



# IAPM

## News Bulletin

Indian Association of Pathologists & Microbiologists

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Wish you all a happy and safe 2021. We had started this year on a cheerful note with hope that we will come back to our normal work routine, as the corona cases were showing a decreasing trend. Many of us worked as important frontline team workers in diagnosis and treatment of corona patients, working either in private or institutional labs. Start of vaccination schedule from mid January further increased the hopes that we will regain the normal activity as it was till 2019, but with this confidence we became lax and forgot to follow the safety protocols for prevention of COVID, with the result that now we are facing a more severe second phase leading to massive chaos at every front of health care. We will have to work hard to fight back and control this.

In the meantime online organization of conferences and teaching programs should continue as it is going on from last year and we should plan for future conferences in a hybrid mode. Organization of conferences in a hybrid pattern appears to be a better option now rather than only physical or digital. Our association is also conducting regular webinars covering basic topics along with slide seminars. All members should attend these lectures and encourage postgraduates to attend this.

WE are also changing fast and also moving towards digitalization, and I once again request all the members to update their email addresses and phone numbers on the IAPM website so that proper and timely communication of various activities and decisions can be sent to the members.

With best wishes

Sincerely

**Dr. Vatsala Misra**





## VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A newsletter- what is it ?

When I was asked to send in my message for the upcoming Newsletter, the first thing that had come in my mind was “What do I write, nothing has been happening other than the pandemic which everyone of us is concerned and apprehensive about”. A few things that came to my mind were – i) what is the meaning of a newsletter? ii) when was the first newsletter published and by whom? iii) what was the original form of the newsletter, was it verbal or in writing format? In order to get answers to these few queries, the best thing I could do was to google the word “Newsletter”. Not very surprisingly, it was there on my monitor the word “Newsletter” with various definitions, according to Cambridge English Dictionary, Collins English Dictionary, Merriam Webster dictionary, and in Wikipedia. All the definitions conveyed the same meaning though varied in the sentence framings and I decided to look through each of them. And the literary meaning of newsletter in Hindi language is “Samaachar Patrika”. According to Cambridge English dictionary, it is “a printed or electronic document containing information about the recent activities of an organization, sent regularly to the organization's members”. What Collins English dictionary say about it is “A newsletter is one or more printed sheets of paper containing information about an organization that is sent regularly to its members”. And the Merriam Webster Definition of newsletter is “a small publication (such as a leaflet or newspaper) containing news of interest chiefly to a special group”.



Going further into the history of evolution of Newsletters, which evolved and led to establishment of today's Newspaper. Referring to Wikipedia “a newsletter is a printed or electronic report containing news concerning the activities of a business or an organization that is sent to its members, customers, employees or other subscribers”. It further stresses that “2 newsletters generally contain one main topic of interest to its recipients and it may be considered as a grey literature. Wikipedia also talks about the modern newsletters i.e., the Enewsletters which are delivered electronically via e-mail and can be viewed as spamming if email marketing is sent unsolicited<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>. It is believed to be the most common form of any serial publication<sup>5</sup>. Wikipedia further states that about two thirds of newsletters refers to internal publications aiming towards the employees and the volunteers, while about one third are external publications aiming towards advocacy or special interest groups<sup>5</sup>. In ancient Rome, it was customary to exchange newsletters between and amongst the officials or friends<sup>2</sup>. By the Middle



Ages, big merchant families utilized newsletter to exchanges information amongst the family members<sup>2</sup>. This circulated news included various aspects of their business-like availability and pricing of goods, other activities like political news and any other news events that would influence and enhance the trades<sup>2</sup>. These commercial newsletters were very effective and had resulted in the first serious outlet for news publication from which evolved the newspapers<sup>2</sup>. The first published newspaper was “Relation of Strasbourg” printed in 1609 by Johann Carolus, followed by many others in German and Dutch<sup>2</sup>. By the end of the 17th century, several newspapers were established across Europe<sup>2</sup>.

The above brief information is a newly acquired knowledge for me, which I believe may be true for many readers of this newsletter; hence, I felt the need to share the information in brief. Apart from this little information on the genesis of Newsletters and Newspapers, honestly there is nothing to put down in black and white for you all. Practically, my public involvement and interactions have been minimised due to the current unfavourable situation and also I have been involved in a bond engagement. My engagement will be over soon in one or two months. Routine academic activities were going on in full swing both physical and virtual plate forms. Lastly, I like to express my wish to organise one or two online sessions in select systems in the near future.

It is my good wish to every member of the society and their families during this difficult time. Essentially, it is our prior duty to protect ourselves in order to protect our near and dear ones, and every human being in this planet from this pandemic. May God bless every one of you in your day-to-day life.

**Dr Kim Vaiphei**

### **References for further reading**

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## SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dear all,

In my last message I had congratulated you for coming out victorious amidst CoVid 19 pandemic. But to our dismay, the second wave has emerged still more powerful, dangerous, contagious and life-threatening and there is exponential rise in CoVid 19 cases. Lack of oxygen is crippling the whole nation. Recently on 24th April, we lost one of our very popular, senior and very helping member of IAPM: Dr. Raj Mehrotra, he was Professor & Head, Dept. of Pathology, KGMU, Lucknow. Our heartfelt condolences are for his bereaved family members. I sincerely pray God that our pathology fraternity stay safe and healthy.

In spite of the scare and insecurity, we are not staying back and moving with a positive attitude doing all the mandatory association functions and forging ahead our association. From 22.01.21, we have started IAPM webinars and recently we have finished session 10 on 23.4.21 and session 11 will be held on 30.4.21. The topics chosen are mostly covering the basic pathology topics which are being live telecasted by youtube with the recorded version available afterwards for view of residents and other pathologists. Till now we already have 751 subscribers of youtube IAPM account and it's increasing every day. In this way, we have created a digital library of the essential and basic topics in Pathology which will be beneficial for

all. We have received 4 entries for best paper award and one for Prof. K.C. Basu Mallick award. The papers are already evaluated and results are with me which



will be presented in EC meeting. We have filed the IT return in time and I congratulate the office bearers, financial committee and also the IT team for getting it done.

We are going to have the 2nd online EC meeting on 02.05.21 and let's all join without fail and take all the required correct and apt decisions for thriving our association through the pandemic. The organising secretary and team of APCON 2021 are not in a position to hold the conference amidst Corona uncertainty, and most probably it will be a virtual conference during 2nd week of December. The scientific program has been mostly decided and will be presented and confirmed in forthcoming EC meeting.

As members of association, we must support each other, stay safe by vaccination, masks and social distancing and will navigate this situation together. Wishing good health for you, your families and your communities.

Jai IAPM

Dr. Asaranti Kar



## STATE CHAPTERS' REPORT

Last year, due to Covid-19 pandemic; all National & State chapter conferences/ CMEs were cancelled or conducted online. Again, we are seeing rising cases of new strain of COVID. In this disastrous time, few chapters have continued to use online platforms to conduct CMEs/ academic activities:

**Karnataka Chapter:** The first Virtual ICP ( Indian College of Pathologists) fellows meet was organized under the aegis of KCIAPM on 24th January, 2021. The organizing team comprised of Dr UshaKini, President KCIAPM, Dr Vijay Shankar S, Organizing Secretary, Dr Aditya Agnihotri, Joint Organizing Secretary and Dr Thejaswi Krishnamurthy, Treasurer. The event was coordinated by Dr BishanRadotra and Dr Nuzhat Husain, Dean and Secretary of ICP respectively. The event was attended by 55 Registered ICP fellows with 3 representatives from AIPNA. Dr BishanRadotra, Dean ICP presented the Annual Report of the ICP. The event began with a symposium on “ Liquid Biopsy - Changing the way we manage cancer” by Dr Anirudh Mehta and Team; followed by a spirited debate on “Printed textbooks are becoming obsolete” between Dr Sandhya Sundaram who spoke “For” the motion and Dr Harsh Mohan who spoke “Against” the motion. The session was moderated by Dr Anita Borges with a Pre and a Post-Debate Poll which was won by Dr Harsh Mohan. Dr ShivayogiBhunurmah spoke on “The vision for digital platform for Pathology education in India”. A very unconventional and refreshing Fire Side Chat session on “All Roads lead to Room 000” was conducted by Dr KalpanaSwaminathan and Dr Ishrat Syed. The

concluding session was moderated by Dr DN Lanjewar. KCIAPM PathWebinar Series, was conducted on 23rd January-2021 on “What’s new in soft tissue pathology in the WHO Classification of Tumours, 5th



edition, 2020” by Dr. Rekha V. Kumar from Bangalore. On 13th February-2021 “ Surface Epithelial Tumors of Ovary - An Update” was conducted by Dr. KantilataPai, from MAHE, Manipal. On 13th March-2021 “ Hitchhiker’s guide to GI biopsy” by Dr K V Santosh, Bangalore. Virtual Interactive slide seminar was conducted on 20th Feb, 21 by Dr Jayram N Iyengar of NeubergerAnand Reference Laboratory, Bangalore.

**Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry chapter (TNPCIAPM) :** Virtual slide seminar was conducted on 23rd Jan’21: Interesting cases were presented by various institutions in Tamilnadu & Pondicherry. Dr. Hidaya Fatima presented a case of carcinoid tumor of sequestered lung segment. Dr. Fathima Afshan -a case of myofibroblastomamale breast. Dr. Shivashangari-acaseofcarney’s triad. Dr. S. G JanoRoy-a case of nasopharyngeal histoplasmosis Dr. Balamanikandaraja -a case of large duct type of intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma Dr. Saranya, a case of IgG4 related disease of paranasalsinus Dr. Rthamilselvi, a case of langer hancell histiocytosis of skull. It was attended by 100 delegates online and more than 250 view ed in youtube. On 20th March’21 National IAPM President and Secretary participated in the event



virtually alongwith pathologists of Tamilnadu and Pondicherry who joined and felicitated the launch of website-www.tnpciamp.org. It was followed by virtual slide seminar. Chennai city pathologist club meet was conducted on 20th Feb'21 which was dedicated to Dr.Thilagavathi. Dr. Bharathi presented a case of haemangiolympangioma. Dr. Impana and Dr.Seethalakshmi presented a case of hypereosinophilic syndrome & warm and cold type of autoimmunehaemolytic anaemia Dr. Gowripriya-Acnekeloids Nuchae. Dr. Asma-Bcellprecursor Acute Lymphoblasticleukemia. Prof Pappathi-BCOR related family pedriatic renal neoplasm Dr.Swethalakshmi - Extranodal NK/TCellymphoma, nasalttype. Dr. Varsha- Extranodal NK/Tcellymphoma Nasal type. Dr. Kavipriya-Neuro endocrinecarcinoma of gall bladder-Small cell NEC. Dr. Krishna kumar-PythiumInsidiosum keratitis. The meeting was

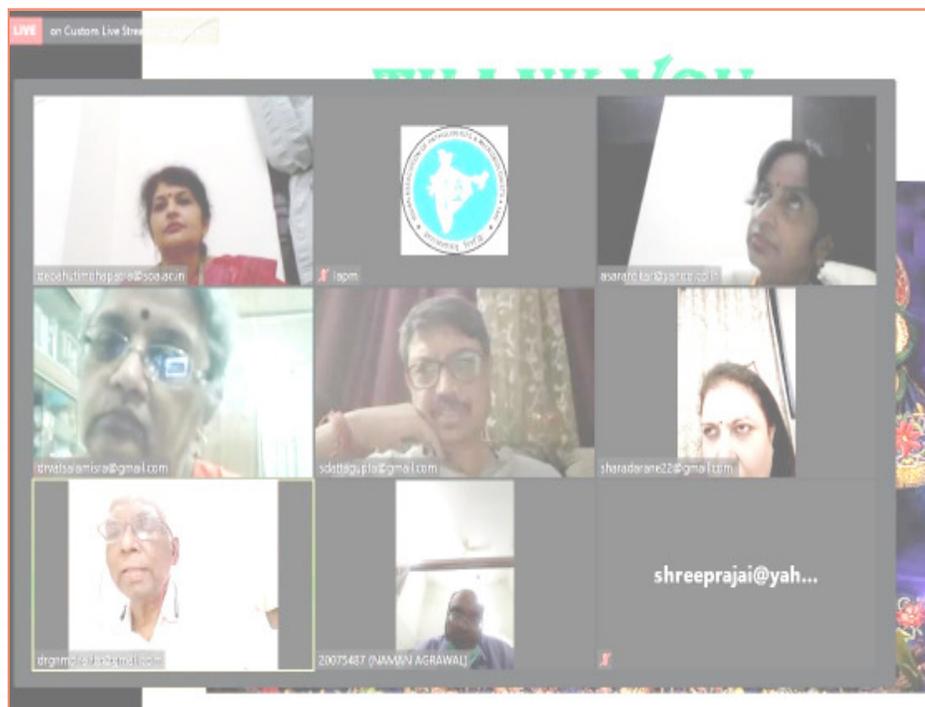
attended by 85 delegates virtually and youtube viewrs were 250. DrVishnu presented a case of GIST with complete work up including molecular profile. Dr. Mahalakshmi- a case of splenicactinomycosis. Dr.Shanghave-autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome. Dr. Sarasa Bharathi- malignantphyllodes tumor with sarcomatous component. Dr. Raghavi- follicular lymphoma. Dr. Roopmala- extra nodal lymphoma of testis & Dr. Poovizhi discussed a case of hard tick infestationin eye lid. In my opinion, such online academic activities should be promoted and conducted by all state chapters for the benefit of post-graduates and young Pathologists till this Covid-19 pandemic gets over.

**Dr. Harendra Kumar,**

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IAPM WEBINAR GOING ON



## In Memorium: Dr. Arun R. Chitale

(28- 02- 1937 to 27- 02- 2021)

In the morning hours of February 27, 2021, the heart of Dr. Arun Chitale stopped beating, and a good soul ascended to heaven at the age of 84 years. With his sad demise, we lost a doyen in pathology and an esteemed member and a former President of the Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists.

Born on February 28, 1937 in a town Dapoli, a Ratnagiri district of the Maharashtra State. His father was a principal of High School in Dapoli. After preliminary education, he received training in medicine at the B. J. Medical College, Pune wherein he graduated in 1960 and subsequently in 1964 obtained M. D. in Pathology and Bacteriology, under the guidance of Dr. Y. M. Bhende. Then he moved to United States of America to obtain surgical pathology training at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. I (Dr. Vijay Joshi) was co-residents with Dr. Chitale in Medical College of Virginia and I distinctly remember that he maintained his academic orientation and published original articles in peer-reviewed journals even during his residency. In 1969, Dr. Chitale was certified as Diplomate of American Board of Pathology and then returned India in 1970.

At that time in early 1970s, most pathologists in private practice in Mumbai and for that matter probably in India relied heavily on clinical pathology and none confined their practice to surgical pathology however Dr. Chitale established surgical pathology practice and he was a pioneer in confining private practice ONLY to surgical pathology. Much to the delight of general and subspecialty surgeons and physicians in

private practice, he pioneered the practice of sending reports of accurate and complete diagnosis with, if needed, an explanatory comment within two days of



receiving a biopsy and within three days after receiving a resection specimen in his laboratory. He thus became a favorite amongst the practicing surgeons and physicians and he built a huge private practice receiving 25000 biopsies and resections every year in his laboratory.

With the help of our Guru, Prof. R K Gadgil, he got independent affiliations to Sir J. J. hospital for orthopedics, Municipal ENT hospital for otorhinolaryngology, Wadia Maternity and children's hospital, Mumbai. He had established: "Bone Registry" at the Grant Government Medical College Mumbai. Subsequently over the next eight years he got affiliations with fourteen different hospitals in Mumbai exclusively for surgical pathology (including cytology). Despite being so busy he accepted the position of Chief Consultant at the famous Jaslok hospital, Mumbai. There he established the Electron Microscopy laboratory and pioneered the modern method of processing and reporting renal biopsies. Later he published the first monograph on Renal Biopsy in India. During all these years, he offered free services of electron microscopic study in unusual/difficult surgical/autopsy cases for the faculties of pathology departments of all four medical colleges in Mumbai.



Dr. Chitale was extremely busy with his practice and with the work related to his affiliations to many specialist hospitals in Mumbai. However, he maintained, in the spirit of continuing the academic tradition of his father, by maintaining an academic approach to his entire work. He served as honorary Associate Professor and post-graduate teacher of pathology at the Grant Government Medical College, Mumbai, where he used to regularly teach undergraduate and postgraduate students. He also served as honorary cytologist at Seth G. S. Medical College, Mumbai. Subsequently, he chaired the Department of Pathology at the Bombay Hospital Institute of Medical Sciences where he was instrumental in starting post graduate course (M. D. in pathology) and wherein he created a state of the art pathology museum. He was a pioneer in introducing interactive microscopy courses of the international level by inviting six eminent surgical pathologists such as Juan Rosai, Steven Silverberg, and Bharat Nathwani etc. They had sent histology slides which the delegates could examine beforehand. The invited faculties were paid all their expenses including travel to India.

Unlike some senior Pathologists, he used the modern computer technology in his laboratory. With the help of a software engineer, he designed as early as in 1997 a software for surgical pathology reporting which he used for recording the huge data on 350,000 cases (biopsies and resections) of his own private surgical pathology laboratory. He had documented records of more than 6, 20,325 biopsies and resected specimens reported by himself. Towards the end of his active career, he started organizing his huge collection of surgical pathology cases into subspecialty

teaching files for future publication. He participated in teaching sessions and seminars for the pathology residents at the local, regional and national level in India. He was a role model for the accomplished pathologists in India and for the pathologists of Indian origin working in USA and other countries.

During his illustrious career, he won an award for the best article presented at the International Conference on Electron Microscopy held in Oslo, Norway and he was also the recipient of a prestigious "R D Birla National Award" for research in Biomedical Sciences in 1999. Dr. Chitale delivered many orations, received several awards and published more than 100 research papers in national and international journals, book chapters and monographs.

I (Dr. Vijay Joshi) knew Dr. Arun Chitale personally and professionally since 1957, when we were co-students of B J Medical College Pune. Dr. Arun Chitale (we affectionately and respectfully called him as Arnya) had a many-faceted personality. I came to know him closely, because of our common interest in acting in Marathi plays in B. J. Medical College, Pune. He had a special talent for roles in comedies and he also used to play "Tabla" in concerts of amateur musicians. He had met his wife Dr. Shobha while acting together in a Marathi play. Later as co-residents in Richmond, VA, we used to have regular weekend family get-togethers over a dinner and used to listen recorded tapes of Indian classical music. Dr. Shobha completed her training in Pediatrics in Richmond and established her own successful practice in Mumbai. Both his sons are accomplished pathologists, his elder son Dr. Ashutosh continues his father's practice of Pathology successfully and his younger son



Dr. Dhananjay is Vice-Chairman of the Department of Pathology in the prestigious Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, USA. It is a personal loss for me and my wife who have shared many pleasant personal and professional memories with him and his wife over fifty-five years. With his demise India has lost a great academic surgical pathologist. His legacy will continue with contributions from his sons and his many postgraduate students.

Dr. Arun Chitale had many pioneering accomplishments in the field of academic and private practice of Surgical Pathology. In India he has been referred to as “Giant among the Pathologists” with an encyclopedic knowledge of his subject, most generous and the best

consultant. In spite of his stature, he interacted unassumingly, freely and openly with his students and junior colleagues. He was actively involved in the activities of the Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists of which he was “President” in 1989. The office bearers and the members of the Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists are deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Arun Chitale.

He lived a happy, healthy and contented life and rose to his heavenly abode in the morning hours of February 27, 2021. May God put Dr. Arun Chitale in a special place where he will be watching us, the people who loved and cherished him.

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