

Response to Comment by Mahadevan S *et al.*: Endocrine Chakras in the Endocrine Society of India logo

‘Mann neeva, matt uchi’

This Punjabi phrase, from the Sikh Ardas (prayer), counsels us to practice ‘humility in mind and highness in morality’.

This ethical standard is evident in Mahadevan S’ communication,^[1] which shares a pertinent viewpoint regarding the interpretation of the Endocrine Society of India (ESI) logo. He successfully integrates the chakra-based concept of the endocrine system, proposed by Ayurvedic pioneers, in the modern logo of the ESI. Even today, we follow a similar anatomical system to teach conventional endocrinology.^[2]

Our chosen field, endocrinology, brings ‘live’ the small but powerful glands, and their minuscule but potent secretions, in the interpretation and management of health and disease. We are able to do this with the help of sensitive hormonal assays and imaging modalities. We can only imagine, in awe, how physicians of the past were able to create the chakra rubric without the benefit of modern diagnostics. In fact, for glands such as the pineal and the hypothalamus, we are still in our infancy, as far as understanding physiology and pharmacology goes.

We thank Mahadevan S for highlighting the endocrine chakras in an endocrine logo, and for expanding the discourse of endocrinology. Accepting that we do not have answers to every question, appreciating the work of those who have built the foundation of our discipline, and aiming to broaden our spectrum of thought: this is the way towards ensuring a resolute, and resilient future for endocrinology in India, and beyond.^[3]

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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