



# Association of Indian Neurologists in America

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Welcome to the Tarang, the Annual newsletter of the Association of Indian Neurologists in America. The Tarang complements our website ([www.4aina.com](http://www.4aina.com)) and monthly update emails to provide information about our organization, medical and professional topics, and upcoming professional meetings of interest to our readers. If you have any interesting events, awards, recognitions, activities to report about neurologist of Indian origin, please email a summary along with photographs to [aina@badgerbay.co](mailto:aina@badgerbay.co).



## AINA WELCOMES DR. DILEEP R. YAVAGAL, MD, FSVIN, FAHA, FAAN AS ANNUAL MEETING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Thank you to Dr. Dileep R. Yavagal for joining us and speaking on Brain Ischemia to Reperfusion at the Population Level: Building a Global Stroke Revolution with Mission Thrombectomy.

### ABOUT DR. YAVAGAL

Dr. Dileep R. Yavagal, MD, FSVIN, FAHA, FAAN, is an internationally recognized stroke and interventional neurologist. He is a thought leader in endovascular stroke therapy, known for his clinical expertise, research innovations, and global advocacy. As the founding Director of Interventional Neurology and Co-Director of Neuroendovascular Surgery at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine & Jackson Memorial Hospitals, Dr. Yavagal spearheads clinical interventions and research initiatives pushing the frontiers of stroke treatment.

Dr. Yavagal completed his MBBS and MD in Internal Medicine in Mumbai, India, before completing his residency in neurology at Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts General and Brigham and Women's Hospitals. He then pursued subspecialty training in neurocritical care at Columbia Presbyterian and was the first neurologist to be trained in interventional neuroradiology at UCLA.

As a pioneer, Dr. Yavagal co-founded and led the Society for Vascular and Interventional Neurology (SVIN), shaping the field's direction. His research, exceeding 250 publications, focuses on endovascular interventions for both ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke. He played a pivotal role in steering committees for landmark thrombectomy trials like SWIFT-Prime, TIGER, and MR-RESCUE (investigator steering committee) and TELSAs. He is currently the global PI for the GRASSROOTS stroke thrombectomy study and on the steering committees of two upcoming stroke neuroprotection trials.

He has also pioneered the translation effort on intra-arterial cell therapy for ischemic stroke, where he is recognized as a global leader. He co-led the groundbreaking RECOVER-Stroke trial, the first randomized controlled trial assessing intra-arterial stem cells for stroke and did the first-in-man IA cell therapy treatment in February 2022 for locked-in syndrome due to ischemic stroke.

In 2016, Dr. Yavagal founded and is the Founding Global Chair of the Mission Thrombectomy campaign of the SVIN, accelerating access to life-saving stroke interventions worldwide. The New York Times recognized him for his commitment to global health in the article "This Revolutionary Treatment will Save Millions of Lives. Eventually," published on March 1st, 2023.

### THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS



## AINA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-25



**PRESIDENT**

**Aarti Sarwal, MD**

*Professor, Wake Forest School of Medicine: Winston Salem, NC*



**PRESIDENT ELECT**

**Thyagargjan Subramanian, MD**

*University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences: Toledo, OH*



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**Ram Mohan Sankaraneni, MD**

*Creighton University School of Medicine: Omaha, NE*



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**Geetanjali Rathore, MD**

*University of Nebraska Medical Center/ Children's Hospital & Meical Center: Omaha, NE*



**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**Prakash Kotagal, MD**

*Professor, Cleveland Clinic: Cleveland, OH*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023-25



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**Pransanna Kumar Reddy Tadi**

*Grisinger Wyoming Calley Medical Center  
Wilkes Barre, PA*



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

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*Yale School of Medicine  
New Haven, CT*



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

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*Department of Neurological Science Rush  
Medical College  
Chicago IL*



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**Shubhi Agrawal, MD**

*University of California, Davis  
Sacramento, CA*

# AINA 2024 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



The AINA Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a leader in neurology by her/his peers. The recipient is a North American neurologist chosen based on her/his dedication in advancing the training of North American neurologists of Indian origin and promoting innovation and research in the field of neurology. The recipient will have supported Indian neurologists over a significant period of time in achieving meaningful progress toward expressed goals.

Vineeta Singh, MD, FAAN

## WHY THE RECIPIENT WAS CHOSEN

Dr. Singh was chosen for her service and achievements in Clinical and academic Neurology, service to Neurologists of Indian origin in US and for tremendous service to Neurology community including patients and peers in India and in US.

Congratulations again on receiving the AINA Lifetime Achievement Award your dedication to advancing the training of North American neurologists of Indian origin, promoting innovation and research in the field of neurology, and support of Indian neurologists over your career. We are proud to call you one of our own!

## PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE AINA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2023

Sanjay P Singh, MD, FAAN, FANA

2022

Aneesh Singhal, MD, FAAN

2021

Seemant Chaturvedi, MD & Manmohan Nayyar, MD, FAAN, MBA, MHA

2020

Prakash Kotagal, MD

2019

Ram Ayyar, MD

2018

Vinay Chaudhry, MD

2017

Kapil Sethi, MD, FRCP, FAAN

2016

Mark Hallett, MD

2015

Pradeep Sahota, MD, FAAN, FAASM, FAES

2014

Avindra Nath, MBBS, FAAN

2013

Sakkubai Naidu, MD, FAAN

2012

Thomas R. Swift, MD, FAAN

2011

Omkar N. Markand, MBBS, MD, FRCP(C), FACP, FAAN

2010

Sudhansu Chokroverty, MD, FAAN

2009

Shrikant Mishra, MD, FAAN

2008

Walter G. Bradley, DM, FRCP, FAAN



*Sponsored by the Association of Indian Neurologists in America Fund of the American Brain Foundation*

## 2024 AINA TRAINEE AWARDS

AINA is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 AINA Neurology Trainee Awards. There were a record number of abstracts that were reviewed this year! The applications this year were of high quality and the scoring process was very competitive to determine the final winners. These winners were presented during the 2024 AINA Annual Meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024 in Denver, CO.



### 1ST PLACE WINNER

**Nithin Kurra, MD**

PGY-3, University of Nebraska Medica Center

Abstract Title: *Need for Enhancing Mental Health Care in Stroke Patients: Insights Into Post-stroke Anxiety and Depression from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Data*



### 2ND PLACE WINNER

**Dinesh Sivakolundu, MD**

PGY-4, Yale University

Abstract Title: *Investigating the Relationship Between Meningeal Lymphatic Vessels, Glymphatic Function, and Cognition: A Multi-modal Neuroimaging and Neuropsychological Study in Humans*



### 3RD PLACE WINNER

**Akash Virupakshaiah, MD**

Fellow, University of California San Francisco

Abstract Title: *Predictors of a Relapsing Course in Myelin Oligodendrocyte Glycoprotein Antibody-associated Disease*

## INDIAN TRAINEE AWARD

### ABOUT THE AWARD

For the second year AINA presented, the Indian Trainee Award. This award is for any in-training neurologist currently enrolled in a training program in India and who is also a first or senior author on an abstract accepted to the American Academy of Neurology.



### 2024 WINNER

**Dr. Jayaram S, Senior Resident**

JIPMER, Puducherry, India

Abstract Title: *Hemorrhagic Cerebral Venous Thrombosis (CVT) - Risk Factors, Outcome, and Prevalence of Novel Biomarkers (Antiphospholipid Antibodies & IgG Antibodies to Spike Protein of SARSCoV2)*

# 2024 AAN NEUROLOGY AWARDS

## DIRECTOR OF MENTORSHIP LEADERSHIP AWARD

Balaji Krishnaiah, MD, FAAN

*University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center*

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Mohamed Ibrahim Abdul Aleem,  
MD, FAAN

*ABC Hospital, Trichy, India*

## GENERAL NEUROLOGY AWARD

Avathvadi V. Srinivasan, MD, FAAN

*The Tamilnadu DR MGR Medical Univeristy*

## QI INNOVATION AWARD

Aneesh B. Singhal, MD, FAAN

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

## TED BURNS HUMANISM IN NEUROLOGY AWARD

Avindra Nath, MD, MBBS, FAAN,

*NINDS, Bethesda, MD*

## A.B. BAKER TEACHER RECOGNITION AWARD

Sheffali Gulati, MD, FAMS, FIAP, FIMS

*All India Institute of Medical Sciences,  
New Delhi, India*

Rajesh Shanker Iyer, MD, DM

*Kovai Medical Center and Hospital  
Tamil Nadu, India*

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Surabhi Garg, MBBS, MD, DrNB

*St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences  
Bengaluru, India*

Ritu Shree, MD, MBBS, DM

*Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education  
and Research  
Chandigarh, India*

S. Sidharth, MD

*All India Institute of Medical Sciences  
Delhi, India*

# AINA WELCOMES NEW LIFE MEMBERS

*\*These individual members are new since November 1, 2023*

Madhureeta Achari, MD;  
Integrated Neurology PA

Jayant Acharya, MD;  
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

Parmpreet Dhillon, MD;  
NYU

Shanker Dixit, MD;  
Neurology Center of LasBegas

Cheran Elangovan, MBBS;  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Latha Ganti, MD;  
University of Central Florida and Brown University

Ravi Garg, MD;  
Loyola University Chicago

Parneet Grewal, MBBS;  
Medical University of South Carolina

Rashmi Halker Singh, MD;  
Mayo Clinic

Atul Kalanuria, MD;  
Penn Medicine

Jasdeep Khurana, MD;  
Reading Hospital

Abhishek Lunagariya, MD;  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Manisha Madhoo, MD;  
Takeda Pharmaceuticals

Sally Mathias, MD;  
University of Kentucky

Vishakhadatta Mathur Kumaraswamy, MD;  
University of Kentucky

Aniket Natekar, MD;  
Ohio Health

Mamatha Pasnoor, MBBS;  
The University of Kansas Medical Center

Jyoti Pillai, MD;  
Tower Health/Reading Hospital

Aparna Prabhu, MD;  
Einstein Medical Institution

Palak Shah, MBBS;  
Minnesota Epilepsy Group

Priya Sharma, DO;  
Mayo Clinic, Florida

Mithilesh Siddu, MD;  
Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University

Abhishek Singh, MD;  
Creighton University

Priti Singh, MD;  
Christ Hospital and Medical Center

Tejinder Singh, MD;  
Reading Hospital

Laveena Singla, MBBS;  
UMMC

Thyagarajan Subramanian, MBBS;  
University of Toledo

Prasanna Tadi, MD;  
Geisinger

Anil Yallapragada, MD;  
Locums Neurologist

Chethan Venkatasubba Rao, MBBS  
Baylor College of Medicine

Upinder Dhand, MD  
University of Tennessee Knoxville Graduate  
School of Medicine

Anuradha Singh, MBBS  
Mount Sinai Health System

Abhinav Ohri, MBBS  
Kingman Regional Medical College, Arizona College of  
Osteopathic Medicine

Mithilesh Siddu, MD  
Medical College of Georgia/Augusta University

Sheetal Shroff, MD  
Houston Methodist Hospital

## REFLECTING WITH AINA SERIES

In 2022 Dr. Geetanjali Rathore started the series of 'Reflecting with AINA'. AINA is a unique organization, overflowing with talent and experience among its members and through the medium of these episodes, Dr. Rathore introduces and interviews these members for viewers.



### VIEW CURRENT EPISODES ON THE AINA WEBSITE

- Episode 1: Reflecting with P.N Sylaja, MD, FRCP, FESO, FIAN
- Episode 2: Reflecting with Vineeta Singh, MD
- Episode 3: Reflecting with Sanjay Singh, MD, FAAN, FANA
- Episode 4: Reflecting with Prakash Kotagal, MD, FAAN, FAES
- Episode 5: Reflecting with Nirmal Surya, MD
- Episode 6: Reflecting with Aarti Sarwal, MD, FNCS, FAAN, FCCM, RPNI
- Episode 7: Reflecting with Reeta Achari, MD

# NEUROLOGISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN THE NEWS

**DR. SEEMANT CHATURVEDI PUBLISHES PAPER ON EXTRACRANIAL-INTRACRANIAL BYPASS SURGERY FOR STROKE PREVENTION IN JAMA**

[View the paper here!](#)

**AINA PAST PRESIDENT DR. SEEMANT CHATURVEDI WAS THE COAUTHOR IN THE ARCADIA TRIAL MAIN RESULTS PUBLISHED FEB 7 IN JAMA**

[Read More](#)



**BRIDGING THE GAP: DR. UMA MENON'S MISSION TO TACKLE THE NEUROLOGIST SHORTAGE AND PROMOTE NEURAL HEALTH**

Did you know that there is a critical shortage of neurologists nationally and in Georgia? This shortage has far-reaching implications for patient care and access to neurological services. However, there is hope on the horizon. Dr. Uma Menon, Chief of Neurology and Inaugural Neurology Residency Program Director at Morehouse School of Medicine, is leading the charge to address this issue and promote neural health. In fact, she recently appeared on the Rashad Richey Morning Show to discuss the importance of neural health and combatting dementia. Let's dive into Dr. Menon's mission and the significance of her work.

Read More: <https://www.audacy.com/waok/news/local/tackling-the-neurologist-shortage>

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. TAPAN MEHTA**

On his appointment as Director at Interventional Neuroradiology fellowship at Harvard Hospital. In addition to his clinical responsibilities, Dr. Mehta holds the position of assistant professor of Neurology.





**THE COMMON PATHWAYS OF EPILEPTOGENESIS IN PATIENTS WITH EPILEPSY POST-BRAIN INJURY: FINDINGS FROM A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS**

Shubham Misra, Erum Khan, TuKiet T Lam, Rajarshi Mazumder, Kapil Gururangan, L. Brian Hickman, Vaibhav Goswami, Melissa C Funaro, Ece Eldem, Lauren H. Sansing, Jason J Sico, Terence J. Quinn, David Liebeskind, Joan Montaner, Patrick Kwan, Nishant K Mishra

[View Full Paper Here](#)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. PAZHANI RANGANATHAN ON BEING APPOINTED AS CHAIR, SIG, YOGA THERAPY IN NEURO REHABILITATION BY THE WORLD FEDERATION OF NEURO REHABILITATION AND PROFESSOR EMERITUS AT THE TAMIL NADU DR MGR MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**



**CONGRATS TO DR. ANEESH SINGHAL FOR CO-AUTHORING NEW AHA GUIDELINE ON CVT!**

[View Paper Here](#)



**JAYANT ACHARYA, MD, PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM FOR CHAIRS OF CLINICAL SERVICES AT HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH.**

He gained valuable knowledge, insights and skills from this 2-week intensive course addressing critical leadership and management issues. Attendees from across the USA and around the world were in attendance.



**DR. BOJOY MENON TO SERVE AS INTERNATIONAL STROKE CONFERENCE 2025 PROGRAM VICE-CHAIR. CONGRATULATIONS!**

**DR. PRAKASH KOTAGAL CREATED A VIDEO "FRONTAL LOBE SEIZURES FROM ANATOMY TO AURAS"**

Click here to view: [Frontal Lobe Seizures From Anatomy to Auras | VuMedi](#)



**DR. GEETANJALI RATHORE NAMED TO ELITE TOP DOCTORS 2024!**

The American Registry named Dr. Geetanjali Rathore to the elite Top Doctor 2024

