

PRESIDENT ELECT REPORT;

I am thankful to everyone who has given me the privilege to serve the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America (APPNA).

APPNA is a vibrant organization and as President-Elect my main goal is to help the president, Dr. I. Z. Hamid, fulfil his agenda. The initial strategic meeting in January was productive and we worked on ideas to advance APPNA strategically for future growth. There are multiple programs running simultaneously, and it's exciting to have a vibrant group of volunteers and especially the Summer Convention Committee under the leadership of Dr. Dawood Nasir, who is doing a great job.

As President-Elect, I'm personally involved in a few initiatives, one of them is providing and determining strategies to implement for continuous improvement in the delivery of better patient care. APPNA has already established a committee to give tools to our membership for better evidence base practices. Additionally, steps need to be taken to minimize the pressure of insurance companies and hospital systems. I believe with combined resources, we can collectively address these issues by establishing Federally Qualified Health Care Centers and work with independent Accountability Care Organizations.

As we plan ahead, young physicians can be influential in forward thinking and progressive ideas to address our needs. I continuously hear that our kids are not coming into our organizations. One of the most challenging things I see is recruiting our children who are born and raised in the U.S. and they become physicians. We need "fresh and innovative" ideas from young physicians to fill what they may perceive as voids to attract them towards our respective organizations.

I have been taking care of recertification of component societies and only 5 are still left and I hope by the meeting these will be done. Will have two new chapters most probably where their paperwork is complete. These chapters have requested, and council has to approve them as component societies.

Also Attended and represented APPNA at American Association of Indian Origin Legislative Day, and went well as we have many common issues and we as team thanked AAPI for inviting APPNA.

Dr. I Z Hamid, President APPNA and I have spoken about better governance and APPNA need to have a fresh look at our accounting, policies and procedure once again for best practices.

Let's work together towards becoming stronger and better for our future and generations to come by taking a cohesive approach to fulfilling our mission, vision and goals.

Naseem A. Shekhani, MD
President Elect APPNA-2018