expert in health economics and biomedical innovation, is well-recognized for his research on the health and well-being of vulnerable populations. He is also a co-author of the Great Barrington Declaration, which proposed alternatives to lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a medical doctor and public health researcher, Dr. Bhattacharya has dedicated his

career to addressing major health challenges, particularly in chronic diseases, aging, and innovative biomedical solutions. He directs Stanford's Center for Demography and Economics of Health and Aging, contributing extensively to healthcare advancements for vulnerable populations.



Source: Times of India, 27/11/2024

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/indian-american-jay-bhattacharya-chosen-by-trump-to-lead-top-us-health-institute/articleshow/115714741.cms>



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