Introduction to the Guest Editor

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Dr Anjali S. Kumar, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS, is a colon and rectal surgeon at MedStar Washington Hospital Center and an assistant professor of Surgery at Georgetown University. She serves as Academic Director for the regional MedStar Colorectal Surgery Program of MedStar Health, which is the largest health-care provider in the Maryland and metropolitan Washington, DC region. She directs the research efforts of the residency in colon and rectal surgery which has been hosted by Washington Hospital Center for 15 years.

Dr. Kumar has won many awards and grants for her research and activism in the field of women's health, and she has published numerous articles on early cancer detection, treatment, and prevention. Among other honors, she has received the Chancellor's Award for the Advancement of Women from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). At Washington Hospital Center, Dr. Kumar is the site's Principal Investigator of several multi-institutional clinical trials investigating the role of chemotherapy and radiation therapy in the treatment of locally advanced rectal cancer.

Dr. Kumar is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and serves as a counselor for the DC chapter. She is a Fellow of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (for whom she is the Chair of the Young Surgeons Committee), a member of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic

Surgeons (for whom she is a 3-year member of the Research and Grants Committee), and a member of the Association of Women Surgeons (for whom she is the DC Chapter President and Councilor to the national organization). She serves as the former program director and current Secretary/Treasurer for the Chesapeake Colorectal Society, the regional specialty society of the mid-Atlantic area.

Her research has been published in peer-reviewed journals, including *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum*, *The Surgical Clinics of North America*, and *Colorectal Disease*. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.

Her medical degree is from the University of Washington, Seattle, and her Master of Public Health degree is from Harvard University, Boston. She completed a general surgery residency at UCSF's East Bay program in Oakland, CA. Following her residency, she completed a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery at the New York Presbyterian Hospital of Cornell and Columbia Universities/Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She has been in practice in Washington, DC since 2009.

On behalf of the readers and staff of Clinics of Colon and Rectal Surgery, I sincerely thank Dr. Kumar for serving as a Guest Editor and for providing us with a superb issue on miscellaneous colitides.

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