

Guest Editorial

I am privileged to be guest editor for this issue of prestigious Bombay Hospital Journal. Number of cancer cases are rising in India due to various reasons like better diagnosis, aging population, tobacco and alcohol consumptions, pollution, changing life style etc.

Every medical professional, from family physician to specialists, is likely to come across cancer patients in day to day practice with various presentations. Hence, it is prudent that all practicing medical professionals are aware of basics of various cancers. This is the idea behind this special issue.

Due to early diagnosis and optimum treatment, cancer patients survive longer with good quality of life even in advanced stages. Certain cancers like breast cancer, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, chronic myeloid leukemia are the success stories in Oncology today.

Systemic treatment of cancer has evolved significantly today. Chemotherapy drugs have become more effective, safer and affordable. There are also various non-chemotherapeutic agents available like Hormonal therapy, Targeted therapy, Immunotherapy.

Toxicity management of anticancer therapies has improved drastically

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resulting in minimal mortality due to anticancer therapy, when given by Medical Oncologists.

Cancer treatment has progressed from 'one size fits all' concept to 'personalised medicine' with the help of genetic profile, biomarkers, tumour markers etc. Hence, outcomes of cancer patients has improved drastically.

It will suffice to say, each cancer patient's treatment requires precision and fine tuning for best outcome. Hence, right referral at right time to medical, surgical and radiation oncologists is prudent.

In this issue, I have tried and covered majority of important topics though it is not possible to cover all the topics. I must also clarify that views expressed in each article, are those of the author's! The editorial board (including myself) is not endorsing any view expressed by them.

I thank Editorial board of Bombay Hospital Journal for giving me this opportunity.

We also thank our patients for allowing us to take care of them which made us what we are today.

Your feedback is valuable to us. Please contact me with your feedback (cell: 9821062066)