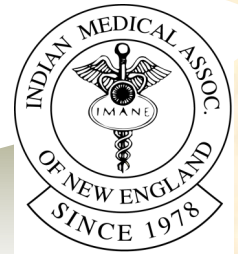


Indian Medical Association of New England Newsletter



Quarter 3 Newsletter: July-September 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last quarter has been a busy one for IMANE. We began with a very successful Spring CME meeting on May 5th, 2012 at the Massachusetts Medical Society Headquarters in Waltham. This event was jointly sponsored with MMS for the second year in a row and many members of both organizations attended the sessions on Health Care Quality and Improvement which featured speakers such as Dr. Stancel Riley, executive director of the Board of Registration in Medicine, and Dr. Ronald Dunlap, vice president of MMS. The audience was very engaged throughout the program and there has been demand for more continuing medical education programs along a similar theme of health care quality and practice improvement in this era of health care reform.



In keeping with this theme, our featured topic this quarter is the Affordable Care Act. The Supreme Court Ruling on June 28 was a historic event for all involved with health care today. Read more about this historic act and its impact on page 3. In a groundbreaking collaboration with the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston and two other mainstream healthcare organizations, IMANE is pleased to present a panel discussion on the Affordable Care Act and the Future of Healthcare Reform on July 18, 2012 at Tufts Medical School. Further details on registration are on page 2; I encourage all of you to attend as this law will impact healthcare, law and politics for future years.

It was my pleasure to see many IMANE members at the Massachusetts Medical Society Annual Meeting at the Seaport Hotel in May. It has always been a part of IMANE's mission to advocate for and represent international medical graduates; many IMANE members attended the International Medical Graduates Reception where we reinforced our pledge to represent the needs of IMGs in the New England region. I was honored at the end of the month to have the opportunity to convey my goals for IMANE to India New England and The Indus Business Journal through a special One-on-One interview feature which can be found here: [India New England Interview](#)

We also had two successful charity events promoting IMANE's commitment to community service in June: a successful comedy fundraiser for IMANE charitable projects and a community/wellness fair co-sponsored with United India Association of New England. You can see highlights of all IMANE recent events later in this newsletter.

It is also my deepest pleasure to announce that Dr. Onaly Kapasi, one of IMANE's Past Presidents and past recipient of the Community Service Award, has been awarded the 2012 Most Distinguished Service to AAPI Award. I have learned a great deal from Dr. Kapasi who has been a wonderful mentor to me through medical school, residency and now in my early career as a young physician. IMANE congratulates Dr. Kapasi and wishes him much success in the future. Read more about the award and Dr. Kapasi in our featured member profile section beginning on page 4.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that our active membership continues to grow this year; several new members joined as a result of the MMS-IMANE membership promotion last quarter—many are young physicians. I am confident IMANE will continue to grow as a result in the years to come.

— Sucheta Doshi, MD MPH

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SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING EVENTS

IMANE, South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (SABA-GB), Providers for Progress and Boston Young Healthcare Professionals join forces to bring you the event of the summer:

“The Affordable Care Act and The Supreme Court: The Future of Healthcare Reform”

Join legal and healthcare professionals to learn from a panel of experts about how the Supreme Court ruling to uphold the ACA will affect you and your patients.

Wednesday, July 18, 2012, 7-9 pm

Arthur M. Sackler Center for Medical Education at Tufts University, Room 114, 145 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02111

Panel discussion and Q&A. There will be time for informal conversations and networking following the panel. Complimentary appetizers and cash bar will be provided.

Featuring: A dynamic panel of healthcare experts including one of the South Asian community's talented young physicians, Jay Bhatt, DO, MPH, MPA. Dr. Bhatt is the current Chair of the American College of Physicians Council of Associates, a prior recipient of the AAPI Distinguished Resident Award and was featured in India Abroad last year. Renee Landers, Esq. (professor of Health Law and Administrative Law at Suffolk University Law School), Amy Lischko, PhD (former Director of Health Policy under Governor Romney), and Regina Rockefeller, Esq. (partner at Nixon Peabody's Health Services Group) will join Dr. Bhatt on the panel.

This special event is **FREE** for all current IMANE members but space is limited so register today! Non-members: \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Register today: <http://youngleadershealthlawandreform.eventbrite.com/>

Please email imane@mms.org or call Kristen Verdeaux at 781-434-7314 for special member code or to update your membership status.

SUMMER MEETING: August 5, 2012 at Stage Fort Park and Beaches, Gloucester, MA, 11 AM-4PM

Join IMANE for the annual summer picnic/retreat at historic Gloucester harbor! Bring your favorite picnic food to share along with picnic/beach gear and network with new and old friends. **Free for all members and their families**; \$15/non-member+family. RSVP to imane@mms.org.

INDIA DAY HEALTH FAIR: IAGB, Boston/Hatch Shell: August 12, 2012, 4pm—8 pm

ISW, Worcester: August 19, 2012, 12 noon– 6 pm

Volunteers are needed to help with blood pressure screens, blood glucose screens and general health advice at IMANE's signature community service event! Please email imane@mms.org to volunteer!

ANNUAL MEETING and GALA: **NOVEMBER 17, 2012 at Taj Boston**

Ongoing Events: Free Clinics in Waltham, Shrewsbury, Billerica. IMANE-MDPH-ICC Tuberculosis education initiative.

For more information about the above events: email IMANE@mms.org

The Affordable Care Act and The Supreme Court Ruling: Newsbrief

On June 28, 2012, in a landmark ruling that will be recorded in healthcare history, the Supreme Court upheld nearly all aspects of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). By enabling nearly 47 Million Americans without health coverage to buy or obtain health care coverage, the law will improve the health of the nation by ensuring access to basic primary care, including preventive services and chronic disease management. Already, recently released data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that more Americans have received key preventive health services since enactment of the Act in 2010 than in previous years (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/other/su6102.pdf>). The Massachusetts Medical Society and the American Association of Family Physicians have issued statements supporting the ruling.

What does the upholding of the act mean for you and your patients? Below is a brief review of the important components and how the Supreme Court ruling affects the nature of healthcare in the future:

- 1) The Court held the individual mandate that all Americans purchase health insurance a permissible use of the federal government's taxing authority. However, the court did rule that the federal government cannot withhold Medicaid funds from states that refuse to expand their Medicaid programs to cover individuals with incomes of as much as 133 percent of the federal poverty level as called for by the Affordable Care Act.
- 2) For patients: the court's decision preserved provisions of the ACA that eliminate annual and lifetime coverage limits, eliminate cost sharing for preventive services, prevent payers from denying coverage based on pre-existing conditions, and allow young adults to stay on their parents' insurance up to age 26.
- 3) For primary care physicians: the court's decision preserved provisions of the ACA that create Medicare primary care payment incentives and boost Medicaid payments for primary care services to Medicare levels.
- 4) Overall the decision indicates that investment in primary care education and training will continue through: funding for teaching health centers, scholarship and loan repayment programs in the National Health Service Corps, support for the health professions grants for family medicine, and establishment of the Health Care Workforce Commission.

The ruling also means that projects intended to align payment to support medical home transformation will continue. (For primary care physicians, the deadline to apply for CMS' Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative is July 20; those in one of the initiative's seven markets are encouraged to apply).

For More Information: Attend the upcoming panel event on “The Affordable Care Act and the Supreme Court: The Future of Healthcare Reform” on July 18, 2012 from 7-9 PM at Tufts Medical School. The panel will be moderated by Renée Landers who has written many recent opinions in the New England Journal of Medicine regarding the Supreme Court and the Affordable Care Act. See detailed information on the panel and registration on page 2.

FOR FURTHER READING

Patient Protection and Affordable Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, 124 Stat. 119 (2010). Available at <http://www.healthcare.gov/law/full/>

Curfman GD, Abel BS, Landers RM. Supreme Court Review of the Health Care Reform Law. *N Eng J Med* 2012; 366:977-979. March 15, 2012. Perspective.

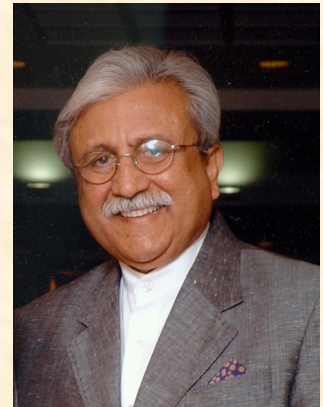
National Federation of Independent Business et al. v. Sebelius. June 28, 2012. Available at <http://www.supremecourt.gov>

Landers, RM. The Dénouement of the Supreme Court's ACA Drama. *N Eng J Med* 2012; July 2, 2012. Perspective.

MEMBER PROFILE: Dr. Onaly Kapasi, 2012 AAPI Most Distinguished Service Award

Onaly Kapasi, M.D., FAAOS, FAANOS (Hon) was recently awarded the 2012 AAPI Distinguished Service Award. He is currently the Medical Director of the Arthroscopy and Sports Medicine Center in Boston. An alumnus of Grant Medical College, Dr. Kapasi is one of the medical community's esteemed academic physicians and a great philanthropist. In addition, he is also a poet and writer who has been published in many arenas regarding his perspectives on humanism and medicine.

In his graduate and postgraduate studies, Dr. Kapasi demonstrated academic excellence by winning the coveted Ethicon Prize for academic excellence in the Masters of Medicine/ Surgery program at the Nairobi University, Kenya. He received his postgraduate surgical and orthopedic training at Harvard and Tufts Universities. His research paper, "Psoriatic Hands" won a National Hand Surgery Association Award for the best paper.



He has been an active AAPI member for at least thirty years where he has served as a chair of many committees over the past twenty plus years. He has served on the AAPI Executive Committee for two years and the Governing Body for greater than ten years. Oni, as he is fondly known, has also served as the President of the Indian Medical Association of New England, the Indian Orthopedic Society, Grant Medical Alumni Association, Bombay University Medical Alumni and Maharashtra Medical University Alumni as well as the AAPI Regional Director for New England for two consecutive years. Because of his ability and insight of thinking outside the box, within and outside his field of expertise has made him a valuable and contributing member of many committees.

As a patron trustee of the AAPI Charitable Foundation, he continues to deliver free medical care in India, Africa and the United States. Each year he visits the AAPI free clinic in the Himalayan town of Mandi where he runs an orthopedic camp. He received a distinguished service award from the International Himalayan Institute for his philanthropic medical work. He has received AAPI dedicated service awards for the year 2000 and once again in 2001 for assisting Indian physicians in the United States. As a chair of the AAPI Ethics and Grievances Committee he introduced a complaint response algorithm and invited several Indian attorneys to offer pro bono to the committee which he attributes as the reason for all the successful outcomes with cases before the committee. As the chair of the Awards Committee he introduced a five point quantitative and qualitative assessment of the nominees to exclude personal prejudice with the selection of appropriate awardees. He is not afraid to ask probing questions and he questions injustice without accounting for personal loss or gain, this lack of concern for personal credit is the main stay for his recognition.

He has demonstrated leadership in medicine and tremendous advocacy on behalf of Indian physicians by serving on the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for three years from 1991-1994 where he chaired the Medical Licensing Committee from 1993-1994 along with other healthcare committees. He also served as a physician member on the Alternative Healthcare Board of Massachusetts as well as on Governor Weld's Ad-Hoc Committee to study the Attitude and Practices of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Medicine in 1990. His desire to mentor new generations of physicians is exemplified through his service as the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Graduate Medical Education in Massachusetts. His other extensive work as a leader in medicine in Massachusetts is displayed through his involvement in multiple committees consisting of leaders in medical education, registrars and executive committees of various teaching medical institutions and medical societies.

As a Past President of IMANE from 2003-2004, Dr. Kapasi helped revive IMANE's focus on medical advocacy and leadership. He served on the AAPI governing body and was instrumental in the sponsorship of a Boston Free Care Clinic in the city of Waltham that is co-sponsored by IMANE. He began the IMANE journal club to help foster young physician interest in IMANE and its activities. His extensive charitable work and leadership in medicine won him the IMANE Leadership Award in 2004 and the Humanitarian Services Award in 2009.

Dr. Kapasi is a published poet, a writer, a caring orthopedic surgeon, a strong patient and physician advocate, teacher, leader, builder and inventor. He is a nominee of the AAOS Humanitarian Award and bestowed an honorary fellowship by the American Academy of Neurological & Orthopedic Surgeons. His dedication to representing Indian physicians in various medical arenas such as academic teaching hospitals, licensing boards and other medical executive committees make him an invaluable mentor to young physicians today. He truly is a Renaissance man.

"I am just a foot soldier" ~Dr. Onaly Kapasi, June 30, 2012 AAPI Acceptance Speech, Long Beach, CA

Excerpt from Dr. Kapasi's Acceptance Speech at the 2012 Annual AAPI Convention, Long Beach, CA:

Madam president, chairman of the board of trustees, chair of the awards committee, the members of the executive committee, members of the BOT, honored guests and friends. Thank you, thank you very much. I believe there cannot be a greater commendation than being recognized by ones peers. This honor is truly the highest acknowledgment, an acknowledgement by 40 thousand physicians. An acknowledgement of many years of service, sacrifice and soul pleasing work in healthcare.

At an offset I must tell you of the angels in my corner that guide me but shy away from due recognition. I thank my guiding angels who are my moral compass and who fuel my desire for service. My wife Chandermukhi, my children Sameera and Sameer , Sajani and Ashish and my wondrous grand children, who support me and accept gratuitously the lost time away from me when I am serving the AAPI and other such bodies of high esteem.

I thank my friends Drs. Vijaynager, Ahuja, Dasari, Doshi and so many others that nominated me for the award.

I would remiss by not mentioning my alma mater Grant Medical College, Nairobi, Tufts and Harvard Universities for the wonderful education that I received.

Many before me have stated that they did not deserve this award. I cannot state with a clear conscience that I do not deserve this recognition as I believe that would be disingenuous and that would also dishonor those who nominated me and the honorable members of the awards committee who singled me out unanimously for the award. I thank you all for honoring me.

I must however state in my defense that I am just a foot soldier and in the history of mankind a foot soldier is rarely recognized. By recognizing my service , AAPI has blazed a new trend. A trend of recognizing the work of the foot soldiers. So this award is truly a recognition of all the foot soldiers, so many of whom are in the audience. I graciously accept this honor as a salute to all the foot soldiers, who truly are our silent heroes.

My humble quest is to attain nirvana through service. I wish to continue my quest to attain that goal in this lifetime and if I fail I shall continue my quest in yet another life time, hopefully in the company of the fine man and women who are part of my life today.

In closing I would like to recite a poem titled interdependence that was inspired by many and written by my love and partner of 41 years, my wife Chandermukhi.

Interdependence

As I first stood up to walk my parents held my hand
As I walked waddling at best they walked by my side
As I walked to school they worried but let me go
As I returned they waited to hear of my adventures

As I sought independence my teachers held my hand
As I faltered they gently brought me back on track
As I learned more they taught me even more
As I left the school they wished me well

As I grew up my friends held my hand
As I worried they lessened my load
As I walked ahead they walked behind
As I accomplished they celebrated my success

As I had my children my family held my hand
As I marched on they defined my future
As I worried they rallied to my support
As I matured they shared my wisdom

Life is all about interdependence.

My life is a story of interdependence.

~Chander M. Kapasi, MD MPH



IMANE ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IMANE members have been active within Massachusetts Medical Society and local medical societies over the last few months.

Spring CME, May 5, 2012: Many members attended a successful Spring CME on the important topic of “Health Care Quality and Improvement.” The event served as a reunion for current and past Chairs of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine as IMANE co-founder Dr. Dinesh Patel and Past IMANE President, Dr. Onaly Kapasi engaged in post-lecture discussion with presenters Dr. Stancel Riley, current Chair of BORIM and Dr. Anand Kartha from VA Boston.



Dr. Onaly Kapasi, Dr. Sucheta Doshi, Dr. Anand Kartha, Dr. Stancel Riley, Dr. Sajani Shah, and Dr. Dinesh Patel



Drs Trivedis, Singh, Virk, Doshi, Mathur, and Passey with Dr. Janine Saldanha and the MMS IMG Committee

Massachusetts Medical Society Annual Meeting, May 17-18, 2012: IMANE members continue to show their dedication to physician advocacy through their involvement with Massachusetts Medical Society. Many EC members and past Presidents were present at the Annual International Medical Graduate’s Reception, chaired by Past IMANE President, Dr. Janine Saldanha.

Other IMANE events in June 2012:



IMANE Members at 2012 AAPI Convention



Comedy Fundraiser for IMANE Charitable Projects, June 2012



IMANE EC Members at the UIANE-IMANE Community Wellness Fair, June 2012

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Dr. Sahdev Passey, Past President of IMANE 2003, was honored by The Massachusetts chapter of the Indian American Forum for Political Education (IAFPE) in May 2012 for his contributions to the local Indian American community in the field of Medicine. For over 35 years, Dr. Passey has personally and professionally devoted his time and attention to cater towards the well being of the local community and has organized numerous efforts to provide health care and medicine to people in need. He continues to be a key contributor to IMANE as current Chair of the By-Laws Committee. Congratulations!

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of the oldest Indian Medical Organization in America and enjoy the following benefits:

New for 2012: Exclusive Linked In group for members only! Engage in professional networking with your fellow IMANE members. Must be paid or student members of IMANE to be approved.

Discounted rates for Spring, Summer and Annual meetings

Participate in various IMANE committees and be involved in coordinating IMANE activities

Volunteer at IMANE affiliated charity clinics in Waltham and Shrewsbury or at one of our many health fairs throughout the year!

YPS activities for young physicians, residents, fellows and medical students

New for 2012: Mentor-Mentee program for Young Physicians

Apply for observership positions with IMANE members

Be featured in the IMANE Newsletter Members Section

GET INVOLVED WITH IMANE:

Committees

IMANE has many committees that want YOUR involvement—please contact Kristen Verdeaux at llayer@mms.org or the following Committee Chairs if you would like to become more involved with IMANE this year through the following committees:

MEMBERSHIP: Co-chairs: Maria Menezes and Subha Thiagarajan

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Chair: Sapna Aggarwal

SCIENTIFIC: Chair: Sajani Shah

PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITE: Chair: Sameer Kapasi

FUNDRAISING/EXHIBITORS: Chair: Srilatha Kodali

Join or Renew your Membership—Life Membership Special Until November 1, 2012

IMANE has many more exciting activities and benefits planned for this year, many which are members-only. So please join or renew your membership today. Special Life Membership promotion until November 1, 2012: \$400 Lifetime Membership, \$750 Couple Lifetime Membership. Contact Kristen Verdeaux at kverdeaux@mms.org or 781-434-7314 for membership form and details. More information: www.imanemd.org

Feedback

Your feedback matters. We want to know your thoughts on our plans for the future and what you consider to be the priorities for IMANE. You may contact Kristen Verdeaux, Chapter Administrator, based in the Massachusetts Medical Society headquarters in Waltham, MA by phone at 781-434-7314 or email imane@mms.org. You may also contact Dr. Doshi at suchetadoshi@yahoo.com.

2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President –Elect

Manju Sheth, M.D.

Past President

Arun Chaudhary, M.D.

Secretary

Sajani Shah, M.D.

Treasurer

Seema Arora, M.D.

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Sapna Aggarwal M.D.

Sameer Kapasi, M.D.

Srilatha Kodali, M.D.

Maria Menezes, M.D.

Subha Thiagarajan, M.D.

YPS Representative

Jatin Roper, M.D.

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