



www.isno.in

Dear friends

Wishing all members a joyous festive season ahead!

The Indian Society of Neuro-Oncology (ISNO) is growing well with more than 240 members and had a rather exciting and event filled year. One of the highlights was the successful holding of its 5th Annual Meeting along with the 10th meeting of the Asian Society for Neuro-Oncology (ASNO) earlier this year in Mumbai. The conference met its goals and was hailed as one of the best organised meetings. In addition to a high quality scientific and social programmes, it also provided an excellent platform to showcase the current status of clinical practice and research activities in basic and clinical sciences in neuro-oncology from India and other Asian countries.

There has been an increasing recognition of ISNO and ISNO members at the global level, with their participation as experts and executive committees in international conferences and other academic endeavours. This year is also witness to the World Federation of Neuro-Oncology (WFNO) conference in San Francisco, which is held once in 4 years with joint efforts from the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO), European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO) and ASNO. I hope many of us would be able to attend this what is likely to be a very informative and exciting meeting. Another very important meeting would be the 1st ever Indian Cancer Congress, where all major cancer societies have come together for the first time to have a common platform and would go down as a historic event. ISNO as well as the Brain Tumour Foundation of India (BTF) are officially supporting the Congress as well and there is a dedicated session on neuro-oncology. It is an unfortunate coincidence that both the conferences are on identical dates (November 21 to 24) but hopefully many of us would attend this conference/session.

We remain conscious of the challenges that we face in terms of relative disparity of care delivery, availability of dedicated resources, both human and material, survivorship issues and generating quality original data within our own country. I do believe though, with all our support, our society will strive its best to overcome some of them in the years to come.

I would request all of you to continue and sustain your efforts and commitment to the society, increase the membership and spread the awareness in your colleagues and students.

Happy reading!!

Rakesh Jalali

General Secretary

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ISNO NEWS

ISNO Executive

The society has been led admirably well right from its inception by leaders of very high merit and foresight. Dr CE Deopujari, renowned neurosurgeon and experienced administrator completed a very inspiring stint as the President. We will remain grateful for his advice and leadership especially in the strengthening and consolidating phase of the society. He was a great source of encouragement and helped immeasurably during the organisation and conduct of the ASNO conference, as well. The mantle of the current presidentship has been passed in March 2013 to Dr Kumar Somasundaram, our foremost scientist in the country in fundamental neuro-oncology. That the three out of five ISNO presidents elected so far belong to the basic sciences is a testimony to the importance needed for this branch & exemplifies the maturity and likely future directions of the society. We also thank the members of the previous executive committee for all their help & commitment during these formative years & hope to keep on receiving their support in future, as well.

The new executive is listed in the following pages.

10th ASNO and 5th ISNO Annual Conference

The 10th meeting of the Asian Society for Neuro-oncology held jointly with the fifth annual meeting of ISNO was organised in Mumbai from March 21-24th 2013. This was the first ever time that an ASNO meeting was being held in India and attracted a record participation of more than 500 registrations from 22 countries. We were very fortunate that the conference was graced by an outstanding national and overseas faculty as well as members of the international organising community from all over the world. The scientific programme had a good mix of invited talks, platform and poster presentations, debates on current controversies, 'meet the expert' sessions and deliberations on international cooperation. The delegates also had a wonderful opportunity to interact with the leaders in various disciplines of neuro-oncology. The meeting started on 21st March with a CME day tailored to address common issues seen in our routine practice & especially suited to students, fellows & busy practitioners. The topics covered pertained to pathology, current management and quality of life aspects in paediatric brain tumours, primary CNS lymphoma and brain metastasis. A live surgical workshop demonstrating 5 ALA resections in malignant gliomas conducted by its pioneer, Dr Walter Stummer was beamed live to the audience and was well appreciated. The second and third day of the conference were devoted to early morning sessions

by the experts followed by keynote addresses on current pertinent topics, scientific symposia, panel discussions and platform & poster presentation of select abstracts, all 240 of them having undergone an peer review by the international scientific committee. There were two lively debates on “oligodendroglial tumours” and “proton beam therapy” in skull base tumours. The prestigious Abhijit Guha oration of the society was delivered none other than by Dr. Roger Stupp. The conference was formally invited by His Excellency, Shri Prithvi Raj Chavan, Honourable Chief Minister of Maharashtra with Dr RA Badwe, Director Tata Memorial Centre, as the guest of honour. The inauguration ceremony featured a vibrant classical music recital by santoor maestro, Pandit Satish Vyas Ji and and felicitation of all the past presidents of ASNO & ISNO, this being the 10th and 5th such meetings, respectively. The final day of the conference had an unique programme devoted to families and survivors, which struck an emotional chord with the delegates and participants and a wonderful source of inspiration to the patients, families as well as physicians. The success of the conference was due to untiring efforts of the organising commity, participating delegates , invited faculty, superb hosting at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, our event managers VAMA, admirable support from the sponsors and our patients and their families.



The next ASNO conference will be held in Sept 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey.

International Brain Tumour Awareness Week

The International Brain Tumor Alliance (IBTA), an umbrella organisation of all the major brain tumour charities of the world has now firmly established as one of the premier group to promote support, advocacy and information for brain tumour patients and caregivers in different parts of the world. IBTA has been championing the cause of all aspects of challenges faced by the patients, clinicians, researchers, scientists and allied health professionals working in neuro-oncology. They have been spearheading the International Brain Tumor Awareness Week every year with an organised walk or any activity (academic or social) to sustain this campaign. The 2012 week was organised in various parts of the world from 28th October to 3rd November including events in India. The Brain Tumor Foundation (BTF) organised its Annual Art Festival with usual enthusiasm and verve as were similar events in other parts of the country.

We were very fortunate that Denis Strangman, one of the founders and chair of the IBTA attended the ASNO conference in March 2013 and had a series of interactions with various delegates and more importantly with several patients and their families. Hopefully his efforts will catalyze the formation of a dedicated patient advocacy group in our country. The IBTA also brought out its 2013 magazine with very interesting mix of brain tumour related news articles from patients perspective, interviews with key researchers and good coverage from Indian point of view as well. Copies can be requested by filling out a simple form from their website www.theibta.org.

The IBTA is also for the first time organising a dedicated “ Brain Tumour Summit” just before the WFNO meeting at San Francisco in November 2013. The summit has been planned to deliberate common challenges faced by the brain tumour patients/care givers and would be attended by members of brain tumour organisations in different countries. Two representatives from BTF India have been invited to attend and present at the summit as well.

World Federation of NeuroOncology Conference (WFNO)

The next 4th quadrennial meeting of the World Federation of Neuro-Oncology in conjunction with 18th Annual Meeting Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO) will be held in San Francisco, USA from 21st-24th November 2013 with Dr Mitchel Berger as the chair of scientific committee and Dr Susan Chang as the co-chair. The conference will likely to provide the status of the cutting edge research in various disciplines of neuro-oncology and is the premier joint collaborative event of the three major international societies of

SNO, EANO and ASNO. Dr Jalali has been invited to assist in the scientific programme as a co-chair for quality of life sessions on the education day of the conference. Several ISNO members are likely to attend what is likely to be an exciting conference. The scientific programme can be viewed at <http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org/2013-annual-meeting>.

Indian Cancer Congress (ICC) 2013

A dedicated session on neuro-oncology will be held on 24th November during the first ever Indian Cancer Congress from 21-24th November in Delhi. The ICC will act as an excellent platform to discuss the latest updates as well as presenting original research in cancer from India. The congress is being held due to mutual collaboration from all the major oncology societies in India. ISNO is formally supporting the congress and has assisted in developing its neuro-oncology programme. Many ISNO members will be attending the congress. Full details of the registration, scientific programme etc can be viewed at the congress website <http://indiancancercongress2013.org/>.

6th Annual Meeting of ISNO 2014

The next annual ISNOCON is being organized by Dr Shaleen Kumar and Dr Sanjay Behari from SGPGI, Lucknow. The meeting dates have been finalized to be **4th to 6th April, 2014** and will have the usual ISNOCON formats of starting with a brunch on Friday, the 4th April. The venue of the conference will likely be the Taj Hotel and conference brochures will be circulated soon to all the members. Please reserve the dates in your calendars and we look forward to your participation in great numbers.

12th ISPNO 2014 at Singapore

Another exciting meeting worth attending would be the ISPNO meeting from 28th June to 2nd July, 2014 in, which offers latest preclinical and clinical research results, diagnostic and therapeutic developments in the field. The pace of our discoveries and implementation in the clinics in paediatric neuro-oncology in the last few years has been nothing short of dramatic. As per the previous conferences, ISPNO meetings are held every 2 years, well organized and well worth attending. The Chair of the meeting, Prof Stewart Kellie from Australia (who attended the Mumbai ASNO meeting as well) has personally asked me to request all ISNO members to consider attending this meeting in Singapore. Details of the meeting are available on their website www.ispno2014.com

Minutes of General Body Meetings (Number-4)

Venue: Crystal Room (Hall A)

Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai during ASNO / ISNO 2013

Date: 21st March 12, 2013 (6 pm to 6.30 pm)

The GBM was chaired by the President, (ISNO elect) Dr CE Deopujari, who welcomed all members to the GBM. A roll call was maintained.

GBM 2013/1: Dr Jalali presented the secretary's report. He had circulated the minutes of the previous 2012 GBM minutes, which were duly passed by the house, after being proposed by Dr GK Rath and seconded by Dr Nagraj Huilgol.

GBM 2013/2: Dr Jalali informed the house that there are now 216 active members in the society. He had earlier circulated in the current GBM agenda, the names and affiliations of all the 48 colleagues (45 life and 3 associate), who had submitted their ISNO membership during the past one year. Names of all new members were called out. Their acceptance was proposed by Dr KKR Pramod and seconded by Dr Somasundaram. New members were welcomed into the ISNO family. While the membership to the society in the last year had improved very impressively, all members were requested to keep up the momentum, especially from disciplines of neurology, medical oncology and basic sciences.

GBM 2013/3: Dr Jalali also apprised the members about the increasing recognition of ISNO in the ASNO region as well as at the World Federation of Neuro Oncology (WFNO). He also informed that **Dr Rahul Krishnatry**, Senior Resident at the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai won the prestigious and competitive **SNO International Outreach fellowship award** for his proposed project on developing 'Paediatric Neuro-Oncology Programme' with special emphasis on translational aspects in the exciting field of molecular biology and its clinical impact in medulloblastoma. He will be working for one year under supervision of Dr Eric Bouffet, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto and will start later in the year. His story was also carried in the SNO newsletter and will get an opportunity to speak at the WFNO meeting in November 2013.

GBM 2013/4: Dr Jalali, as President of the ongoing 10th ASNO and 5th Annual ISNO conference briefed the members about the participation scientific programme and other aspects related to the conference. He thanked all the EC and ISNO members for their excellent support and efforts towards the organisation of the conference. With more than 500 registrations from 23 countries and 28 overseas faculty, this was probably the largest ASNO conference ever staged. He thanked all the ASNO members coming from such far distances and particularly our overseas ISNO members facilitating the visit of several foreign speakers attending the meeting. He also informed the members that they had received 240 abstracts and particularly thanked Dr Somasundaram and Dr Tejpal Gupta to painstakingly get the abstracts peer reviewed and published in JCRT and designing a superb scientific programme. Based on the encouraging feedback about the scientific programme as well as social events, the

organizing committee has put its best efforts to make the event of highest international standards and memorable. He profusely thanked the members of the trade, Taj Mahal Hotel management and the Vama Event Team in helping organize the meeting at such level.

Members expressed their appreciation to the organization of the ASNO conference with a generous round of applause.

GBM 2013/5: Dr Jalali also informed the members about the various functions organized in the country during the International Brain Tumour Awareness week campaign of the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA) from 28th October to 3rd November 2012. He particularly mentioned the wonderful efforts from the Orissa and the Mumbai groups including the TMH's BTF annual art festival. He was particularly pleased that Denis Strangman, founder and Co-chair of the IBTA was personally attending the ongoing ASNO/ISNO conference and was meeting with several patients to possibly make a patient advocacy group.

GBM 2013/6: The upcoming World Federation of Neuro-Oncology (WFNO) meeting to be held in San Francisco from 21st to 24th November 2013 was also presented to the members. This meeting held every 4 years is one of the highlights in the calendar and likely to attract a good participation from around the world and offer a scientific feast. Members were requested to ensure as much participation to this prestigious event as possible. Dr Jalali has been also invited to chair the "Quality of Life" part of the Educational day programme during the WFNO conference.

GBM 2013/7: Dr GK Rath, as Chairman of the upcoming first ever Indian National Congress (ICC) apprised the members of this very important meeting. The Indian Cancer Congress (ICC) meeting would be held on 21 to 24th November 2013 in New Delhi. Dr Rath briefed the members of the historic signing of the MOU and coming together of all the 3 major national cancer associations (AROI, ISO and ISMPO). 5000 registrations are expected at this congress with fees of approximately Rs 4500 and early bird incentives. There is a special designated session on neuro-oncology and ISNO has been officially invited to be an affiliate to ICC. Logos of ISNO and ICC will be displayed at each other's websites. Dr Sarkar along with Dr Jalali would be helping the ICC executive team in making the programme for ICC. Although the dates of ICC do clash with the WFNO meeting, it was requested to all members to consider contributing and attending the ICC, particularly if they are not participating in the WFNO meeting.

The Secretary report was unanimously accepted by the members after being proposed by Dr JK Singh and seconded by Dr Ramesh Bilimagga.

GBM 2013/8: Abstracts of the current ASNO/ISNO conference were being published in the indexed Journal of Cancer Research and Therapeutics (JCRT). Dr Nagraj Huilgol, Chief Editor of JCRT and an ISNO member

apprised the members of the publication of the same, well before the commencement of the conference. Members appreciated this effort as well as the editorial team of the supplement.

GBM 2013/9: A dedicated workshop on ‘Translational aspects of neuro-oncology’ and at least one ‘Clinical Trial, possibly on medulloblastoma as ISNO academic and research activities were discussed in some detail by the members. Organisation of the same would be encouraged in the next one year.

These initiatives were proposed by Dr Geeta Chacko and seconded by Dr Chitra Sarkar.

GMB 2013/10: Dr Jalali apprised the members of the wonderful work launched by Dr Vinay Jain’s Jiv Daya Foundation programme for childhood cancers in India under the Indian Pediatric Oncology Initiative (IPOI). He had attended the IPOI meeting last year and ISNO may pitch in this excellent effort. Many members expressed interest and keenness to involve in this programme.

GBM 2013/11: The treasurer’s report was presented by Dr Sankhla. He informed the members that the ISNO account with the help of the General secretary’s office has been duly audited and show a balance of Rs.5,89,000/- collected from fees towards membership. Expenses included mainly towards secretarial salary. He informed the members that the accounts have been audited by Mr Palkar and associates and the IT returns have been submitted to the charity commissioner. It was proposed to earmark some amount towards scholarship and travel fellowships preferably in fixed account. Dr Mathuriya wanted to know as to how much percentage of profit from annual conference is being added to the ISNO corpus. As per the ISNO constitution, it was informed that 25% of the profits or a minimum sum of Rs 25,000 is the said amount.

The treasurer’s report was accepted after being proposed by Dr Deopujari and seconded by Dr Sarkar.

GBM 2013/12: Dr Deopujari informed the members that Dr Sridhar, who could not be present, details of his email communication to the President and Gen Secretary suggesting the website station to be moved to ISNO office for smooth functioning and regular updates. This suggestion was accepted unanimously by the members. Dr Deopujari requested Joint Secretary, ISNO, Dr Muzumdar to take up this responsibility and liaise with Dr Sridhar in this aspect.

GBM 2013/13: Dr Kumar Somasundaram, as the President-elect and Election Commissioner announced the results of ISNO elections. There had been two nominations for the post of Vice-President, one of which was later withdrawn. Other posts had only one nominations and therefore did not need a formal election with new EC members being elected unopposed. Following were the final results:

Dr. Vedantam Rajshekhar - Vice President

Dr. Deepu Banerjee - New EC Member (Neurosurgery)

Dr. Keki Turel - New EC Member (Neurosciences)

Dr Nagraj Huilgol - New EC Member (Radiation Oncology)

Dr Madhuchanda Kar - New EC member (Medical Oncology)

Since there were no nominations from Radiodiagnosis, the EC members unanimously requested Dr Pungavkar to continue as EC member for 1 more year to which she kindly agreed.

The new EC members were hailed by a round of applause.

GBM 2013/14: Holding of the next ISNO annual conferences were discussed. As per the earlier tradition, ISNO annual conferences have been allotted to venues in major metropolitan cities of the country, especially during the early 4-5 formative years of the organisation. It was proposed that other cities may also bid for the conferences now. A show of hand vote was held to decide the preferences of two bids, Dr Shaleen Kumar from SGPGI Lucknow and Dr JK Singh from Patna, to which members favoured Lucknow. Dr Ashok Pillay had in his earlier communications to the ISNO office expressed his keenness to hold the annual conference in 2015.

So finally, the venues for annual ISNO conferences would be

2014 – SGPGI, Lucknow with Dr Shaleen Kumar and Dr Sanjay Behari as chief organizers.

2015 – Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi with Dr Ashok Pillay as the chief organizer.

It was henceforth decided that the future conference venues would be decided by formal inviting bids from members, well in time by email and a designated form.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/

Rakesh Jalali

General Secretary

[Conference Watch](#)

1. 4th Quadrennial Meeting of the World Federation of Neuro-Oncology jointly with the 18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for NeuroOncology (SNO) at San Francisco, USA from 21st to 24th November, 2013. <http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org/2013-annual-meeting>
2. 1st Indian Cancer Congress at New Delhi from 21st to 24th November, 2013. <http://indiancancercongress2013.org>
3. 62nd Annual Conference of the Neurological Society of India at Mumbai from 11th to 15th December 2013. <http://www.nsicon2013.com>
4. The European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS) Annual Meeting at Tel Aviv, Israel from 11th to 14th November 2013. <http://www2.kenes.com/eans2013/pages/home.aspx>
5. 16th International Symposium on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology at Singapore from 28th June to 2nd July, 2014. www.ispno2014.com

ISNO 2013-14 Executive Committee

<p><u>President</u> Dr. Kumar Somasundaram Professor of Microbiology & Cell Biology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, skumar@mcbi.iisc.ernet.in</p>	<p><u>Vice President</u> Dr. Vedantam Rajshekhar Professor of Neurosurgery, Dept. of Neurological Science, Christian Medical Collage, Vellore rajshekhar@cmcvellore.ac.in</p>
<p><u>General Secretary</u> Dr. Rakesh Jalali Professor of Radiation Oncology, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai. rjalali@tmc.gov.in</p>	<p><u>Joint Secretary</u> Dr. Dattatraya Mazumdar Professor of Neurosurgery, KEM Hospital, Mumbai. dmuzumdar@hotmail.com</p>
<p><u>Treasurer</u> Dr. Suresh Sankhla Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon, Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai. sankhlasuresh@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Joint Treasurer</u> Dr. Tejpal Gupta Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology, ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai. tejpalgupta@rediffmail.com</p>

Members

<p>Dr. Keki Turel Consultant Neurosurgeon, Dept. of Neurosurgery, Bombay Hospital, Mumbai, kekiturel@rediffmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Deepu Banerjee Consultant Neurosurgeon Fortis Hospital, Mumbai deepu.banerjee@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Nagraj Huilgol Chief, Advanced Centre for Radiation Oncology, Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai. nagrajhuilgol@gmail.com</p>
<p>Dr. Madhuchanda Kar Consultant Medical Oncologist Apollo Gleneagles Hospital, Kolkata madhuchandakar@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Dr. Sona Pungavkar Consultant Radiologist, Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai. drsonap@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Geeta Chacko Professor Dept. of Neuropathology, Dept. Of Neurological Science, Christian Medical Collage, Vellore geetachacko@cmcvellore.ac.in</p>
<p>Dr. Subhra Sinha Director, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana sub_sinha@hotmail.com</p>		

THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF NEURO-ONCOLOGY
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1129, Homi Bhabha Block, Tata Memorial Hospital, Dr. Ernest Borges Road, Parel, Mumbai – 400 012, Maharashtra, India
 Tel. 022-24177153, Fax: 022-24154005

E-mail:

Website: www.isno.in

Folio No. (do not fill)

Name (In Full)		Please affix recent passport size photograph and send one more photograph with this form.
Father's/Husband's Name		
Date of Birth (attach proof)		
Qualifications (attach copy)		
Institution & Year of passing		
Designation		
Area of Specialization		
Mailing Address		
	Pin	
	Tel. Fax Mobile:	
E-mail id	1. 2.	
Hosp./Inst./Clinic Address		
	Pin	
	Tel: Fax:	
Details of previous membership of ISNO, if any		

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership Subscription (Please Enter Amounts)	Nature of Payment (Cash/MO/Cheque/DD)
Life Member (Rs 3500/-)_____	Amount _____
Associate Member (Rs 1,000/-)_____	Cheque/DD No. _____
Corporate Member _____	Drawn on _____
NGO member _____	Date _____
Admission Fee = Rs.	
Bank Charges = Rs.	Remarks by Secretary / Treasurer

Please make the payment by Demand Draft only in the name of 'Indian Society of NeuroOncology' for Rs. payable at Mumbai and mail it to the Secretary, Indian Society of NeuroOncology', Mumbai. Please attach proof of your Qualification, Registration and your Age.

Pl add Rs 100/ as bank charges for outstation cheques. Thank you.

DECLARATION

I, (Full Name) _____ being enrolled as Life/Associate/Honorary/Corporate/NGO member of 'Indian Society of NeuroOncology' and agree, if enrolled, confirm in all respects to the Rules & Bye-laws of the Society now existing or such Rules and Bye-Laws which may hereinafter be made or altered.

I declare that, I am engaged actively in the practice of specialty of *NeuroOncology* in one or more of its fields
(Please mention here below, which specific field)

Date : _____

Place : _____

Signature of Applicant

Proposed by; (member of ISNO)
Name _____

Folio No. _____

Signature _____

Address _____

Seconded By: (member of ISNO)
Name _____

Folio No. _____

Signature _____

Address _____

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECRETARY, ISNO

I declare that he/she fulfils the conditions and may be enrolled as Life/Associate/Honorary/Corporate/NGO Member of the ISNO.

Signature of Secretary of ISNO

FOR ISNO OFFICE USE ONLY

Enrolled as Life/Associate/Honorary/Corporate/NGO Member of 'Indian Society of NeuroOncology.'

Name. _____

Folio No. _____