



Editorial

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This special issue of the Indian Journal of Gynecologic Oncology was planned to be released at the 27th Annual Conference of the Association of Gynaecologic Oncologists of India to be held at the Christian Medical College, Vellore, in November 2019. Several of the potential faculty were contacted to write a review article and we, the guest editors, are grateful to those who submitted these reviews.

Although the AGOI was founded in 1991, formal training in gynaecological oncology (MCh programme) started in India only in 2011. Prior to this, there were fellowships ranging in duration from 6 months to 2 years. At present, there are 14 MCh seats and 8 DNB seats in gynaecologic oncology through the NEET SS examination and additional seats at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Shashikant Lele was one of the first fellows in gynaecologic oncology trained in the USA in 1974. He writes about the making of a gynaecologic oncologist, from his personal experience of training fellows at the Roswell Park, about the reasons to choose the specialty, the attributes of a gynaecologic oncologist and what sustains oneself in this demanding field.

Dr. James Bentley, President of the Society of Gynaecologic Oncologists of Canada, writes about glandular precancer of the cervix. The risks associated with “atypical glandular cells” on the cervical smear and the challenges in management are discussed from the clinician’s perspective.

Dr. Greta Dreyer, President of the South African Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, gives an overview of

surgery for cervical cancer, providing perspectives from low- and middle-income countries. She makes an important point that guidelines from developed nations will have to be adapted to the socioeconomic realities in less developed regions.

Dr. Kailash Narayan, from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Australia, looks at the implications of the new staging system for cervical cancer and the prognostic factors in the 2018 staging system.

Dr. Umesh Mahantshetty, from the Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai, discusses the risk categories for recurrence and the adjuvant therapy in endometrial cancers. He emphasises the situation in India and the recent evidence regarding radiation therapy in these cancers.

Dr. Santosh Kuriakose, from the Kozhikode Medical College, reviews the molecular classification of endometrial cancers and the integrated risk assessment model in management of these patients.

Dr. Denis Querleu, President of the European Society of Gynaecologic Oncology, elaborates on the technical aspects of laparoscopic extraperitoneal lymphadenectomy.

Dr. Carrie Langstraat from Mayo Clinic in Rochester, USA, reviews the role of HIPEC in ovarian cancer both in the upfront and recurrent setting.

This is a rare collection of clinically relevant review articles from stalwarts in the field of gynaecological oncology, covering a wide range of issues. It would have been good if we were able to cover newer developments in chemotherapy and quality of life issues as well. These topics will be covered in the conference that will take place in Vellore.

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