

President message IAGE- Indian Association of Gynaecological Endoscopists

It is indeed a great pleasure to be the president of Indian association of Gynaecological Endoscopists. I take this opportunity to thank the committee members and the IAGE members and look forward to our teamwork to create guidelines to achieve the best standard of care.

The IAGE (Indian Association of Gynaecological Endoscopists) is one of the oldest endoscopy society in the world and was founded in 1978. The founder president of the association was Dr. N. D. Motashaw. A group of active members including Dr V N Purandare, Dr S N Daftary, Dr M N Parikh, Dr R D Pandit, Dr Adi Dastur, Dr SS Thakur, Dr M Y Raval, Dr Shirish Sheth, late Dr D N Pai, the late Dr C L Zaveri, the late Dr Siddarth Khandwala, the late Dr B N Purandare promoted laparoscopy in India and this became a national organisation with over 1500 gynaecologists.

The acquisition of Laparoscopic skills requires formal training, dedication, commitment and constant practice. In our endeavour to shorten the learning curve we overlook the safety in Laparoscopic surgery.

The theme of IAGE is “Safe Endoscopy” which essentially means to improve the safety of surgical care all over the country by ensuring adherence to proven standards of care in all the laparoscopy centres. Surgical care has been an essential component of health care worldwide. WHO has undertaken a number of global and regional initiatives to address surgical safety.

The WHO Safe Surgery Saves Lives checklist was created by an international group of experts with the goal of improving the safety of patients undergoing surgical procedures around the globe. Input from anesthesiologists, operating theatre nurses, surgeons, patients and other professionals was used in the development of this tool. This checklist was demonstrated to reduce the complications and mortality associated with a variety of surgical procedures by greater than 30 percent. The checklist has been designed to be simple to use and applicable in many settings. It is currently in active use in operating rooms around the world.

We propose to create such a safety checklist for all endoscopic procedures which can be implemented by everyone. We also look forward to a lot of workshops aiming at our theme of Safe Endoscopy. We would like to increase our membership and would love to have suggestions from all of you.

Our goal is to conduct workshops and conferences all over the country especially in cities and towns where IAGE may not have its presence felt and with proper training and education all gynaecologists should practice safe endoscopy