I am happy to present to you the Summer Newsletter for 2012. It is time to take stock of the ISN activities since the very successful annual Congress at Hyderabad. The Congress was the best ISNCON so far with the largest number of registrations, and the full credit must to the team of Prof Pradeep Deshpande who brought in a number of innovations in the meeting. The highlights included a popular scientific program. The pre-congress CME, devoted to Acute Kidney Injury which is a major problem in the developing world, was an unprecedented success, with the Congress Organizers needing to increase the number of seats at the last moment!!

E-posters, introduced in the 2010 Trivandrum meeting, continued to be appreciated by the membership. This increases the ease with which the attendees can view all posters from the same terminal rather than having to go all around. Also notable was the submission of increasing number of abstracts that included a component of laboratory work.

The ISN started some new activities, which include a training fellowship for postgraduates. Five postgraduates were selected in the first round and received their fellowships, and the next round of applications is underway.

The ISN website (http://www.isn-india.org) continues to be quite successful as noted by the large number of hits it receives. Also popular is the mailing list that aims to disseminate scientific information to all ISN members in a quick and green fashion.

More developments are planned: these include availability of teaching materials and information that would be useful for patients.

The website has a user registration area. You are encouraged to register yourself on the website so that you can automatically receive news of website updates, as well as new ISN activities and initiatives. I would also like to request you to make contributions to the mailing list. You can do so by posting your contributions to the mailing list address dept@pginephro.org. I would request you to include a subject line in all the mails. The list is a moderated one, which means your message will require approval by a moderator before going out. This has been done to prevent spam and from occasional mails that are inappropriate for the list.

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
The following new officers were elected in this year and assumed their responsibilities.

Prof RK Sharma: President-elect
Dr Dilip K Pahari: Vice-President
Dr Sanjay D'Cruz: Executive Member.

Prof T Ravi Raju, Dr Sanjeev Gulati, and Dr Alok Kumar completed their terms. The Society is grateful for their notable contributions.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS
I am delighted to report to you the exceptional progress of the Indian Journal of Nephrology. The Journal is receiving increasing number and quality of publications. As a result of this increase, the number of pages has nearly doubled compared to what it was 5 years ago, and from 2012, your favorite Journal is now going to come out once every 2 months, that is, 6 times a year. We do hope this will allay the feeling that there is a significant lag between the time the paper is accepted and the actual time of publication. May I request you to submit your best work to the IJN in order to stimulate its growth.
The new service called “Indian Clinical Update Nephrology” in collaboration with M/S Wiley India Ltd, has also received much appreciation. The Editorial Board of this Handbook has been expanded with infusion of young blood that will give added dynamism to the contents.

In a first of its kind initiative, a special task force of the Society has produced a document that will serve as a template for those intending to set up new dialysis units or for benchmarking existing units against a standard. The document was put up for public review and is now in final stages of publication. I am glad to say that even in the draft stage, it has proved to be helpful for some colleagues.

**ISNCON 2012**

The next ISNCON is to be held at the Gujarat University Convention Center, Ahmedabad from 6th-9th December, 2012. Dr Prakash Darji and Himanshu Patel and their team are going to make this event a memorable one. You must have received the first announcement by now. The Scientific Committee under the able leadership of Prof Amit Gupta has planned a veritable scientific feast.

The first day of the congress will be dedicated to the discussion of new Clinical Practice Guidelines in nephrology. You must have noticed the new KDIGO guidelines on AKI and glomerulonephritis. The anemia and blood pressure guidelines are going to be out soon as well. The KDIGO chairs and Workgroup leaders have kindly consented to come and discuss the various aspects of these guidelines. More importantly, Indian experts would discuss their applicability in Indian context, with example of real life clinical cases. This would be a unique event.

Another important feature is going to be an International Society of Nephrology Global Outreach Workshop. This is going to be held for the first time in South Asia. The ISN leaders will present the GO activities and outline the various opportunities that are available for Indian nephrologists for training and collaborations. Therefore, all postgraduates are encouraged to register early.

The Society plans to have an increased number of travel grants to allow more trainees, young nephrologists and all those who wish to update their knowledge to attend the Annual ISNCON, and expect this meeting to be the best ISNCON so far.

**Abstract submission for ISNCON 2012 is now open.**

**Abstracts must be submitted online, at [http://www.isn-india.org](http://www.isn-india.org).** The deadline for abstract submission is August 15th and those with accepted abstracts will be notified by September 15th.

**Click here** to register on the ISN India website.

Guidelines for abstract submission are [available here](#).

Ready? **Click here** to submit your abstract after logging in.

**CONGRESS HIGHLIGHTS**

The following Orations will be delivered during the Congress:

**Dr KS Chugh Award Oration** by Dr BS Kasinath, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, TX (USA)

**Guest Lectures** will be delivered by the following:

1. Prof William G Couser, University of Washington, Seattle (USA) and Chair, ISN-GO Programs
2. Prof John Feehally, University of Leicester (UK) and President, International Society of Nephrology
3. Prof Norbert Lameire, University of Ghent, Belgium and Chair, ISN CME Committee.
4. Prof David Wheeler, Royal Free and University College Medical School, London, UK and KDIGO Co-chair

**Congress Symposia**

1. Transplants in difficult situations. Convener: PP Varma, Delhi
2. Urinary Tract Infections Convener: M Jayakumar, Chennai
Besides these, the Congress will have a Clinicopathological Conference, and a lively debate. Free papers will be presented in the form of Oral presentations and during Poster Sessions. There will be two best paper awards in each category of poster session (Clinical, Dialysis, and Renal Transplantation). The awards will be given during valedictory function. In addition, there will be one award in each session of oral presentation.

Travel Grants
An increased number of travel grants will be awarded for the ISNCON 2012 to encourage participation of those with limited funding opportunities. Preference will be given to presenting authors of abstracts accepted for presentation. No substitutes will be allowed to avail the travel grant against the presenting author.

Applicants for travel grants should be sent to the ISN Secretariat only on the prescribed application form to the Secretariat, duly recommended and attested by the Head of Department. Application form can be downloaded by clicking here.

AWARDS & HONOURS
Applications are invited from eligible members of the Society for the following:

Khullar Award Oration
Any member of Indian Society of Nephrology can apply for this Oration for work done by the applicant in any field of Nephrology in India. The application should include seven copies of a detailed description of the specific work for which the application is being made, along with applicant's curriculum vitae.

Bansal Award Oration
Any member of Indian Society of Nephrology below the age of 40 can apply for this Oration on the basis of work done in India. The application should include seven copies of a detailed description of the specific work that forms the basis of the application, along with applicant’s curriculum vitae.

Janssen-Cilag Award for Excellence in Nephrology
The award instituted is reserved for the members below the age of 40 years for published or accepted for publication research from India in the field of Chronic Kidney Disease during the last four years. The applicant should be the first author on the paper, and should obtain a ‘No Objection Certificate’ from the co-authors. Scientific Committee will decide the award based on objective criteria. Seven copies of the work along with a statement of significance of work should accompany the application.

Rekha Tanker Memorial Award
This is a competitive session for researchers under the age of 40. The application should be based on original work done in India. Applicants are required to submit a complete description of the work in the form of a manuscript prepared according to the guidelines of the Indian Journal of Nephrology. The Scientific Committee will shortlist a maximum of four applications. Authors of these applications will be invited for presentation during an award session of the ISNCON. The final winner is selected by the jury during the session.

Applicants must submit seven copies of full paper to the Secretary of Indian Society of Nephrology before August 31, 2011. The paper should not have been published or presented earlier in any national or international meeting. The Scientific Committee will shortlist maximum of four manuscripts and its decision will be final.

All short-listed papers will be published in the Indian Journal of Nephrology. Consent for publication in the journal is presumed to have been given at the time of application.
Fellowship of the Indian Society of Nephrology
Members with minimum duration of membership of ten years should submit 7 copies of their bio-data along with details of the supporting data of their work and contribution in the field of Nephrology. Applications are screened and evaluated by the members of Credentials Committee and their decision is ratified by the Governing Body. The proforma for the nomination of FISN can be downloaded by clicking here.

SOCIETY ELECTIONS
The following positions of the Society will fall vacant as these officers finish their terms at the end of this year.

- President-elect: 1
- Vice President: 1
- Member, Governing Body: 1
- Honorary Secretary: 1

Nominations are invited from the members for these positions. Last date for receipt of nominations is September 30, 2011.

The nomination form can be requested from the Secretariat (see below).

FEEDBACK REQUESTED
Finally, I would request you to provide feedback/suggestions/constructive criticisms which will help us meet the aspirations and goals of the Society. You can do so by logging on to the ISN website, or sending an email to indsocnephrol@gmail.com.

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE
All Society related communication should be sent to: Dr Vivekanand Jha, Secretary, Indian Society of Nephrology, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh 160 012. Tel: 0172-275 5213, Fax: 0172-274 4401. Email: indsocnephrol@gmail.com