Dear Friends

Neuro Spinal Surgeons Association’s (NSSA) Annual Conference “SPINE 2016” will be held at Kolkata between September 16 and 18, 2016. Dr. Prusty will be organizing the conference under the theme: Growing Spine. The cadaver workshop will be held on September 18, 2016 at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata. There will be a Pre-Conference Workshop – Live Operation Session on Pediatric Spine Surgery at Park Clinic, Kolkata and will be organized by Dr. Sandip Chatterjee. If planned well, the conference will be packed with renowned faculties and large number of delegates.

The NSSA Fellowship Training Program in spinal surgery will be unveiled during the conference. This program will be a boon to young neurosurgeons interested in pursuing their career in spinal surgery. Few centers specializing in neuro spinal surgery in India under the leadership of experienced neuro spinal surgeons are selected as training centers to impart skills and groom the young neurosurgeons. Minimally invasive spinal surgery, spinal navigation, spinal cord monitoring, and pediatric spinal surgery are in focus recently. Apart from the already existing techniques, microsurgery in spinal cord is the most sought area in training session. Neuro Spinal Surgeons Association has decided to focus on all these subjects in Fellowship Training Program.

The core committee of NSSA has decided to keep the Life Membership one-time fee as INR 5,000.

This edition of JOSS has an excellent article that discusses the common problem every spinal surgeon faces in India. Often, spinal surgeons diagnose cervical canal stenosis in a patient referred for surgical management of lumbar canal stenosis. Tandem stenosis is nothing but symptomatic concurrent canal stenosis at more than one level in spine. Careful clinical examination and history taking can unearth tandem stenosis. However, with the advancement of imagiology, especially with MRI, surgeons are able to see tandem stenosis in many patients since the full spine is covered in the frame in recent times. Nonsymptomatic stenosis is a big challenge and occasionally, we see patients with neurological deficit following trivial fall or injury who had earlier scans with them taken during previous investigations showing narrow cervical spinal canal with cord compression. Selecting the area of spinal decompression in stages or in one sitting is a challenge and need to be judged according to the severity of clinical symptoms that limit the life style. Certainly, experience of the surgical team is essential in managing symptomatic tandem stenosis.

Members are requested to visit www.jossworld.com for all the details about the journal. Please do check and correct the mailing address with Office of NSSA at Mumbai so that the copy of JOSS could reach safely.

Sincerely

JKBC Parthiban
Editor-in-Chief