



# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

*Silver Jubilee Celebration  
25 Years of Excellence*

**25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION 2021**

**NOVEMBER 14, 2021**

CME Lectures & Educational Seminar\*

**DeMatteis Center**

101 Northern Blvd., Greenvale, NY

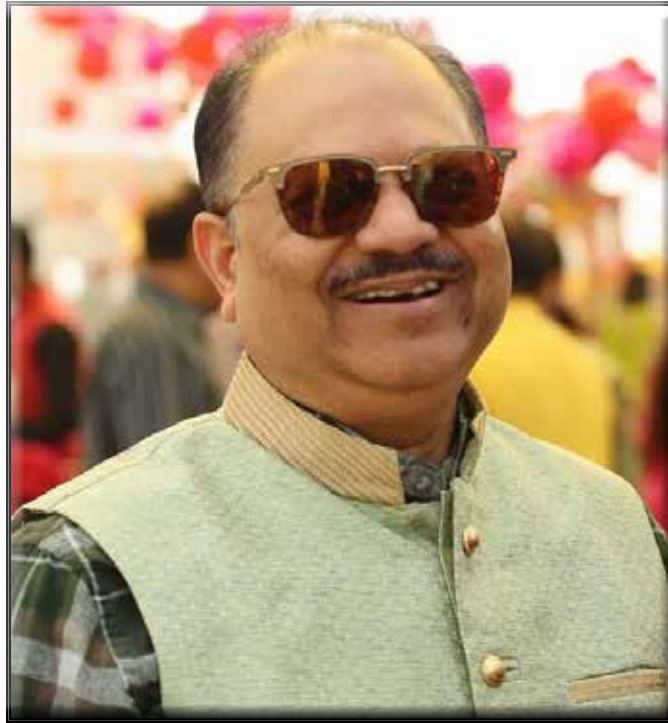
**DECEMBER 4, 2021**

Annual AAPI-QLI Convention

**Huntington Hilton, Long Island**

598 Broad Hollow Road, Melville, NY 11747

*In Fond & Loving Memory of*  
**DR. AJAY K. LODHA**



*When someone you love becomes a memory,  
the memory becomes a treasure.  
Even though we can no longer see you with our eyes,  
touch you with our hands,  
we will feel you in our hearts forever.  
We miss you a lot.*

***Thank you AAPI-QLI for your love & support***

**PROF. SHYAM S. & MRS. VALLABH LODHA**

**DR. SMITA LODHA**

**AMIT, PRIYANKA & SHWETA LODHA**

**QUEENS MEDICAL SERVICES, PLLC.**

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To Leave a tribute, please visit: [www.ajaylodha.family](http://www.ajaylodha.family)





AAPI-QLI

WELCOMES YOU TO ITS

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA DINNER  
AND AWARDS CEREMONY

HONORING

SHASHI SHAH, MD

NEWELL ROBINSON, MD

DINKER RAI, MD

SATEESH BABU, MD

WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
& A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> 2021

HUNTINGTON HILTON, LONG ISLAND  
5:30 PM ONWARDS

Heartiest Congratulations to  
**AAPI-QLI Celebrating its Silver Jubilee**  
**25th Annual Convention Gala**

Best Wishes to Esteemed AAPI Gala Honorees  
**Dr. Newell Robinson | Dr. Dinker Rai**  
**Dr. Sateesh Babu | Dr. Shashi Shah**  
**And Respected BOT / EC Members**



Papa, you are the heart and soul of AAPIQLI and we are so proud of you.  
We salute you for your tireless effort and dedication to AAPIQLI and  
thank you for being our role model and mentor for all these years.  
We love you!!

**Dr. Aditi Malhotra, Dr. Upasna Malhotra**  
**Mr. Akshay Malhotra, Mrs. Mamta Malhotra**





## President's Message

I am very humbled, extremely honored, and truly privileged to have served as the President of AAPIQLI, which is one of the largest, and most popular chapters of National AAPI.



I welcome all of you to our Silver Jubilee 25th Annual Convention Gala. Congratulations to you all and AAPIQLI for completing incredible journey of 25 years.

During my year of Presidency, with the help of very dedicated Executive Team and guidance of Board of Trustees, we were able to achieve significant accomplishments, which will make the history of AAPIQLI.

- AAPIQLI always at the forefront for community service, was able to accomplish COVID-19 Help India Campaign by raising significant amount of funds which were subsequently utilized to send required medical supplies overseas to India to help our families, friends, and folks back home in India as they were suffering from COVID-19 pandemic during April / May of this year. This venture helped saving lives, and I want to thank you all and congratulate you all for your contribution and job well done.
- AAPIQLI has achieved another milestone by setting up Donor Advised Endowment Fund. The money raised for this fund will be utilized for scholarships and financial aids for medical students and students in the field

of medical research.

- We also grew our AAPIQLI Diwali Celebrations Event to an unprecedented scale, fostering more involvement of the AAPIQLI members.
- We also accomplished this year, Annual CME / Educational Event with the guidance of Chair BOT Dr. Rakesh Dua and CME Chair Dr. Vinni Jayam. This event was a great success, and was appreciated by many physicians.

Dear friends we are here tonight to highlight the achievements and outstanding contributions of an impressive and inspirational set of Honorees and Guests of Honor. Our esteemed Honorees -- Dr. Shashi Shah, Dr. Dinkar Rai, Dr. Newell Robinson, and Dr. Sateesh Babu - have distinguished themselves in the fields of medical innovation, community service, advocacy, and remarkable clinical practice. Our Chief Guests -- Dr. Patrick O'Shaughnessy, CEO and President of Catholic Health System of Long Island, and guest of honor Dr. Adhi Sharma, CEO and President of Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital System & Garry Terononi, CEO of Brooklyn Hospital -- have distinguished themselves with exemplary leadership qualities and most impactful health systems in our community.

Our 25th Annual Convention Gala Celebration of this magnitude would not be possible without the tireless efforts of the entire Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, working together as a team. I am indebted to every one of them. My special gratitude to Dr. Sunil Mehra, our Chairperson of Convention Advisor Committee, Convention Chairpersons - Dr. Rajinder Bhayani and Dr. Jagdish Gupta -- who worked day and night, along with vigorous efforts from Convention Co-chairs -- Dr. Prabhu Mehta and Dr. Rajgopal Holarkere -- to make this function very special and a great success. Special thanks to Dr. Tarun Wasil, for the Souvenir Journal.

Beyond tonight's Gala, I would also like to thank and recognize the determined efforts of Dr. Jagat Rawal, Chairperson for Diwali Event, and Co-chairs - Dr. Devender Shrivastava and Dr. Inderpal Chhabra.

Finally, I am deeply indebted to Dr. Sunil Mehra, Senior BOT, for his mentorship, guidance, and true friendship. My thanks to Chair BOT Dr. Rakesh Dua, for his advice and supervision throughout my presidency. My best wishes to our next AAPIQLI President, Dr. Vinni Jayam. He is a great physician, with excellent leadership qualities, and is dedicated to AAPIQLI.

I would like to thank all of our sponsors, advertisers, contributors, and especially each one of you who are present here tonight for celebrating our annual convention, and for supporting our incredible organization.

Above all, I would like to thank my wife, Mamta, for her unconditional support and advice throughout this year, and our children, Dr. Aditi, Dr. Upasna, and Akshay, for their encouragement and love.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season, and may God bless us and our families.

Sincerely,  
**Abhay Malhotra M.D.**  
President - AAPIQLI

*Remembering a life well lead and all the joy it brought  
to so many. In loving memory of a truly amazing friend*

***Dr. Ajay K. Lodha***

**Rakesh K. Dua, MD**

Past President and Chair BOT AAPIQLI

**Asha Dua, MD**

**Prachi Dua, MD & Karan Dua, MD**

***Congratulates***

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**

President AAPIQLI

**Dr. Raj Bhayani**

Convention Chair

**Dr. Sunil Mehra**

Advisory Council Chairman

**Dr. Jagdish Gupta**

Convention Strategic Chair

**Executive Committee Members  
& Board of Trustees**

And the Honorees

**Dr. Shashi Shah**

**Dr. Newell Robinson**

**Dr. Dinker Rai**

**Dr. Sateesh Babu**





## Chairman, Board of Trustee's Message



Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to our 25th Annual Convention. Congratulations to Dr. Abhay Malhotra and his entire team for a very successful year and for hosting such a wonderful event.

We all went through a very difficult time because of the COVID pandemic. It changed our everyday life and how we practice medicine. There is no one in our community who has not been affected by this pandemic.

We miss our dear friends Dr. Ajay Lodha, past National AAPI and AAPIQLI president, and Dr. Krishna Jajoo, a community physician, whom we lost during the pandemic. You are forever in our hearts.

Dr. Abhay Malhotra and the entire AAPIQLI family worked very hard this year under very adverse circumstances. Despite the obstacles, we were able to have monthly dinner meetings, a sunset cruise, the Diwali gala, and an annual CME program at the Demattels center hosted by CME chairperson Dr. Vinni Jayam.

AAPIQLI and their physicians worked tirelessly in our local communities to provide care for patients, but also helped the international effort by donating oxygen concentrators and ambulances in India.

Drs. Raj Bhayani, Jagdish Gupta, Sunil Mehra, Jagat Rawal, Rajgopal Holalkere and Prabhu Mehta have done a tremendous job in making the annual convention quite memorable. Dr Tarun Wasil has done a great job with the journal.

Dr. Jagdish Gupta also laid the foundation to start an advisory fund which will enable other physicians to give charitable donations to medical students, residents or other medical trainees who may need financial help.

We would like to welcome and support our incoming president, Dr. Vinni Jayam, an accomplished Cardiologist and Electrophysiologist, who will take AAPIQLI to newer heights.

Enjoy the rest of your evening.

Sincerely,

**Rakesh K. Dua, MD**

Past President and Current Chair BOT, AAPIQLI

# RAJ BHAYANI

**FOR AAPI VICE PRESIDENT 2022-2023**

**[WWW.RAJBHAYANIMD.COM](http://WWW.RAJBHAYANIMD.COM)**



## **AAPI TREASURER 2019-2020**

- **Convention Chair AAPI 2017 Atlantic City**  
Record profit of more than \$3,00,000
- **Convention Chair AAPI Global Health Summit 2016 Udaipur, Profit of \$40,000**
- **AAPI Charitable Foundation Board of Director 2018**
- **Co-Chair AAPI Global Health Summit Mumbai 2018**
- **Co-Chair AAPI Global Health Summit Hyderabad 2019**

- **Chair AAPI IT Committee 2018-19**
- **President AAPI-QLI 2020**
- **President AAPI NYC Metro 2016**
- **Founder NJ State AAPI 2018**
- **Chair AAPIQLI EGYPT CME TOUR 2020 for Record 380 physicians**
- **Co-Chair AAPI Leadership Conference, NY 2017**
- **Co-Chair AAPI Leadership Conference, NY 2018**
- **AAPI GB Standing Committee Member: AAPI Publication Committee**
- **AAPI GB Standing Committee Member AAPI Legislative Committee member 2018-2019**
- **Organizing Committee Member AAPI Global Health Summit Kolkata**
- **Co-Chair Veteran Obesity Awareness Program 2018**
- **Convention Chair AAPIQLI 2015**
- **Convention Chair NJ STATE AAPI 2019**
- **Diwali Gala Chair AAPIQLI 2018**
- **Board of Trustee AAPIQLI 2017**
- **AAPI Charitable Clinic Chair Varanasi**
- **AAPI Tb Free Varanasi Program Chair**
- **AAPI YPS MSRF Mentorship Program Member 2020**
- **AAPI Ad Hoc Committee Member: AAPI CPR Council**  
**AAPI Adopt A Village**  
**AAPI Cancer Screening Program**  
**AAPI Environmental Program**
- **AAPI Clinical Speciality Network Co-Chair ENT Speciality**

**"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."**

Mahatma Gandhi





## From the Desk of Convention Chair

Dear Delegates of AAPI-QLI Convention,

On behalf of Organizing Committee of AAPI-QLI Convention, I am pleased to welcome you to this wonderful gathering.

Over the years the AAPI-QLI Convention has evolved to become the most important conference dedicated to Indian Diaspora in USA.

In the words of George William Curtis ***"A man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers and woods, but is a principle. And patriotism is loyalty to that principle"***. For us Indians in any corner of the world, our love and affection for India and our commitment to our adopted county USA and its people is defined by our desire to do our best for the people of both. Participating in American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens & Long Island (AAPI-QLI) provides an opportunity to fulfil that desire.

AAPI-QLI has delivered far more than its stated goal of providing a forum for scientific, educational, cultural, and charitable interactions among its members. It is a well known fact "when AAPI-QLI speaks, Washington listens". Practice of medicine is more than a profession for AAPI-QLI members....it is a calling.

As a surgeon it is my duty to tranquillize the temper, to beget cheerfulness, and to impart confidence in my patients. I am committed to follow those duties with my fellow office bearers and the members of AAPI-QLI. I am grateful to AAPI-QLI for giving me the responsibility and I promise to do my best to pursue its mission with all possible energy. Sir Winston Churchill said ***"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"***. Together let us all commit to make a life.

**Thank You,  
Dr. RAJ BHAYANI.**

*Congratulations to*

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**

President

**The Executive Committee Members**

**&**

**Esteemed Honorees**

**Dr. Shashi Shah | Dr. Newell Robinson**

**Dr. Dinker Rai | Dr. Sateesh Babu**



*Best Wishes From*

**Dr. Sunil & Nisha Mehra & Family**





## Chairman, Advisory Council Message



I am very pleased to welcome our distinguished guests to 25th annual gala under our great President Dr Abhay Malhotra. I would like to thank our honorees for being a part of today's celebration. These physicians have brought a great honor to India and America. They inspire younger generation to pursue careers in medicine.

The AapiQli has come a long way in past 25 years thanks to all the hard work by the executive committee and past presidents

Covid tested our strength and will last year AapiQli rose to occasion and our philanthropic efforts will make a great difference. On the way we lost good friends relatives and colleagues

Let's pray for them to have peace in their abode and strength to their families

I would like to thank and congratulate our President and entire team for making it a day to remember

May God bless us all for a better peaceful and healthy future

Enjoy the rest of your evening.

Sincerely,

**Sunil Mehra, MD, FACP, FCCP**

Professor of Medicine

Past President and BOT, AAPI-QLI

Chair Advisory Committee /Gala 2021

*During this SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS,  
We wish to Felicitate with admiration*

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra  
& His Entire Convention Team - 2021**

**And Congratulate  
All the Esteemed Honorees tonight**

**Specially, Dr. Shashi Shekhar Shah  
for his well deserved  
“Life Time Achievement Award”**



**JAGDISH K. GUPTA. MD, FACP, FACG**

Strategic Convention Chairman, AAPI-QLI, 2021

Past President & Member Board of Trustees of AAPI-QLI

Board of Trustees of AAPI 2020-2023





## Convention Strategic Chairman Message



I am honored and humbled to serve in the newly created role of Strategic chairman for Silver Jubilee Annual Gala Celebration and Convention. As the year started, COVID-19 Pandemic was still raging, upending the rhythms of daily life and fostering in uncertainty around the world. The worsening Pandemic created an atmosphere of anxiety and fear and any planning about Celebration was impossible to think about. With the worsening crisis, AAPI-QLI leadership's total attention, strategically, was devoted to helping Covid Victims, here in the USA and in our mother India.

As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebration, a collective drive was started by AAPI-QLI leadership in collaboration with area hospitals and other non-profit organizations. A significant amount of funds were raised.

These funds were used to send Oxygen Concentrators, Oximeters, Personal Protective Equipment's (PPE) to critically affected areas in India. Philanthropic financial assistance was provided to the victims' families and survivors in USA. PPE and Face Shields were donated to Nursing homes, hospitals and member physicians to assist them to be safe in operating their facilities. A fully equipped Ambulance was sent to a rural area in Haryana for transporting sick patients to the district hospital and finally an Oxygen Generating Plant was donated to a charitable institution with 40 beds devoted to COVID care. On behalf of AAPI-QLI and its Executive Committee and Board of Trustees I am grateful to every donor for their contribution. Your generosity saved lives.

Throughout the first phase of the pandemic, many of our member physicians and other essential health care workers got infected, suffered a great deal, fought like warriors on the front lines. Sadly, some succumbed to this terrible disease and lost their lives. We join their families, friends and colleagues in grief. In the wake of these tragedies, AAPI-QLI leadership, strategically decided to broaden our initiatives by adding "Donor Advised Memorial Funds with a Mission" - By-Laws were modified to include this new dimension. The addition was ratified by the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees and finally by the General Body Membership and I am very proud to report that our very first "Dr. Ajay Lodha Memorial Endowment Fund" is being inaugurated during this AAPI-QLI Silver Jubilee Celebration Gala as another milestone to help our community. This fund would provide financial assistance to the needy Indian medical students and award scholarships to encourage research activities.

I wish to express my gratitude to our President, Dr. Abhay Malhotra and his entire Executive Committee including all Board of Trustees & Advisors for entrusting me with this great responsibility. I also extend my best wishes for our incoming President, Dr. Vinni Jayam, he is organized, energized, innovative and possesses exceptional leadership qualities. Finally, my sincere appreciation to my wife, Meena for her support and encouragement.

**Jagdish K Gupta, MD, FACP, FACG,**

Board of Trustees & Past President, AAPI-QLI



*Congratulations to President*  
**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**  
**Executive Committee & Board of Trustees**  
**for the grand success of**  
**Silver Jubilee Celebration of AAPI-QLI**



**With best compliments from**

**Holalkere Rajagopal, MD**  
**Rohith Rajagopal**

**Pushpa Rajagopal**  
**Rahul Rajagopal**

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**Medical Center**  
4500 Parsons Blvd.,  
Flushing, NY 11355





Honoree

## Sateesh Babu, MD FACS

Sateesh Babu hails from Mysore, Karnataka State, came to US in 1970. He completed his Residency in Surgery and Fellowship in Vascular Surgery in Metropolitan Hospital Center and Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital of New York Medical College.



He joined the faculty of New York Medical College in 1975 as Clinical Instructor and rose through the years to the rank of Professor of Surgery. He joined the staff at Westchester Medical Center in 1980. Together with his colleague and partner Dr. Pravin Shah, established the Division of Vascular Surgery which is now a nine man team including the northern campuses of WMC Health. Under his leadership, Vascular Surgery at WMC earned a great reputation for delivering the state of art care to patients with vascular diseases. He was responsible with the leadership of hospital Administration

to create the Westchester Heart & Vascular Institute comprising of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Cardiology and Vascular Surgery working together as a team of experts to treat diseases of the heart and blood vessels. This model initiated here at WMC in 1998, is now seen in all major institutions all across the country.

Dr. Babu is well known academically, presenting at various local, regional, national and international meetings. He has authored and coauthored numerous publications. He was featured on the cover of the WESTCHESTER MAGAZINE's health issue (2008) as the "TOP DOCTOR". He has received many awards as the best teacher by residents. He recently stepped down from the position of Division Chief after forty years

Dr. Babu was Secretary, Vice President and President of KSMD (Karnataka State Medical and Dental) Alumni Association of America, one of the largest alumni group in USA. He has been the CME chair of that organization for the past thirty-five years. He and his wife are life members of AAPI. Dr. Babu and his wife Sudhamani, a pediatrician, live in Tarrytown, Westchester, New York. They have two daughters. He and his wife enjoy travelling, learning about the different peoples and cultures around the globe.

# Career Recognition



**Dinker Belle Rai, MD**

Vascular Surgeon, Interfaith Medical Center

Dr. Rai is a noted vascular surgeon who has served the Brooklyn community for 48 years. He is an inventor and pioneer in the field of venous surgery. He has dedicated years of research on the heart that resulted in a book currently under publication titled **Mechanical function of Atrial Diastole: A New Discovery and Motion of blood in the Venous System - Novel Findings**

Best Wishes,

Seema Rai MD, Siddharth Poonja, Eesha, Anjali and Maya





## Honoree Dinker Rai, MD

Dr. Dinker Belle Rai is a Board Certified Indian American vascular surgeon who served as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery and as the Chief of the Department of Vascular Surgery / Vascular Laboratory at the Interfaith Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York. Dr. Rai is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a Fellow of the Royal Canadian College of Surgeons.



Dr. Rai was born in Puttur, Karnataka, India on 28 April 1947 to Kedambady Narayana Rai, a famous criminal lawyer practicing in Mangalore and Belle Sanjivi Rai. He currently lives in Old Westbury, Long Island, New York with his wife Shakila Rai. They have three children - Seema, Arjun and Rahul.

In terms of education and training, Dr. Rai received his medical degree (MBBS) from Bangalore Medical College where he graduated with a distinction in Pathology. Dr. Rai received his surgical training in the General Surgery Residency training program at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital and Medical Center of New York from 1974 to 1977, Chief Residency in Surgery in 1977 to 1978 and Fellowship in Vascular Surgery specializing in venous diseases at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York in 1979.

During his formative years as a medical professional, Dr. Rai was among a select group of doctors that noted the arduous and abusive work conditions of medical residents and went on a first ever strike in 1974. This strike resulted in a change for the better in terms of lifestyle, working hours, training, and remuneration for the residents.

Dr. Rai was an accomplished sportsman and captained the Bangalore University cricket team that won the South Zone finals and that, for the first time, went all way to the All-India finals in 1969. He captained the Combined Universities Cricket team of the South Zone of India and Sri Lanka in 1969. He was selected for the Karnataka Ranji Trophy team in 1970. In lieu of his contribution to cricket, his name is on the Honor Roll at the Chinnaswamy Stadium Cricket Museum in Bangalore.

He developed the first ever method for retrograde catheterization of the venous tree. This invention was given a United States patent in 1988. Based on this patent, a company called The Ideas For Medicine, Inc. (now part of Horizon Medical Products, Inc.) manufactured and still distributes out a series of catheters, known as Rai's Catheters for use in performing descending phlebographic tests and for venous embolectomies.

In terms of medical discoveries, Dr. Rai discovered the motion of venous valves in human beings. This new information on venous valves comes almost 500 years after discovery by Fabricius Acquapendente of Padua University that venous valves are one-way doors allowing blood to go towards the heart. He discovered that venous blood flow is pulsatile which, prior to Rai's discovery, was described only as linear flow. His original research on histopathological specimens of patients with sapheno-femoral – incompetency resulted in a paradigm shift in management of varicose veins. He performed the first ever vein transplantation below the knee. His monumental work is the discovery of right atrial mechanical function is a pivotal discovery in his medical research field. The book on the mechanical function of the Heart is going to be released soon. He has authored two chapters in textbook of Angiology and wrote a beginner's manual on sclerotherapy and management of varicose veins with stab phlebectomy. He conducted many workshops across the world to popularize this treatment for varicose veins and is a pioneer in the field of venous surgery with several publications and presentations.

He is an accomplished Artist. At age 14, a portrait he made of then US President John F. Kennedy, based on a photograph by Yousef Karsh, was presented President Kennedy. It was received by the president who reciprocated with letter of appreciation and is, at present, preserved and exhibited at JFK library in Boston.

Dr. Rai has also served on the Board and as the Chairman of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, United States. Under his leadership, the Bhavan conducted the first international conference on Ayurveda, Vedic Astrology, Bhagavad Gita and held the Hindi Sammelan at the UNO. He has contributed various articles to the Bhavans Journal such as A Travellers Experience, Goddess Kali, Mystery of Om, Gita - The Gospel of Krishna, Lingering Feelings, Conversations with Swami Bua, Masters of all Masters, salutations to Sage Kapila, Patanjali's Ashtanga Yoga, and several other articles on Vedanta.

*Congratulations to*

**Dr Abhay Malhotra**  
*President of AAPIQLI*

**&**

**Dr Vinod Jayam**  
*President Elect of AAPIQLI*

**Best wishes to all the  
Members of this Amazing Association**

**Dr. & Mrs. Newell Robinson**





Honoree

## Newell Robinson, MD



In the same practice for over thirty years, Dr. Robinson has been integral to the growth and development of contemporary cardiac surgery at St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, NY. An innovator and early adopter, he was directly and primarily responsible for the growth of the routine use of arterial conduits for treatment of coronary disease (Internal Mammary Artery CABG), device therapy for treatment of sudden death, advanced operations for thoracic aortic disease, videoscopic thoracic procedures, minimally invasive cardiac procedures, the surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation, the introduction of robotics to contemporary cardiothoracic surgery, and more recently, ventricular assist devices and advanced trans-catheter valve therapies. He is currently Chairman, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, Director, Cardiovascular Service Line, Catholic Health Services Long Island, and Co-Director of the John Brancaccio Heart Valve Center, St. Francis Hospital.

In addition, he has proven administrative skills as evidenced by continued success as president of a corporation of surgeons performing open heart surgery for over thirty years from one office in a single institution, as well as playing central roles in the governance of the hospital and staff organizations. He has served as president of the St. Francis Hospital Medical Staff. His group of surgeons currently composed of six out of seven cardiac surgeons at St. Francis Hospital, and the surgeries they perform

comprise the bulk of the success that is reflected there, year in and year out. His group has achieved the most consistent, and the highest overall success rate in New York State.

His sentinel accomplishments on behalf of St. Francis Hospital and Catholic Health Services Long Island include (in chronological order):

- Established arterial revascularization as standard for coronary artery bypass grafting (1986)
- Appointed Managing Partner and system liaison for Cardiothoracic Surgery, PC, the oldest and single largest group of cardiac surgeons in the Metro area to date. (1995)
- Initiated and developed the largest and most successful minimally invasive cardiac surgery program on Long Island, and the longest continually running MICS practice in metro area (Currently among the top three Valvular Heart Surgeons in NY State). (1996)
- Performed the first Automatic Cardioverter Defibrillator at St. Francis Hospital. (1990)
- Introduced and developed one of the largest aortic surgery programs in the metro area.
- Established a program for the surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation. (Cox Maze II)
- Introduced Robotic Heart and Lung Surgery to St. Francis Hospital, and established a program with credentialing for the same.
- Performed the first insertion of a left ventricular support device (Tandem Heart) at St. Francis Hospital, and more recently, supervised development of a modern Left Ventricular Assist Device program within his department at SFH, affiliated with Montefiore Hospital, Bronx, NY.
- Renovated and re-designed the Heart Center Operating rooms to include two of the best State-of-Art Cardiac Hybrid Operating Rooms in the Metro Area.
- Conceptualized and let the SFH team in development of a plan to open a new Open Heart Surgery Program at Good Samaritan Hospital, West Islip, NY, beginning that effort in 2010 and opened the program under the direction of Dr. Christopher La Mendola in 2014, with continued oversight and guidance.
- Introduced and developed the team approach to diagnosis and treatment of cardiac disease now nationally recognized as the Heart Valve Team.
- Established a Structural Heart Program in conjunction with cardiology and the departmental chairman, Dr. Richard Shlofmitz in 2009, culminating in a multiphase research effort shared with Dr. George Petrossian that has become one of the top three such programs in the nation, resulting in over 30 peer review published academic articles to date.
- Appointed Co-Chairman of the John Brancaccio Valve Center, along with Co-Chairman Dr. George Petrossian in 2012, funded with more than \$1,000,000.00.

Dr. Robinson has dedicated the last thirty-five years of his career at St. Francis Hospital to the enhancement and advancement of cardiac care on Long Island and continues to do so, while practicing cardiothoracic surgery, among the busiest and most successful cardiac surgeons in the nation. Under his leadership, The Cardiothoracic Surgery department at St. Francis Hospital has become nationally ranked from a low of 25th to as high as 8th in the U.S. News and World Report National Ranking system for Cardiovascular Disease treatment.

*Congratulations to*

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra  
and AAPI-QLI  
for the Silver Jubilee Celebrations**

*and*

**Honorees of the 25th Annual Gala**



**DR. RAJENDER, UMA,  
DR. SPHOORTHY AND SANKEERTH JINNA.**





## Honoree Shashi Shah, MD

Drs. Shashi and Pushpa Shah were both born in India but immigrated to the United States to pursue dream careers in medicine in the 1970s. Since their primary school days in India, the Shahs have enjoyed a passion for the medical field and community. After their meeting at Sawai Man Singh (S.M.S.) Medical College in 1968, the Shahs left their homeland, paving a way towards excellence in their respective medical fields while starting a family in America.



Dr. Shashi Shah attended the world-renowned Birla Institute of Technology and Science for his pre-medical degree before moving on to the premiere medical school S.M.S. Medical College, located in the Rajasthan State, India. After graduating from some of India's most prestigious medical schools, Dr. Shah followed his dream by moving to the United States to start his residency in Surgery and Urology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University in the Bronx. Being identified as one of the outstanding urologists in the United States, Dr. Shah presently serves as a Fellow at the American College of Surgeons and as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Urology at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra University.

Following his board certification in urology, Shashi joined the medical staff of Franklin Hospital in 1976, holding many positions over his 44 years of dedicated service. Over those years, Dr. Shah has served as the President of the Medical Staff, a member of the Franklin Hospital Board of Trustees & Community Advisory Board, and Chief of Urology. At present, he serves as the Chairman of the Medical Leadership Council.

Dr. Shashi Shah is very proud of the excellence in Urology care he has given throughout his time at Franklin Hospital. Dr. Shah still remembers his first challenging surgical case in private practice at Franklin Hospital, which took place on September 6, 1978, and many innovative procedures since then. In 1983, Dr. Shashi Shah showed an early promise as one of the top Urologists in the United States by performing the first successful percutaneous nephrolithotomy surgery on Long Island at Franklin Hospital with Dr. Arthur Smith's (Long Island Jewish Hospital) guidance and encouragement. Today, L.I.J. Valley Stream (Formerly Franklin Hospital) Division of Urology is proud to be a campus of L.I.J. hospital, home of the Arthur Smith Institute of Urology, headed by World-Renowned Urologist Dr. Louis Kavoussi.

Shashi Shah takes an active role in the Indian-American physician community in his free time and he is one of the founding members of the Rajasthani Medical Alumni Association Inc (RAJMAAI). Dr. Shashi Shah is the founding member and Past President of the American Association of Physicians of India, Long Island Chapter (AAPI-QLI), and AAPI of N.Y. State. Presently, Shashi is a member of the Board of Trustees of AAPI-QLI and Chairman of the AAPI of N.Y. State. He has served as a Chairman of the Board of Trustees for AAPI and AAPI QLI. Dr. Shah has had a very long dedication to the organization serving as a past President of the Federation of AAPI of N.Y., NJ, PA, and as a past Chairman of the National AAPI Charitable Foundation.

Dr. Shashi Shah is also a Past President of the National Executive Committee of the Association of Indians in America and AIA-NY. He is serving as the Chairman of the A.I.A. Youth Development Fund. Dr. Shah was co-chairman of the International Convention of Rajasthan Association of North American (RANA) in 2006 and President of the organization in 2017.

Dr. Shah was one of the coordinators for the significant assistance by Northwell Health to India during the second Covid wave in India 2021.

Leaving India was not easy for the Shahs, as Shashi left behind his parents, four brothers, and sister. He is thankful to his family wife Pushpa, sons Rishi and Rahul, their partners Nazneen, Anjani, his grandchildren Mohan and Parul, and his friends for helping him where he is today. He hopes AAPI QLI to be a premier organization helping deliver the best medical care to the communities we serve.

*Congratulations to*  
**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**  
President, AAPI-QLI  
&  
**the Executive Committee**  
**for the 25th Annual Convention**

Honorees  
**Dr. Newell Robinson, Dr. Shashi Shah**  
**Dr. Dinker Rai, Dr. Sateesh Babu**



**Vinni Jayam, MD & Deepa Jayam, DMD**  
**Viraj & Divya**

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Chief Guest  
**Patrick M. O'Shaughnessy, DO, FACEP, MBA**



Dear Colleagues,

Congratulations on your silver jubilee convention, commemorating 25 years. The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens & Long Island (AAPIQLI) is highly respected for championing excellence in medicine and delivering superb health care across our communities.

We at Catholic Health feel bonded with AAPIQLI, as so many physicians and service line leaders in our organization are of Indian origin.

They constitute a tremendous asset to our Long Island-centered health care system and to the fabric of our communities. Both professionally and socially, they make us stronger.

Thank you also for recognizing Catholic Health's Chairman of Cardiovascular Surgery and St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center's Chairman of Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgery Newell B. Robinson, MD, tonight's honoree. All of us at Catholic Health are deeply honored.

Our gratitude to Dr. Abhay Malhotra, President of AAPIQLI, for all the fine work your organization does to promote excellence across so many specialties. We celebrate your successes, and we thank you for all the knowledge, insights and expertise you bring to the task of providing exceptional care to the communities we serve.

Wishing you a wonderful convention and a very prosperous future.

Sincerely,

**Patrick M. O'Shaughnessy, DO, FACEP, MBA**

President & CEO  
Catholic Health



*Congratulations to*

***Dr. Dinkar Rai***

***&***

***Dr. Shashi Shah***



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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

December 4, 2021

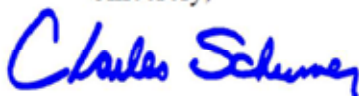
Dear Convention Chairman Bhayani, President Malhotra, Organizing Committee Members, and Friends,

It is a pleasure to extend my warmest greetings as you gather with the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens and Long Island (AAPIQLI) to celebrate its Silver Jubilee 25th Annual Convention. I am grateful for the opportunity to express my admiration for the outstanding work of AAPIQLI, its leadership, Board of Trustees, members and supporters on this wonderful occasion.

For 25 years, the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens and Long Island has worked tirelessly to support Indian American physicians excel in patient care, teaching and research. As an integral part of the New York State Health Care system, AAPIQLI and its members stand at the forefront of helping our most vulnerable populations and maintaining the health of our communities. I commend this exceptional group of physicians, including students, residents and fellows, working together to care for and improve our society. It is with the generosity of all gathered here today that AAPIQLI is able to persistently advocate for the resources, interests and ambition of over several thousand physicians of Indian origin practicing in Queens and Long Island, therefore I applaud you all.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, thank you for your invaluable work. I am confident that AAPIQLI will continue to serve our communities for many more years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

**THOMAS R. SUOZZI**  
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December 4, 2021

American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens and Long Island  
10 Hancock Court  
South Setauket, NY 11720

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all gathered at the Silver Jubilee 25<sup>th</sup> Annual American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin of Queens and Long Island Convention. I would like to thank President Abhay Malhotra, Convention Chairman Raj Bhayani, and all of AAPIQLI leadership for their hard work in putting this convention together. I would especially like to extend my congratulations to this year's honorees:

Dr. Newell Robinson

Dr. Dinker Rai

Dr. Shashi Shah

Dr. Sateesh Babu

Part of the National American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, the AAPIQLI chapter furthers the organization's vision of pursuing excellence in patient care, teaching, and research. Furthermore, AAPIQLI's involvement in many charitable endeavors strengthens our community and provides for a better tomorrow for future generations. Events such as the Silver Jubilee Convention provide an excellent showcase of the many ways that AAPIQLI and its members generously contribute to the community and promote diversity. Please accept my wishes for a joyful celebration and much continued success.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas R. Suozzi".

Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress  
Third District, New York

TRS:gg



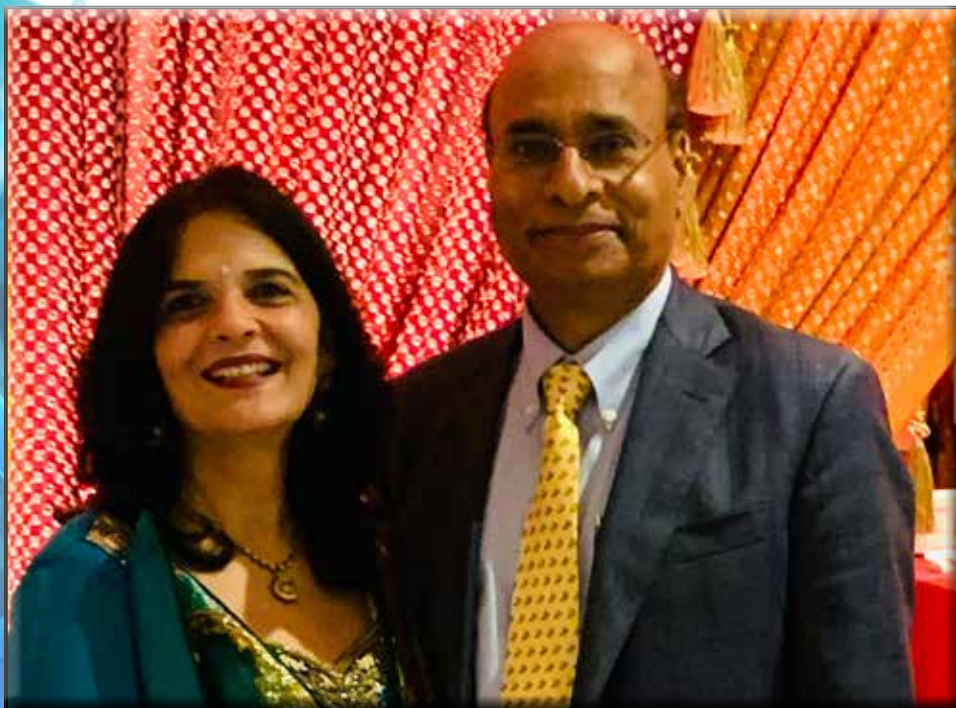
*Best Wishes to*  
**AAPIQLI Silver Jubilee convention**

*Congratulations to*

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**  
President AAPIQLI

**Dr. Raj Bhayani**  
Convention Chair

**The entire AAPIQLI convention committee,  
EC & all the honorees**



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**CONGRATULATIONS!**

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**DR. DINKER RAI**

**DR. SATEESH BABU**

**DR. SHASHI SHAH**

**AND**

**DR. ABHAY MALHOTRA**

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**FOR HIS EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP**

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Congratulations to the  
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**Dr. Newell Robinson**

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**Dr. Sateesh Babu**

**Dr. Shashi Shah**

We are proud of your Achievements  
& Community Service

&

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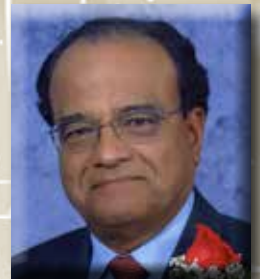
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*Congratulations to*  
**AAPIQLI**  
**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**  
**&**  
**All the Honorees**



**Rama Raju, MD**



*Congratulations*

*Dr. Abhay Malhotra*

*and*

*All the Honorees*



*Best Wishes From:*

**DR. RAJ NARAYAN**





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of*

**Queens-Long Island Chapter of AAPI**

*for  
making this Silver Jubilee Gala a memorable event*

*With Best Wishes for the continued growth & success of*

**AAPIQLI**

*Our heartfelt Thanks to everyone who has worked  
for this great organization*

**Sateesh C. Babu, MD & Sudhamani Rao, MD**



***Congratulations!!***

**AAPIQLI Honorees 2021**

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**

President, AAPI-QLI

***and the Executive Committee.***



**Best Wishes**

**Dr. Jyoti & Vaijinath Chakote, MD**

**Dr. Karunesh & Dr. Shruthi**

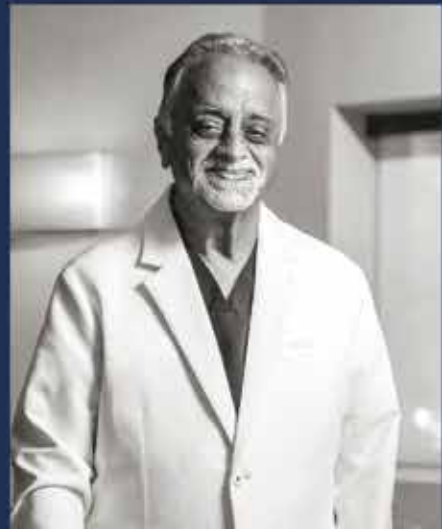
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**& the entire Convention Committee  
for the Silver Jubilee Celebrations**

&

**the Honorees**

**Dr. Newell Robinson**

**Dr. Shashi Shah**

**Dr. Dinker Rai**

**Dr. Sateesh Babu**



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For his dedication and commitment  
towards AAPI QLI.



**Congratulations**  
**to**  
**Dr. Shashi Shah**  
**on the Lifetime Achievement Award**

We are incredibly proud of your excellent work as a surgeon, your generous spirit, and your dedication to the community, friends, and family! Your accolades are well deserved!

May God be with you.

Love always,

**The Shah Family**



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DR. NEWELL ROBINSON  
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*for the 25th Annual Convention*

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**CONGRATULATES**



**SHASHI SHEKHAR SHAH, MD**

**Chairman,  
Medical Leadership council  
LIJ Valley Stream Hospital,  
North Well Health**

FOR BEING RECIPIENT OF

**LIFE-TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

BY AAPQLI AT ANNUAL CONVENTION

FOR HIS

**VISION, DEDICATION, PASSION AND COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY**

Dr. Shah played a pivotal leadership role in the founding and the growth of multiple organizations, including RAJMAAI, RANA, AIA, AAPIL, and AAPQLI.

Dr. Shah mentored late **Dr. AJAY LODHA**, a great leader of RAJMAAI, AAPIL, RANA, and AAPQLI.

**RAJMAAI PAYS TRIBUTE TO DR. LODHA, A GREAT LEADER.**

**From RAJMAAI Alumni**

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Om and Usha Bansal	Raj and Urmila Bansal	Ajay and Shashi Berdia
Jagdish and Aruna Bansal	Uday and Renu Chaddha	Ravi and Damyanti Goyal
Shobha and late Raj Gupta	Sanjeev and Neena Gupta	Subhash and Sarla Jain



**CONGRATULATES**



**SHASHI SHEKHAR SHAH, MD**

**Chairman,  
Medical Leadership council  
LIJ Valley Stream Hospital,  
North Well Health**

FOR BEING RECIPIENT OF

**LIFE-TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

BY AAPIQLI AT ANNUAL CONVENTION

FOR HIS

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Dr. Shah mentored late Dr. AJAY LODHA, a great leader of RAJMAAI, AAPI, RANA, and AAPIQLI.

**RAJMAAI PAYS TRIBUTE TO DR. LODHA, A GREAT LEADER.**

**From RAJMAAI Alumni:**

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Narinder and Manju Kukkar

Narendra and Tara Lodha

Smita Lodha

Harish and Nisha Madnani

Satish and Ritu Mahana

Rajendra and Neelam Modi

Jagat and Navneet Narula

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Umesh and Sharmila Sharma

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AAPI-QLI's  
Tribute to  
**DR. AJAY K. LODHA**



**1963 - 2020**



# Dr. Ajay K. Lodha

A LEGEND

May 4, 1963 - November 21, 2020

**President, AAPIQLI 2014 and AAPI 2017**



Dr. Ajay Lodha was a noble physician and stood as a role Model for his leadership, grit, and energy. He was a loving husband, a caring father, a supportive brother, and a very dear son. From his early roots in India, he held strong to his cultural values and dedicated time to his family as well as his personal, social, and professional endeavors. Ajay's energetic personality and pursuit for excellence guided his professional success, leadership acumen, and philanthropic work around the world.

Dr. Lodha graduated from R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur and moved to New York where he owned nursing homes and developed his private practice: Queens Medical Services PLLC along with his wife Dr. Smita Lodha. As he grew professionally, he became an active and well-regarded member of the Indian diaspora in the United States.

Ajay served as the president of various renowned organizations, such as Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA), Rajasthan Medical Alumni Association (RAJMAAI), Association of Physicians of Indian Origin Queens-Long Island (AAPI-QLI), and National AAPI. He received many accolades for his contributions as he took these associations to new heights. In 2016, he earned the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for his transformative contributions to the greater Indian American community.

While Ajay achieved a decorated list of accomplishments, he was famous for providing relentless mentorship to his friends and family and guided many aspiring individuals to kickstart their healthcare careers. He used his entrepreneurial skills to assist many individuals to reach their own set of goals. Ajay was also a connoisseur of food and was well-known for his great hospitality, whether at home or at any organizational event which he was part of. He was a determined person and believed that anything was possible: "no" was never an answer as he was always ready to help others.

However, in March 2020, our hero contracted the coronavirus while treating the most vulnerable patients in the nursing homes. He was admitted to North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, then transferred to Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City where he stayed for two months, and finally transferred to Cleveland Clinic in Ohio for a double-lung transplant. He, along with his family, were determined that they were not going to let the virus win so easily. However, after a challenging eight-month battle with COVID-19 complications, Dr. Ajay Lodha peacefully passed away on the morning of November 21, 2020, surrounded by his loving family. Although our COVID Warrior is in God's abode, his journey on Earth is laden with remarkable achievements and inspirational stories for future generations.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; Love leaves a memory no one can steal. He was loved by hundreds of people and has created a space in everyone's heart. He is now one of God's Angels in heaven, but he was also a living Angel on Earth.

In his memory, a scholarship fund is established by his family with the help of AAPI-QLI to provide annual scholarships to deserving medical professionals on an ongoing basis who will use their knowledge, determination, and values to make this world a better place.

To leave a tribute for Dr. Ajay Lodha, please visit [www.ajaylodha.family](http://www.ajaylodha.family).

*Our Heartfelt Gratitude  
to  
AAPL & AAPL-QLL Family  
For the immense support and  
guidance all along*

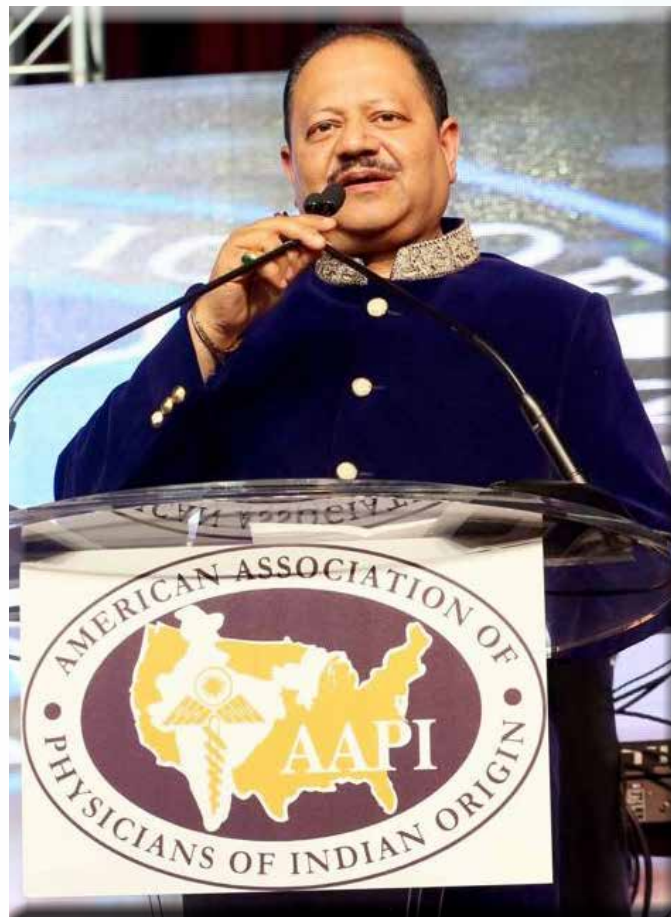


*Forever Grateful  
Drs. Anupama & Sanjay Lodha*



In Loving Memory of

**Dr. Ajay Lodha (Munna)**



**K.K. Mehta & Chandra Mehta**  
**Sanjeev Mehta & Dr. Rajeev Mehta**



# Ajay

You have always been unforgettable  
and you will always be.

We miss you.

You will live in our hearts forever.



**Kanak and Prabha Golia**

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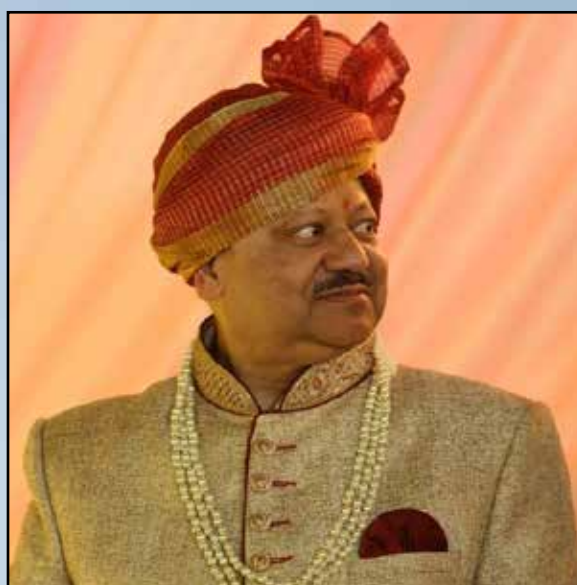


**Dr. Ajay Lodha Ji,**

In 57 years you have achieved what many  
cannot achieve in 100 years.

You have been an inspiration and role model  
to many and helped many people  
out of the way in your lifetime.

You will always be with us in our hearts forever.



Sanjay & Preeti Chordia  
Sumeet & Riya Chordia  
Raunav & Miraayaa Chordia  
Family of Priyanka Chordia Lodha



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**Munna Bhaiya,**

**You were and will always  
continue to be an  
inspiration to all of us.**



**Piyush, Roma, Neha & Riya Golia**





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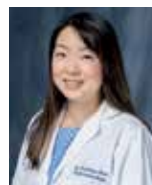
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*In Loving Memory Of Dr. Ajay Lodha*



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With Gratitude to Beloved  
**Dr. Ajay Lodha**



*You would be here with us if Heaven was not so far...  
You remain in our hearts everyday beside us, unseen, unheard  
but always so so near, so loved, so missed and so dear.*

With love to the Lodha Family,

Anu Lamba  
Dr. Smita Lodha  
Bob Heppenheimer

Hilaire Rehab & Nursing  
Huntington, New York



*Always in our hearts*

*Dr. Ajay Lodha*

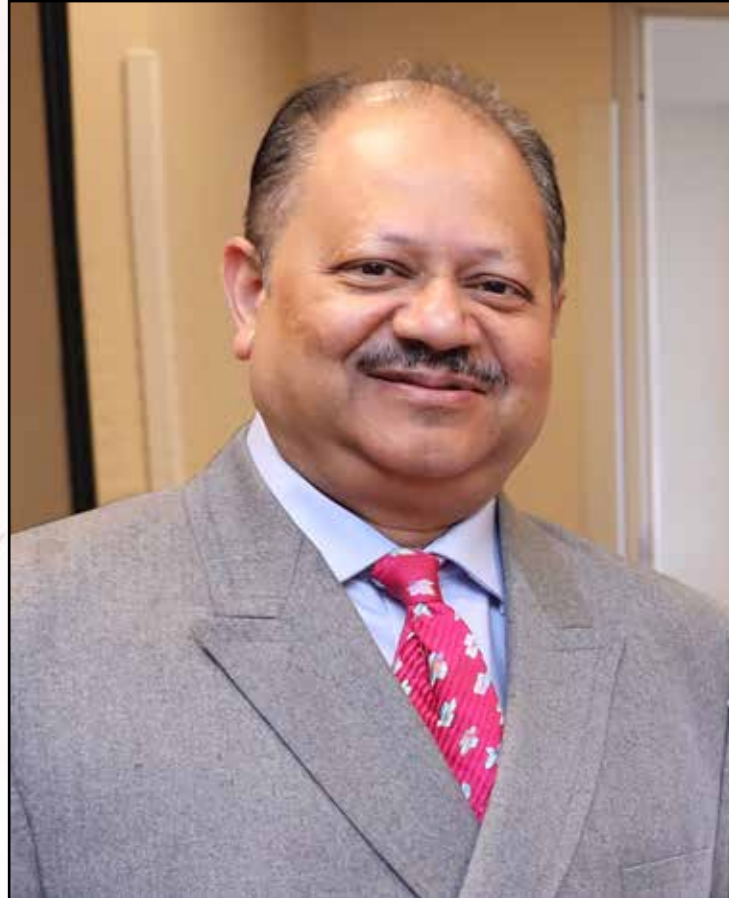


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# **Dr. Ajay K. Lodha**



**Always in our thoughts,  
forever in our Hearts**

**Rajesh, Sunita Shah  
& Family**



*In Loving Memory of*  
**AJAY LODHA**



*This memorial to Ajay, my younger brother, my best friend and my confidante, comes from the depth of my heart. I miss your bright greeting smile, your endless energy, your enthusiasm about life and above all your dynamic and visionary leadership. You are missed, every day and sometimes many times in a day. The void left by you would never be filled. Ajay, you may have departed us but your memories will always be a part of us.*

**Jagdish & Meena Gupta**

# Tribute to a good friend

*A humble tribute to a good friend, a mentor & leader*

## **DR. AJAY LODHA**

Past President of AAPI ( 2017-18)



*I had an opportunity to associate more with Dr. Lodha as president of AAPI and I was his Regional Director. I learnt a lot from him on leadership and how to keep the team together!!*

*He had excellent leadership qualities and people skills,  
was a very supportive person !*

*A sincere salute to Dr. Lodha and AAPI remembers you forever.*

*May your blessings from heaven be showered  
upon entire AAPI family and friends!*

*Respectfully submitted by*

**Anupama Gotimukula, MD**

President , AAPI (2021-22)



# **Dr. Ajay Lodha**

## **A True Friend and a Warrior**



### **Ajay Bhai**

You are a hero and a savior  
A tough fighter from the land of warrior  
Your constant smile brightened every occasion  
Your unique style made an instant impression  
For friends you spared no effort  
When in distress you were there to support  
You may have departed us  
But your memories will be a part of us  
We shared many a great stories late into the night  
Now like a north star you shine so bright

**Ravi Kolli**



# Dr. Lodha



*Thank you for being my mentor, my advisor and my big supporter. The Young Physicians of AAPI will forever be in-debt to you for all you have done for us! You maybe gone from our sight but never from our hearts. Your legacy will live forever.*



*With love and respect always,*  
**Dr. Kusum Punjabi**  
*AAPI Board of Trustees Chair  
Past AAPI YPS President*





With our most sincere Tribute to

**Dr. AJAY LODHA**

my friend & Mentor.

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**A Friend, A Mentor, A Brother**  
**So many different ways**  
**You have left memories for us**



**DR. AJAY LODHA**

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We honor today the memory of

**Dr. Ajay Lodha**



Our client for many years  
and a wonderful friend.

**Vinson J. Friedman Esq  
& Mrs. Judith Z. Friedman**

*In fond & loving memory of one so special,  
who's light we lost far too soon.*

## **Dear Dr. Ajay K. Lodha**



*Today we remember your life and celebrate  
all the wonderful memories we have.*

*You will never be forgotten  
and will live on in our hearts forever!*

**Ashrafi & Zamher Chalisa**



**IN MEMORY OF DR. AJAY LODHA AND TO HONOR HIS LEGACY AND VISION OF  
PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO UNDERPRIVILEGED MEDICAL STUDENTS.  
BEST WISHES TO AAPI-QLI ON THEIR 2021 CONVENTION GALA.**

*- Hina & Rupen Patel and the Accurate labs family*

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*"I had the privilege of getting to know Dr. Lodha as a very close friend and an associate. I have fond memories of numerous meetings with him at his favorite Indian restaurant, Mint.*

*He always thought big and was a decisive, powerful leader.*

*Towards the end of his life, he was planning to launch a project to initiate a charitable organization through AAPI to fund building hospitals and schools in India.*

*He always believed in doing the greater good for humanity. I have dearly missed him."*



**Roshan Perera**  
**Aegis Capital**





*With great sadness we note the passing of Dr. Inderjit Katyal on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at the age of 84.*

*Born in Jhang, India, Dr. Katyal spent his early years in Lahore, and after the Partition in Shimla. He graduated from Amritsar Medical College in 1962 and spent a few years as a primary health care physician in a village in Punjab. In 1966, he left India to pursue his further training at Nassau County Medical Center East Meadow, NY. He became a cardiac specialist and served as an attending physician for 7 years at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Northport before settling into a 30-plus-years long private practice at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital and Stony Brook University Hospital. At Stony Brook, he helped set up the cardiac catheterization unit in the then newly-built center and served as an assistant professor of clinical medicine.*

*Inderjit was utterly devoted to his profession and found immense joy in practice and connections with people that never diminished. He was a life member of the AAPIQLI and the Indian Association of Long Island (IALI) in addition to being a member of other professional organizations. He will be remembered for his kind, gentle, and generous nature, for his stories, and for his smile that was present to the very end.*

*Dr. Katyal is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, Vijay, children Monica and Neeraj, elder brother Om Prakash Katyal (Santosh) and sister Pushpa Kapoor of Chandigarh, India, and his many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, cousins, and longtime friends and colleagues.*

*A funeral service for Dr. Katyal was held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at Moloney's Lake Funeral Home in Lake Ronkonkoma, New York. A prayer meeting was held on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at the Arya Samaj of Long Island in Hicksville, New York.*

*We miss you. RIP our dear friend Inderjit*

**SHARWAN & SHEILA BAGLA WITH FAMILY  
JAGAN & ASHA PAHUJA WITH FAMILY**



*On behalf of the Gupta Family,  
we would like to thank the AAPI community for  
providing many years of education,  
camaraderie, and friendship to  
**Dr. Brijesh Kumar Gupta.***



*He was a loving father and husband,  
who will be remembered fondly  
by his son, Ravi Gupta  
and  
his wife Kripa Wati Gupta.*



## Dr. Krishana Jajoo

March 4, 1940 - February 18, 2021



Dr. Krishana Jajoo passed away February 18th, 2021, he was 80 years old. This tremendous loss is felt throughout his family, friends, and the patients and community he served.

Dr. Jajoo was born March 4th, 1940 in Gwalior, India. He completed his medical education at Gajra Raja Medical College (GRMC) and emigrated initially to England and later Brooklyn, NY. Dr. Jajoo settled on Long Island where he established a dedicated decades long career in medicine, taking care of the health of the community in which he lived and raised his family. Dr. Jajoo and his family established deep roots in Long Island, living first in Westbury and more recently Roslyn. Dr. Jajoo joined AAPI since its inception and was always an active member of the community.

Dr. Jajoo was an esteemed and greatly respected doctor. He spent the majority of his 55-year career in medicine at Long Island Jewish Hospital. This more than half a century of practice is marked by an unending devotion to his patients. He was dedicated to his patients 24 hours a day 7 days a week. He was entirely selfless in his care and always available for a question or a consultation. This extended deeply to his dedication to the Indian community of Long Island. Dr. Jajoo's caring for others was exemplified in his tireless dedication to the practice of medicine and all of his patients.

Dr. Jajoo was trained in India to practice medicine and it was there he first developed keen skills for clinical diagnosis. Friends and family from around the globe would always call Dr. Jajoo first whenever a medical opinion was needed. He was truly everyone's physician ... everyone's "Doctor Uncle". He went out of his way to help all. He felt so strongly that medicine was a noble career, that he encouraged many in the next generation to become physicians, including his two children.

In Dr. Jajoo's view, friends, family and patients were all the same people. His care did not stop when he took off his white coat and put his stethoscope down. Dr. Jajoo was a healer and his life's devotion was to the health and wellbeing of those around him. Being in Dr. Jajoo's care did not mean you scheduled a visit and entered his office, if you knew Dr. Jajoo, he was your doctor. If you visited his home, he would see you and care for you. Dr. Jajoo exemplifies the goals of AAPI and spent every day providing the best patient care with compassion.

Krishana is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Pratibha (Ranu) Jajoo, his brother Atma and his wife Laxmi, his sister Krishana Dhoot and his children Dr. Kunal Jajoo and his wife Dr. Marguerite Brackley, his daughter Dr. Parul Jajoo Mehrotra and her husband Amit Mehrotra along with his four loving grandchildren, Ellora, Devan, Siana and Lukesh.



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A lot changes in a year, yet some things never do. On November 14, 2020, the world lost a talented Orthopedic surgeon, and I lost my dad. Even away from home, I'm reminded of him in the smallest of ways: the sleek hands and deliberate motions of another surgeon who's presentation I attended at school, the dark chocolate I always have in my dorm, and the layers of clothing I make sure to have to prepare for any weather.

I will never fully know the Dr. Rasquinha that worked with and helped hundreds of patients. I've heard a lot about him, and I want to be like him, but that's all I have of his professional life. The Dr. Rasquinha I know was simply Dad, and he was always there, even with his busy schedule and so many different people to take care of. In all the things I do and hope to do, I know I'm proud to be Dr. Vijay Rasquinha's daughter.

On behalf of my family, we are incredibly grateful for all the love and support sent our way over this past year. Thank you.

-Rhea Rasquinha





## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2005	<b>Rashmikanth K. Baxi, MD</b>	<b>Joseph A. Quagliata</b> <i>President &amp; CEO</i> South Nassau Community Hospital
2007	<b>Rajeev Vohra, MD</b>	<b>Yvette Mooney, RN</b> <i>Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services</i> South Nassau Community Hospital
2008	<b>Bhavani Srinivasan, MD</b> <b>and</b> <b>Satish Anand, MD</b> <i>President</i> <i>Federation AAPI of NY/NJ</i>	<b>Thanjavur S. Ravikumar, MD</b> <i>Chairman, Department of Surgery</i> North Shore / LIJ Health System  <b>Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, MD / FRCP</b> <i>Chief Medical Examiner</i> Coroner Los Angeles County  <b>Deborah Tascone, RN, MS</b> <i>Regional Executive Director</i> North Shore / LIJ Health System
2009	<b>Shashi S. Shah, MD / FACS</b>	<b>Jatin P. Shah, MD, PhD, FACS</b> <i>Chief of Head &amp; Neck Surgery</i> Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Center, NY  <b>Lawrence Smith, MD</b> <i>Dean</i> Hofstra University Medical School
2010	<b>Ashvin Doshi, MD</b>	<b>Valavanur A. Subramanian, MD</b> <i>Chairman, Dept. of Cardiothoracic Surgery</i> Lenox Hill Hospital, Manhattan, NY  <b>Raj Narayan, MD</b> <i>Head, Dept. of Neurosurgery</i> North Shore / LIJ Health System



## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2011	Krishan Kumar, MD	<p><b>Rajiv V. Datta, MD</b> <i>Chief, Dept. of Surgery / Surgical Oncology</i> South Nassau Communities Hospital</p> <p><b>Jagat Narula, MD</b> <i>Director of Cardiovascular Imaging</i> Mount Sinai Hospital, Manhattan, NY</p> <p><b>Nyapati R. Rao, MD</b> <i>Chair, Dept. of Psychiatry</i> Nassau University Medical Center</p>
2012	Sunil Mehra, MD	<p><b>Kanti R. Rai, MD</b> <i>Chief, CLL Research &amp; Treatment Program</i> North Shore / LIJ Health System</p> <p><b>Dattatreya N. Nori, MD</b> <i>Chairman, Radiation Oncology</i> New York Presbyterian Hospital</p>
2013	Tarun Wasil, MD	<p><b>Dr. Manjit S. Bains</b> <i>Thoracic Surgeon at MSKCC,</i> <i>Professor of Clinical Thoracic Surgery</i> Weill Cornell Medical College</p> <p><b>Dr. Pravin C. Singhal</b> <i>Professor of Medicine</i> Hofstra - North Shore LIJ <i>School of Medicine Investigator</i> The Feinstein Institute of Medical Research</p> <p><b>Dr. Rajiv Jauhar</b> <i>Chief of Cardiology &amp; Director of Cath.</i> Lab, LIJMC <i>Associate Professor of Medicine</i> Hofstra School of Medicine</p>





## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2014	Ajay K. Lodha, MD	<p><b>Dr. Ganesh Bhat</b> <i>Co-Founder</i> Atlantic Dialysis <i>Director</i> Kidney Care Council, Wasington DC</p> <p><b>Dr. Uma Mysorekar</b> <i>Gynecologist &amp; Oncologist</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Ashok Shaha</b> <i>Attending Surgeon, Head &amp; Neck</i> Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center</p> <p><b>Dr. Samin Sharma</b> <i>President</i> Mount Sinai Heart Network</p>
2015	Madhu Korrapati, MD	<p><b>Dr. Bhoomi Mehrotra</b> <i>Dir. of Cancer Institute, Dir. of Medical Oncology,</i> St. Francis Hospital, The Heart Center Roslyn <i>Co-Chairman of Oncology Services,</i> Catholic Health Services of Long Island</p> <p><b>Dr. Surya Vishnubhakat Murthy</b> <i>Vice Chair, Dept. of Neurology</i> North Shore LIJ <i>Associate Professor</i> Hofstra Medical School <i>Dir. Clinical Neurophysiology, Sr. Attending Neurologist</i> North Shore University Hospital</p> <p><b>Dr. Ramanathan Raju</b> <i>President &amp; CEO</i> New York City HCC</p> <p><b>Dr. Jagan Pahuja</b> <i>Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics</i> Stony Brook Health Science Center</p>



## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2016	Vaijinath Chakote, MD	<p><b>Dr. Sujana Chandrasekhar</b> <i>Director of Vestibular Disorders Evaluation Clinic, Bronx VA Hospital</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Narendra Hadpawat</b> <i>Cardiologist in Lawrence, NY</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Ashutosh Tewari</b> <i>Chairman, Milton &amp; Carroll Petrie Dept of Urology Mt. Sinai Health System Professor, Urology at Icahn School of Medicine Mt. Sinai</i></p>
2017	Rakesh Dua, MD	<p><b>Dr. Mohinder P. Gupta, MD, FACC, FACP</b> <i>Staff Cardiologist, Long Island Jewish Medical Center Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Albert Einstein Medical Center &amp; School of Medicine Attending Physician, Flushing Hospital Medical Center</i></p> <p><b>Professor Davendra Mehta</b> <i>Professor of Medicine Icahn School of Medicine, Mt. Sinai Dir. of Arrhythmia Section &amp; Al-Sabah Arrhythmia Institute at Mt. Sinai, St. Luke's Hospital</i></p> <p><b>Dr. P. Patrick Basu</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine Columbia University, NY Division Chief of Gastroenterology &amp; GI Endoscopy North Shore University Hospital, Forest Hills Dir. of Liver Disease &amp; Hepatology Fellowship Kings County Medical Center</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Usha Krishnan</b> <i>Associate Professor of Pediatrics &amp; Associate Medical Dir. of Pulmonary Hypertension Center Columbia University</i></p>





## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2018	Jagdish K. Gupta, MD	<p><b>Dr. Gaddam D. Reddy, MD</b> <i>Pediatric Cardiologist, Chairman Interfaith Hospital Chairman BOT, Hindu Temple Society</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Satish Anand, MD</b> <i>Chief Dept. of Internal Medicine Queens Long Island Medical Group President Gajra Raja Medical College Gwalior Alumni, AAPIQLI, Federation of APPI NY/NJ Chairman BOT AAPIQLI, AAPI National</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Manjeet Chadha, MD, MHA, FASTRO, FACR</b> <i>Professor of Radiation Oncology Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai Associate Chair, Dept. of Radiation Oncology Beth Israel Medical Center Dir. for Breast &amp; Gynecologic Cancer Program for Radiation Oncology Continuum Cancer Centers of New York</i></p>
2019	Himanshu Pandya, MD	<p><b>Dr. Sharwan Bagla, MD</b> <i>Internal Medicine &amp; Nephrology Specialist Saint James Rehabilitation &amp; Health Care Center President AAPI-QLI 2006</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Neil Mandava, MD</b> <i>Chairman of Surgery, General Surgery Residency Program Director, Director of Medical Education Flushing Hospital Medical Center Chairman &amp; Program Director Catholic Medical Center &amp; St. Luke</i></p>



## Past Honorees

Compiled by: Jagan Pahuja, MD & Satish Anand, MD

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HONOREES
2019	Himanshu Pandya, MD	<p><b>Dr. Dilip Patel, MD</b> <i>Vice Chairman of Hematology &amp; Malignant Hematology Services</i> St. Francis Hospital <i>Fellowship Program Director, Division of Hematology Oncology</i> Long Island Jewish Medical Center <i>Associate Prof. of Medicine</i> Albert Einstein Medical School Hofstra Medical School</p> <p><b>Dr. Bhuvanesh Singh, MD</b> <i>Clinician &amp; Scientist</i> Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center <i>Co-Editor Major Text Book in Head &amp; Neck Surgery,</i> <i>Co-Director</i> Advanced Skin Cancer Management and Prevention Program</p>



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**Rajiv Datta, MD**

Professor & Chair, Dept of Surgery  
Director, The Gertrude & Louis Feil  
Cancer Center, Mt. Sinai South Nassau



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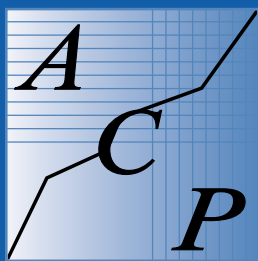
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# Submissions for Research Competition

NAME	TOPIC	VIDEO
<b>Akshay Malhotra</b>	Impact of Body Mass Index on Clinical Presentation, Management, and Outcomes in Adults with Cardiac Arrest Undergoing Coronary Angiogram	<b>No</b>
<b>Alok Karkare and Sean Su</b>	Examining the Ability of Bacopa monnieri to Reduce Parkinson's-like symptoms in Planarian	<b>No</b>
<b>Anmol Goyal</b>	Association between personalities of Medical Students, and their Fingerprints and Blood Groups	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Bhargavi Mayakuntla,</b>	Discoid Lupus Erythematosus with Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Case Report	<b>No</b>
<b>Hussam Al Hennawi</b>	Anomalous Origin of the Left Main from the Right Coronary Sinus Presenting with Sudden Cardiac Death: A Case Report Highlighting Utility of Mechanical Circulatory Support	<b>No</b>
<b>Manan Nath</b>	Central Nervous System manifestations (CNS) in Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Nidhi Jain</b>	Exploring the association between Personalities of Medical Students, and their Fingerprints and Blood Groups – a descriptive cross-sectional analysis.	<b>No</b>
<b>Anusha Panjwani</b>	Longitudinal Analysis of Adaptive Immune Responses Following COVID-19 Vaccination Stratified by Prior Infection	<b>No</b>
<b>Karan Patel</b>	Status Assessing the Impact of Covid-19 on Physician Burnout	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Vellanki Prashanthi</b>	Lupus Miliaris Disseminatus Faciei: Case report on a rare type of Facial Dermatitis	<b>No</b>
<b>Rishi R Shah</b>	Correlation between socioeconomic variables and Covid-19 vaccination rates in New York State	<b>Yes</b>



# Submissions for Research Competition

NAME	TOPIC	VIDEO
Rohan Ghotra	Inferring Transcription Factor Interactions from Convolutional Attention Networks for Genomics	No
Sara Khan	Sleep Architecture in Patients with Scleroderma-related Pulmonary Hypertension	Yes
Setu Mehta	1. Engineering Human Embryonic Stem Cells with Self-Complementing Split Fluorescent Proteins to Visualize Binary Cell Fate Decisions 2. Predicting the Signaling Pathways Involved in Cell Type Specification to Facilitate the Efficacious Creation of Cell Types In Vitro	Yes Yes
Jhaveri S.S.(Sharan)	Performance Of Non-Invasive Techniques In Diagnosing Stages Of Liver Fibrosis- A Meta-Analysis.	No
Siddharth S. Desai	Resting-state functional connectivity of the medial dorsal nucleus in First-Episode Psychosis and its role in working memory	No
Sinchana Venkatesh	Assessing the Ability of Vitexin in Mitigating Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's Disease	Yes
Tharun T. Alamuri	Longitudinal multiparametric MRI study of hydrogen-enriched water with minocycline combination therapy in experimental ischemic stroke in rats	Yes
Vikram Bajaj	Does Subthalamic Nucleus Deep-Brain Stimulation Affect the Cognition of Parkinson's Disease Patients	Yes



CONGRATULATIONS TO

**DR. ABHAY MALHOTRA**

&

**THE ENTIRE TEAM OF AAPI QLI**



BEST WISHES

**DR. GAGAN GULATI & REENA GULATI**



## *Educational Seminars - 2021*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT / ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
March 4, 2021	CME LECTURE	Mr. Vikas Malik	Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on Mental Health
March 10, 2021	Boston Scientific - Watchman FLX	Dr. Vinni Jayam	Strokes, Atrial Fibrillation & Watchman Device Implantation
	National Securities	Mr. Jay Shah	Retirement Investments
April 14, 2021	Abbott	Dr. Abhay Malhotra	Role of CardioMEMS in Advanced Heart Failure
	Aeon Global Health	Dr. Abhay Malhotra	Recent Advances in Genetic Testing and Laboratory Diagnostics
	Simply Speaking & Prohealth	Dr. Evelyn Horn	Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension
June 6, 2021	Lecture	Dr. Jovita Crasta	Well-Being in the Context of Disasters; Avoiding Burnout
June 9, 2021	Check Point Therapeutics	Jay Shah	Investments and State Planning
	NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery	Dr. Sundeep Mangla	Frontiers in Neurovascular Intervention
June 16, 2021	Beacon Eldercare	Dr. Tarun Wasil	Immuno & Cell Therapies for Cancer
August 1, 2021	Boston Scientific	Dr. Rajiv Jauhar	Atherosclerotic Heart Disease -high prevalence in South East Asians
Sept. 22, 2021	Jazz Pharmaceuticals	Dr. Sanjeev Kothari	Management of Day Time Sleepiness and Obstructive Sleep Apnea
	Athene Annuity & Life Company	Mr. Matthew Latta	Wealth management
Oct. 13, 2021	Oakfield Wealth	Mr. Anthony Macaluso	Investment Strategies
Oct. 17, 2021	AAPIQLI / Women's Affair Breast Cancer Awareness Education Seminar Main Street Radiology	Dr. Murgank Shukla	Advancements in Breast imaging



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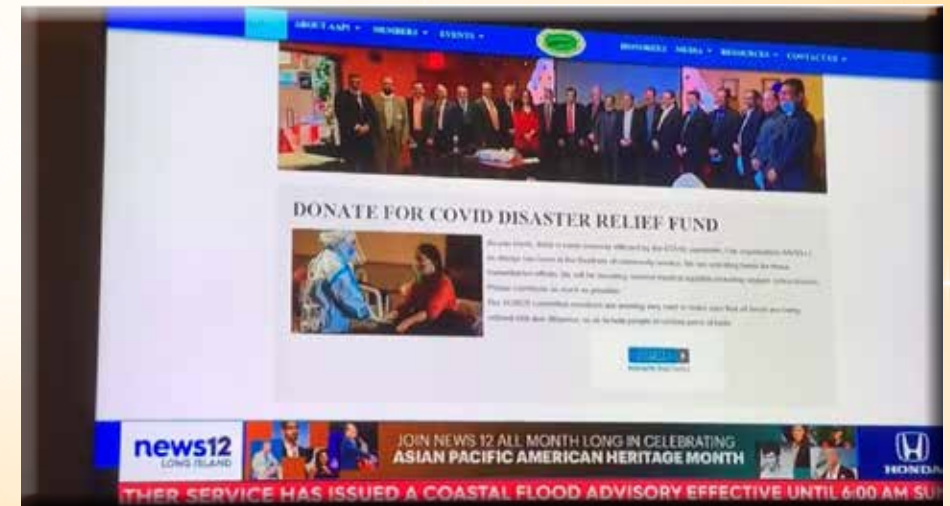
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# *Annual Diwali Gala 2021*







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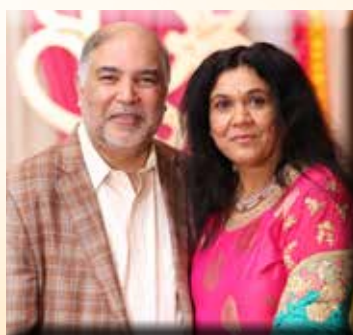
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*Congratulations to*

**Dr. Abhay Malhotra**

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**and all the honorees**



**Dr. Lakshmi Kumari Yella, Priya Bhimani,  
Dr. Rupesh Bhimani & Dr. Subbarao Bhimani**



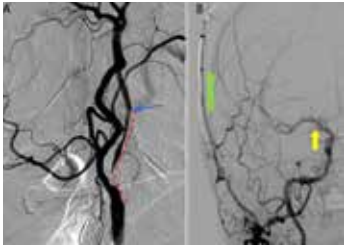
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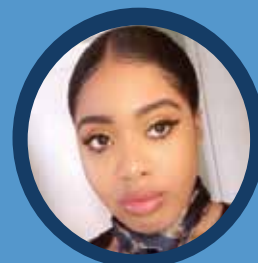
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## Editor's Message



It is the 25th anniversary for AAPI-QLI and welcome all to our annual gala. Congratulations to the members and founders of the organization. It is the hard work of dozens of team members over the years that has brought us to this point. Thanks to the whole team for organizing this event, starting with Dr. Abhay Malhotra, Dr. Raj Bhayani, Dr. Rajgopal Holalkare, Dr. Prabhu Mehta, Dr. Sunil Mehra and Dr. Jagdish Gupta and Dr. Rakesh Dua.

Every year in October, a seminar on breast cancer awareness is made possible by Dr. Bhavani Srinivasan and her team and we had an educational session followed by a few survivor stories held on Oct 17, 2021. Thanks to all those who participated and the sponsor of the event – Main Street Radiology. Special thanks to Dr. Vinni Jayam for organizing another very successful CME event on November 14, 2021 at Dematteis center against all odds with much needed help from Catholic Health System.

Dr. Abhay Malhotra was given a unique responsibility this year after a strange 2020 when Dr. Raj Bhayani did a wonderful job of helping thousands of people during the pandemic but could not hold the annual function because of restrictions. Even in 2021, we were in uncharted waters with so much uncertainty, kudos to Dr. Malhotra and his team for reviving the monthly meetings, CME seminars along with continuing work of providing help to the needy suffering because of the pandemic. Thanks to all those who contributed to the organization in such a dire health emergency. Special thanks to Dr. Rajiv Dutta and the administration of South Nassau Hospital for their generous contribution for the cause.

We can never forget our fallen heroes to this pandemic. We pray for all those who lost their lives because of the deadly disease and its complications. Our hearts go out to the families of Dr. Ajay Lodha, Dr. Krishna Jajoo and Dr. Chauhan. Other members who lost their lives were Dr. Brijesh Gupta and one of our past honorees Dr. Vijay Rasquina. Our prayers for the departed souls and deepest sympathies for the remaining family members.

I want to thank all the vendors and sponsors of AAPI-QLI as this would not be possible without their financial support. Thanks to Zamher and Icon Imaging for their help with this journal.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy year ahead.

Sincerely,

**Tarun Wasil, MD**

Chair, Journal Committee AAPI-QLI



*Congratulations to the Esteemed Honorees*

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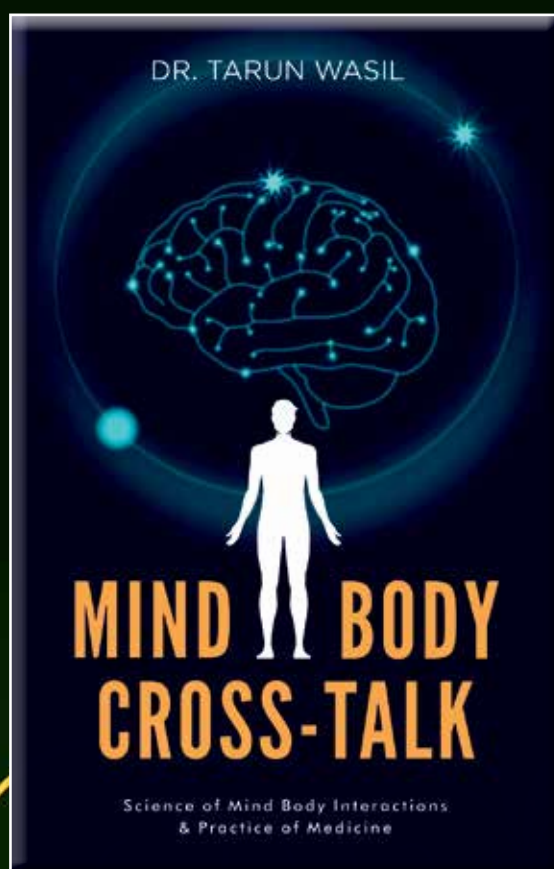
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