The New INASL President: Brilliant and Effective

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Many stalwarts of Hepatology have earlier occupied the highest office of the President, Indian National Association for Study of the Liver (INASL). The recent addition to the series is Professor Vinod Kumar Dixit, eminent hepatologist from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. It is my proud privilege to introduce one of my most sincere, hard working students and thereafter my colleague who could reach this highest position through his dedication and devotion to the INASL and this journal. Although Dr. Dixit is well known to INASL members as he has been an active member, playing a major role for several years in different capacities, it is still my duty to introduce him to the fraternity.

Prof Dixit was born in Etawah (Uttar Pradesh) and had his schooling at Government Inter College, Etawah, passing High School and Intermediate examinations in the first division, with distinction. He joined Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, in 1978 as an MBBS student. My acquaintance with him began in 1980 during my didactic theory lectures and bed side clinics when I could recognize him as an energetic, sincere and disciplined student in a batch of approximately 80 students. True to my expectations, he passed all professional MBBS examinations in first attempt with flying colors. He joined postgraduate course (MD Internal Medicine) in 1984 under supervision of Prof. H.S. Bajpai, a renowned internist and endocrinologist and past director of Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi. He passed his MD (Medicine) in his first attempt and with a good rank. Thereafter he joined the Department of Gastroenterology as post-

doctoral DM student under the supervision of Prof. J. P. Gupta, an eminent gastroenterologist, in Feb 1987. I still remember his dedication and hard work during his post-doctoral training. On successful completion of his DM course in March 1989, he joined as faculty member at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) in September 1989 and later headed the department till October 1993.

He joined his *alma mater* as faculty member and as my colleague in Oct 1993 and was later elevated as professor and again, as Head of Department. During this period he has supervised DM, MD and PhD research work of more than 50 students. He has been sanctioned numerous research projects from different funding agencies. He has more than 120 publications in different national and international journals and has contributed 8 chapters in different books.

Dr. Dixit is a multifaceted personality. Apart from his academic, research and clinical assignments he has served as an administrative warden of medical hostels and member of proctorial board of Banaras Hindu University. His love for different sport activities is well known. He has been the Chairman of Football association of the Banaras Hindu University. He has been examiner at several prestigious institutions like Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar, NTR University, Vijayawada, University of Health Sciences at Nasik and many others including National Board.

He is life member of several societies and has served in various capacities in governing council. Recently he served as president of Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India (SGEI) and delivered prestigious presidential oration at

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Annual conference of SGEI at Pune in March 2014. He has been the President of Indian Society of Gastroenterology (Uttar Pradesh Chapter) on two occasions. He has been awarded fellowship of Indian College of Physicians and Indian Academy of Clinical Medicine. He has been invited to deliver several orations viz Dr. Phanidhar Oration of Indian Railways API, Mittal Oration etc. He has been invited to deliver lecture at Stanford University Hospital, United Kingdom in 2005 and has been fellow to Liver Transplant Unit of New England Medical Centre, Boston USA.

His organizational skills are well known. He has organized five annual conferences national as well as state level in different fields of Gastroenterology, Endoscopy and Hepatology. He has been participating in national conferences as faculty and in international conferences as delegate all over the world.

He is keen researcher and his areas of interest include chronic hepatitis B and C, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, carcinoma gallbladder, Helicobacter Pylori and inflammatory bowel disease, etc. I am sure that coming years will see your president doing great things for all of us and for INASL in India. On your behalf let me wish him and us a productive term.

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