



**Vineeta Singh, MD**  
Associate Professor  
University of California, San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA

### President's message

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Dear Friends & colleagues,  
  
Greetings from AINA! I am honored to join a long list of distinguished and dedicated leaders who have served as President of AINA over the last 2 decades. I want to thank Past President Dr. Aneesh Singhal for his tireless efforts in leading AINA to prominence and in forging partnerships with organizations supporting our mission. I would also like to thank and congratulate our founding members for their unwavering support and guidance whenever we have needed them.

During my presidency, my goals are to reinforce our advocacy efforts on behalf of Neurologists of Indian origin and for the specialty of

neurology broadly. To achieve this, I will seek to coordinate the efforts of AINA, American Academy of Neurology, Indian Academy of Neurology, Neurological Society of India, American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, and World Federation of Neurology so that our actions are more effective, our voices louder, and our results more visible on major advocacy issues.

In other priorities, I would like to strengthen our efforts to create mini-fellowships and travel awards for trainees and facilitate collaborative research for AINA members in the US and abroad.

Our newly redesigned website will expand the tools and flexibility for members to modify

and prioritize information from AINA according to their personal interests and needs.

We will explore more sponsorship opportunities for AINA and its chapters in order to meet the membership's growing needs.

With your support, I have no doubt we will be able to accomplish our goals and steer this organization in the right direction. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Annual meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia.

Vineeta Singh, MD  
President, AINA

### 2014 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia

You are cordially invited to the 31<sup>st</sup> AINA Annual dinner meeting on Tuesday April 29, 2014.

The AINA meeting occurs during the week of the American Academy of Neurology annual conference in Philadelphia, PA. The meeting will feature lectures from distinguished speakers in addition to conferring the AINA life Time

Achievement award given to Dr. Avindra Nath, distinguished Guest of Honor Dr. Steven P Ringel, MD and AINA trainee travel awards in the setting of a delicious Indian dinner. You will also enjoy the



beautiful city of Philadelphia, a city famous as the birthplace of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. **See you in Philly!!**

**Philadelphia Marriott  
Downtown,  
1201 Market Street,  
Philadelphia , PA 19107  
Franklin Hall  
Tuesday, APRIL 29, 2014  
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**

# Meet the Board and EC

## BOARD



**President**

Vineeta Singh, MD

Associate Professor  
University of  
California,  
San Francisco, CA



**Secretary**

Seemant Chaturvedi,  
MD

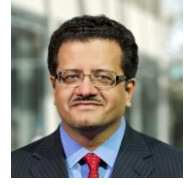
Professor,  
Wayne State University  
School of Medicine,  
Detroit, MI



**President Elect**

Ramesh  
Madhavan, MD

Associate Professor,  
Wayne State  
University School of  
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Executive  
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Prakash Kotagal,  
MD  
Cleveland Clinic,  
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Executive Committee  
Member

Dileep Yavagal, MD  
Assistant Professor  
University of Miami,  
Miami, FL



Executive  
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Member

Aarti Sarwal, MD  
Assistant Professor  
Wake Forest School  
of Medicine,  
Winston Salem, NC



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Pravin George, DO  
Stroke Fellow,  
Cleveland Clinic  
Cleveland, OH



Amit Kansara, MD  
Providence  
Medical Group,  
Oregon

## Past presidents



Aneesh Singhal, MD  
Associate Professor  
Neurology  
Harvard Medical  
School  
Boston, MA



Sajjan Nemani, MD  
Neurodiagnostic and  
Sleep Services,  
Centralia, MO



Pradeep Sahota,  
MD  
Professor.

University of  
Missouri S  
Columbia, MO



Jai Kumar, MD  
Dallas Diagnostic  
Association,  
Garland, TX



Manmohan Nayyar  
,MD  
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Poovillam S  
Subramaniam, MD  
Colonial Heights, VA



Vinay Chaudhry,  
MD  
Professor  
John Hopkins  
University School of  
Medicine,  
Baltimore, MD



Kapil Sethi, MD  
Georgia Regents  
Medical center,  
Augusta, GA



Ramesh Khurana,  
MD

Clinical  
neurophysiology,  
Columbia, MD



Bala Manyam,MD  
Scott & White Clinic

Temple, TX



Bhagwan T.  
Shahani,MD

Professor Emeritus,  
University of Illinois,  
Chicago. IL



Shri K Mishra, MD

**Founding President**  
Professor  
Keck School of  
Medicine, USC  
David Geffen School  
of Medicine, UCLA

## ISACON 2014

### 9th National Congress of Indian Stroke Association

The Ninth Annual Congress of the Indian Stroke Association was held at Hotel Taj Vivanta, Trivandrum, India from the March 14-16, 2014. Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, hosted nearly 450 delegates both from India and abroad.

Dr. Aneesh Singhal and Dr. Ramesh Madhavan attended the meeting. The three day congress was organized under the aegis of the Indian Stroke

Association by the Kerala Association of Neurologists and was well supported by the Indian Academy of Neurology and the World Stroke Organization. Prof. Madhusudanan M. as organizing committee chairman and Dr. P. N. Sylaja as the organizing secretary were the main architects behind this remarkable scientific event. The congress was blessed by the presence of a host of reputed international and national stroke scientists, including Drs. Marc Chimowitz, Andrew

Demchuk, Michael Hill, and Craig Anderson. Important topics for discussion included



intracranial atherosclerosis, blood pressure lowering for acute stroke, neuroimaging for acute stroke, and the value of stroke units. There was good media coverage of the conference.

## Collaboration between AINA and neurologists in India

## NSICON 2013

AINA was invited to join **Neurological Society of India at its 62nd Annual Conference** in Mumbai from December 12-15, 2013.



Dr. Vineeta Singh representing AINA at the inaugural ceremony with (R-L) Dr. R.C. Mishra (Secretary NSI), K. Sankaranarayanan (Governor of Mumbai), Dr. Noshir Wadia, Dr. CE Deopujari (President NSI), Dr. Sarosh Katrak (organizing chairman, NSI)

Dr. Vineeta Singh & Dr. Chitra Venkat (Stanford University) participated in a preconference workshop on Neurocritical care. They also participated in skills station training of Post-graduate students and practitioners. Dr. Vinay Chaudhry (John Hopkins) co-chaired a neurology session with Dr. Sudesh Prabhakar (PGI, Chandigarh). He also spoke on Immune neuropathies.



Dr. Vinay Chaudhry and Dr. Sudesh Prabhakar of PGI Chandigarh, co-chairing a Neurology session at NSI



Neurocritical care pre-conference workshop for neurology postgraduate trainees with Dr. Nirmal Surya (Mumbai), Dr. Chitra Venkat (Stanford University), Dr. BJ Damany (Mumbai)



L-R Dr. Ketan Bulsara (NSG, Yale), Dr. Nirmal Surya (President, BNA), CE Deopujari (President, NSI), Shekar Kurpad (President, AASAN), Dr. RC Mishra (Secretary, NSI) Santoor player Pandit Shiv kumar Sharma, Dr. Vineeta Singh (President, AINA), Dr. Suresh Sankhla (Secretary, BNA)

At this meeting NSI launched a public awareness program called H.E.A.D.S. -Head injury public awareness program.



H.E.A.D.S: Head injury public awareness program, NSICON 2013, Mumbai.



Neurocritical care symposium: Dr. Sid Pawate (Vanderbilt University), Dr. Vineeta Singh (UCSF), Dr. Chitra Venkat (Stanford University) and Dr. Roop Gursahani (Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai).

Guests of honor included renowned film actor Mr. Amitabh Bachan, philanthropist Ms. Nita Ambani, and His Highness Maharaj Gaj Singh of Jodhpur. Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma also solicited the occasion with his presence.



Dr. Sid Pawate of University of Vanderbilt giving a presentation on Systematic approaches to Myelopathy  
Women in neurology with Dr. Chitra Venkat, Dr. Vineeta Singh, Dr. Urvashi Shah, Dr. Sangeeta Rawat, Dr Pravina Shah



Women in neurology with Dr. Chitra Venkat, Dr. Vineeta Singh, Dr. Urvashi Shah, Dr. Sangeeta Rawat, Dr Pravina Shah

## Indian neurologists in News!!

Several neurologists of Indian origin were in the news lately. AINA family is proud of you.

**Dr. Kevin Sheth** (Yale School of Medicine) was awarded the **Robert G Siekert New Investigator Award** by American Heart Association in 2013.

**Dr. Pooja Khatri** from the University of Cincinnati gave a talk in the plenary session on the IMS 3 trial at the **International Stroke Conference 2014 Plenary Session**. She also co-authored 2013 **AHA/ASA guidelines** for the early

management of patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke.

**Dr. Vineeta Singh** coauthored 2014 **AHA/ASA guidelines** for stroke prevention in women and **Dr. Seemant Chaturvedi** was part of the panel that wrote **AHA/ASA** guidelines on primary prevention of stroke. **Dr. Kevin Sheth** co-authored **AHA/ASA Recommendations** for the Management of Cerebral and Cerebellar Infarction with Swelling.

### Outstanding Young Physician Award 2013

**Dr. Aarti Sarwal** was awarded Outstanding Young Physician Award 2013 by the Alumni Association of University of Missouri; Columbia, MO. Dr. Sarwal currently works as a neurocritical care specialist in Wake Forest Baptist Health Center.



## Collaboration with India...

### Colloquium on Drug Resistant Epilepsy Bangalore, India August 16-18, 2013



Sanjay Singh, MD (Creighton University) participated in a colloquium held in Bangalore, India. A public awareness program initiated at this colloquium was a joint initiative of NIMHANS, Association of American Epileptologists of Indian origin and Indian Epilepsy Association (Bangalore Chapter).



Sanjay Singh with Dr. M. Gourie-Devi, Sir Gangaram Hospital Dr. Jerome Engel Jr, UCLA, Dr P. Satish Chandra, Vice Chancellor of NIMHANS

### International EEG Workshop St. John's Medical College, Bangalore, India February 1-3, 2013

Dr. Prakash Kotagal participated as course faculty at the EEG workshop in Bangalore, India.

### 2014 Neuro Update Chennai, India



2014 Neuro Update was organized under the aegis of Madras Neuro Trust. The theme was "Movement Disorders". Dr Philip Thompson from Australia, Kailash Bhatia from the UK and Kapil D Sethi from the US were the invited foreign faculty while local



Movement Disorders Expert from India Dr Mohit Bhatt

and Dr Uday Muthane also participated. In addition to lectures there were 3 hours of interactive case discussions and a two botulinum toxin injection skills workshops. Attendees came from all over the country to participate

### 21st Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Neurology IANCON 2013 Indore, India October 24-27, 2013.



Dr. Shree Mishra (UCLA) and Dr. Neeraj Kumar, (Mayo) were both invited to speak at the annual conference of the Indian Academy of Neurology. Participation in the academic program was highlighted by Man Mohan Mehndiratta, MD, who wrote an article in the official newsletter of the World Federation of Neurology entitled: Enhanced Academic and Outreach Services of the Indian Academy of Neurology.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Stroke Section Meeting 2014

**AINA stroke Section meeting**  
**San Diego, CA**  
**Feb 12, 2014**

AINA held its first Stroke section meeting coinciding with the International Stroke Conference in San Diego.



The section meeting highlighted a presentation by Dr. Dileep Yavagal (University of Miami) who

talked about the role of interventional treatment of ischemic stroke in light of latest research trials.



Dr. Shyam Prabhakaran (Northwestern University) talked about the changing landscape of stroke prevention in patients with atrial fibrillation.



Dr. Aarti Sarwal (Wake Forest University) who discussed a case based approach anticoagulant related intracranial hemorrhage.

2014 AINA stroke section meeting was partially sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim.



# Annual Meeting 2013 highlights

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting & Dinner**  
**San Diego, CA**  
**Mar 19, 2013**



AINA held its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting and dinner in the beautiful city of San Diego. This was held during the week of American Academy of neurology meeting.

Dr. Sakkubai Naidu was awarded the AINA life time achievement award for her contribution towards the field of pediatric neurology.



**Sakkubai Naidu, MD, FAAN**  
 Dr. Naidu is a research scientist and director of the Department of Neurogenetics at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Dr. Naidu has extensively studies pathogenesis of

many neurodegenerative disorders and dedicated her life in furthering research and education in her field.

Dr. Seemant Chaturvedi presented comparisons in stroke prevention in USA versus India.



**Dr. Aneesh Singhal( Harvard University), Seemant Chaturvedi(Wayne State University)**

Roger N Rosenberg, MD was the guest of honor and presented an phenomenal review and synopsis on "Indian Neurologists in America, How many , where and what! ". Dr. Rosenberg is the Zale Distinguished professor and Chair of Neurology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and editor-in-chief of JAMA neurology.



Dr. Aneesh Singhal handed over charge to Dr. Vineeta Singh who was elected as the President of AINA and Dr. Ramesh Madhan elected as president elect. Dr. Chaturvedi took over as Secretary and Dr. Sanjay Singh assumed role of Treasurer. Dr. Aarti Sarwal and Dr. Sandra Narayan were nominated into the Executive Committee.



The meeting was well attended with Indian neurologists from all over the US. Multiple distinguished Indian neurologists visiting from India graced the occasion.



2013 Annual meeting was sponsored by Teva , Biogen and BI Logos



### Past Recipients of the AINA Life Time Achievement Award

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

## AINA Life Time Achievement Award

In 2007, the AAN Foundation partnered with the Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA) to create an award recognizing those who have been committed to advancing the Indian neurologic community. The AINA presented the AAN Foundation Chair Austin Sumner, MD, with a \$50,000 check to endow the award based on dedication in helping neurologists of Indian origin excel 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. The AINA Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually at the AAN Annual Meeting. The recipient receives recognition for her/his extraordinary work in caring for patients and helping. The AINA Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a leader in neurology by her/his peers. The recipient is chosen fellow physicians in the Indian

neurology community and/or the North American community. Recipient will receive \$1000 and a recognition plaque. Any AAN member may nominate a current AAN member for the award. To nominate distinguished person for the award, AAN must be contacted through AAN website.

For more information contact  
Kristine Mitchell at  
[kmitchell@aan.com](mailto:kmitchell@aan.com).

## Congratulations Dr. Avindra Nath!!

**Dr. Avindra Nath** received the 2014 AINA life Achievement award.

Dr. Avindra Nath is the intramural clinical director of NINDS. Dr. Nath is nationally and internationally recognized for his contributions to elucidating HIV pathogenesis in the central nervous system. Born in Saskatoon, Canada, Dr. Nath earned his medical degree from the Christian Medical College in Ludhiana, India. He then completed both a neurology residency and a neuroimmunology fellowship at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, TX. In 1990 he completed a fellowship in Neurovirology at NINDS, working in the Section of Molecular Virology and Genetics in the Laboratory of Viral and Molecular Pathogenesis.

After leaving NIH, he joined the faculty of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, where he served as an associate professor in

the departments of Medical Microbiology and Internal Medicine. He later joined the University of Kentucky faculty serving as a professor in the Microbiology and Immunology and Neurology departments.



Before returning to NIH, Dr. Nath was a professor of neurology and neuroscience. He held several important leadership positions at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, serving as director of the Division of Neuroimmunology and Neurological Infections

(DNNI), and director of the Neurovirology and Neuroimmunology Laboratory (NNL). He also served as the co-director of the Neuro-AIDS Translational Research Center. As director of the DNNI and NNL, he recruited an exceptional cadre of investigators and created the clinical fellowship program in Neuroimmunology and Neurological Infections—the only one of its kind in the country.

Dr. Nath has published more than 200 manuscripts, reviews, and book chapters, and served on the editorial board for the Journal of Neurovirology and Current HIV Research. In the past, he has chaired the Section of Neuro-infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) and serves as president of the International Society of Neurovirology. Dr. Nath is an elected member of the American Neurological Association.

## Neurology Trainee Award

In keeping with AINA's mission of advancing the training of neurologists and promoting research, the AINA Executive Committee has instituted the AINA Trainee Award for the annual meeting. The first awards were given in the 2013 annual meeting at San Diego, CA. Residents or Fellows of Indian origin currently

enrolled in a training program in North America, who are registered for the AINA annual meeting, and who will be 1st or senior author of an abstract presentation at the 2014 American Academy of Neurology annual meeting, are eligible to apply for this award.

**The recipient will receive** a check for \$500, free Life Membership (valued at \$500) and a recognition certificate at the AINA meeting. The deadline for the award is few weeks prior to the Annual meeting. Please look out for the notification after the abstract announcements for AAN and encourage your neurology trainees to apply!!

### Past Recipients of the AINA Neurology Trainee Award

2013

Pavan Bhargava, MD

Srikant Rangaraju, MD

Wazim Mohamed, MD

## NINDS Stroke Trial Network

Amit Kansara, MD interviewed Dr. Pooja Khatri about the IMS-III trial. Dr. Khatri is the Director of the Acute Stroke Program for the University of Cincinnati Stroke Team and an Professor of Neurology at University of Cincinnati College of Medicine



### 1) What is NINDS stroke trial network and why was it created?

The NIH StrokeNET has been designed by the NINDS leadership to create infrastructure for stroke trials in acute, prevention, and recovery domains. The goal is to avoid dismantling infrastructure (in terms of sites, coordinators, etc) after each major stroke trial is completed, use central IRBs, master trial agreements, and create an environment where the stroke community collaborates to get a few trials done together more quickly (rather than having numerous competing trials). Stroke trials funded by the NIH, and possibly some funded by industry, will go through this network.

### 2) How NINDS Stroke Trial network will work? Can you explain

#### organizational structure?

There is a national clinical coordinating center (NCC) with Joe Broderick (University of Cincinnati) as PI and three co-PIs, Pooja Khatri (University of Cincinnati) for acute trials, Tom Brott (Mayo Clinic) for prevention trials and Steve Kramer (UC, Irvine) for recovery trials. There will be a national data coordinating center and the location will be announced in the next few weeks. 25 regional coordinating centers (RCCs) have been awarded.

### 3) How many centers are selected?

The 25 centers are strategically placed in every region of the country. Each center will receive five-year funding, with \$200,000 in research costs and \$50,000 for training stroke clinical researchers per year over the first three years, and additional funds driven by the completion of milestones.

### 4) What are goals for next 5-10 years?

The new system is created to streamline stroke research, by centralizing approval and review, lessening time and costs of clinical trials, and assembling a comprehensive data sharing system. Goal is to

initiate four to five NINDS-funded exploratory Phase I and II stroke clinical trials, and two to four Phase III trials over the next five years. This is to advance knowledge of current promising therapies into application and develop new targets for treatment, prevention and recovery in most efficient way in short amount of time without significant additional financial burden due to redundancy of multiple competing trials.

### 5) Can you provide promising targets (diagnosis, treatment and prevention) where it can influence future stroke care?

The three domains in the StrokeNET will be acute treatment, prevention, and recovery. We expect a Request for Application (RFA) to come out in the next few months from NINDS that will guide us on newly proposed projects. Projects can be developed from either within StrokeNET membership or from outside the network.



**Interventional Management of Stroke (IMS) III Trial**  
funded by NINDS/NIH  
PI: Joseph P. Broderick, MD



## Become a Member

### Becoming a member of the Association of Indian neurologists is easy!!

AINA membership gives you a precious opportunity of networking with other neurologists of Indian origin. It gives you access to member only listserv.

### In-Training membership

applies to a person who is enrolled in a training program in North America. Annual dues are waived while in in-training for the year registration was completed.

### Active/Annual membership

applies to a person who shall hold a MD, DO, PhD (or equivalent), have accredited training in Neurology, Neuroscience or Neurosurgery and have an active interest in activities of the Association. Annual dues are \$50/year.

**Life Membership** applies to a person who shall meet all of the requirements of *Active membership* and pay one time fees of \$500.

**Senior membership** applies to a person who shall be fully retired active members

who have been in good standing for at least one year. Annual dues are waived.

### Honorary membership

is awarded by AINA to any person with a record of distinguished service to the field of clinical neurology and who shares interest in the activities of the Association. A member is nominated from the Membership Committee and elected by vote at the annual meeting.

**Sign up for membership today through our new website!!**

[www.4aina.com](http://www.4aina.com)

In-Training = waived

Active/Annual = \$50/year

Life = \$500 one time

Indian non-US resident neurologists are welcome to become members. Their attendance at the Annual Meeting and Dinner is complementary.

**Any active member in good standing for more than one year will be eligible for active office.**

## Feedback

AINA is a dynamic organization that was set up to bring together neurologist of Indian origin for a common goal of promoting patient care, teaching and research. Your feedback into the ongoing efforts of the association to achieve this goal is extremely important to us.

For any feedback about the organization, website, newsletter or your wish to contribute, please email below or use the link through the AINA website.



**Website:** [www.4aina.com](http://www.4aina.com)

**Contact Email:** [admin@4aina.com](mailto:admin@4aina.com)

### Address:

AINA  
C/O 1054,M.L. King drive, Suite 124,  
Centralia, IL 62801 USA



**Association of  
Indian  
Neurologists in  
America**

## We invite you to the AINA 31st Annual Meeting and Dinner

6:00-10:00 PM

Tuesday April 29, 2014

**Marriott Philadelphia, Downtown**



You are cordially invited to the 31<sup>st</sup> AINA Annual Dinner Meeting on April 29, 2014 which occurs during the week of the American Academy of Neurology Annual conference in Philadelphia, PA. To attend this event, attendees are requested to RSVP and pay registration costs in advance. Space is limited so please register at your earliest convenience! Limited registration spots will be available on site.

### HIGHLIGHTS

**2014 AINA Lifetime Achievement Award winner: Avindra Nath, MD NIH/NINDS**

**2014 AINA Guest of Honor: Steven P. Ringel, MD, University of Colorado**

### PROGRAM

**6:00 PM:** Cocktails

**7:05 PM:** Introductory Remarks by the AINA President: *Vineeta Singh, MD, University of California, San Francisco*

**7:20 PM:** Award Presentation and Remarks by the AINA Lifetime Achievement Award winner: *Avindra Nath, MD, NIH/NINDS*

**7:40 PM:** Remarks by the AINA Guest of Honor: *Steven P. Ringel, MD, University of Colorado*

**8:00 PM:** Dinner

**9:15 PM:** Business Meeting

1. Secretary's Report: *Dr. Seemant Chaturvedi, Wayne State/Detroit Medical Center*
2. Treasurer's Report: *Dr. Sanjay Singh, Creighton University*
3. Executive Committee Member Vote
4. General Discussion

**10:00 PM:** Adjourn

2014 Annual meeting is a non CME event sponsored by Superior Biologics & Biogen



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