

What Has Changed in AIAN in Last 6 Years?

Dear AIAN readers,

It is still a fresh memory, the day I was bestowed upon the responsibility of Chief Editor of the Annals of India Academy of Neurology (AIAN) by members of the Indian Academy of Neurology (IAN) with an impact factor of 0.95 (2018) and Prof. Satish Khadilkar had “Signed off” as an excellent editor of AIAN for the previous 6 years, i.e., 2012–2017.^[1] Thank you, IAN, for this belief in my capabilities.

As I had “Signed In” AIAN in the year 2018,^[2] I realized that it is a herculean task to edit this only available journal in the field of neurology in India, which had been struggling to improve its credentials and not been able to cross the mark of 1.0 impact factor.

I would be selfish if I did not mention the contribution of the Late Prof. Ashok Panagariya, who had suggested I try editorship of AIAN. He also sent me the nomination form duly signed and got it delivered personally. He chased me to ensure that I submitted my nomination for editorship.

I DEDICATE MY THIS EDITORSHIP TO HIM. He will always remain inspirational to me and many of us.

The first thing I decided to do was to change the face of AIAN (refer to AIAN Jan 2018 cover page) to transform the image of the journal by using the acronym AIAN in bold letters on the cover page so that the journal is referred to as AIAN (like many International Journals). Rather than printing images or pictures on the cover page, I utilized the cover page to print a table of contents (TOC), which, at a glance, informs the readers about the inner content of the journal.

Secondly, in 2020, the number of issues were increased from 4 to 6 per year. The reason was that there were too many articles to integrate into four issues at 3-month intervals, and there was a long waiting time for articles to be published. This step also helped AIAN to improve its impact factor.

Thirdly, I incorporated increased strength of the editorial team, several being young editors with excellent publication records. They are energetic, fast-paced, quality-conscious, and doing value addition.

Fourthly, for the first time, one article was published in the Yellow Pages, looking different from others, authored by Sanjay Sharma and SM Katak.^[3] This article reproduced the original article (after permission from the original publisher) on manganese, published previously in the *Indian Journal of Industrial Medicine*.^[4] This was an excellent monogram of manganese.

Lately, under the guidance of the current president of IAN, Dr. Gagandeep Singh, AIAN has started a new feature of a video podcast called “AIAN PODCAST.” This is a short, 4- to 6-minute interview of the corresponding/contributing author

of significant articles, especially original articles, about the study and its implications. All interviews are conducted by the editorial team of AIAN.

Last year, when AIAN completed 25 years of its publication (1997–2022), the First editor of AIAN, Prof. Gouri-Devi M, happily accepted the invitation to write an editorial to commemorate 25 years of AIAN.^[5] She could retrieve an original copy of AIAN’s first journal and other pictures of its release from her personal archives to put into this editorial article, which is a must-read for youngsters.

The results of the hard work became evident when the impact factor of AIAN started increasing. During my tenure of 6 years, the impact factor almost doubled from 0.95 (2018) to 1.7 (2022).

Contribution of my editors, A to T (Ajay Garg, Alvee Saluja, Ayush Agrawal, Chaturbhuj Rathore, Divyani Garg, Elavarasi A, Niraj Sinha, Priyanka Samal, Soham Desai, Sucharita Ray, and Tanushree Chawla) cannot be defined in words as they have given their prime time of career building to progress of AIAN. They are jewels in my cap of editorship. I will be indebted to them forever.

It is also time to thank hundreds of reviewers who have taken the time to review AIAN articles, which, as everyone knows, is time-consuming and a selfless endeavor. BIG THANKS to all reviewers of AIAN.

No journal can thrive without the contribution of excellent authors. Keeping faith in AIAN sending their hard-worked manuscripts, I, on behalf of the entire editorial team, am highly grateful to them.

I also want to express sincere gratitude toward my seniors, who kept inspiring me during my tough journey of editorship. Prof. Gouri-Devi, Prof. SM Katak, Prof. Sudesh Prabhakar, Prof. JMK Murthy, Prof. Satish Khadilkar, Prof. Gagandeep Singh, and many more always guided me and suggested significant points to improve the quality of AIAN. These excellent Neurologists are true teachers who guide selflessly. My Sadar Pranam to all of them.

I also want to record the excellent contribution of Wolters Kluwer (Medknow) as publisher. I want to thank Vikas Chawla, Priti Mahadik, Sheeja Shah, and many more from the publishing team for their ideas, tireless attitude and timely hard work to publish AIAN regularly.

Whenever one takes upon any time-intensive, tedious task, it is the family whose time is taken away, and their indirect contribution cannot be ignored. I want to express my special thanks to Dr. Chanchal Goyal, my wife; Dr. Divyam Goyal, my son; and Radhika Goyal, my daughter, for being considerate, compassionate, and caring during these toiling years.

During the last 6 years, as an elected executive member of IAN, I had my share of Ups and Down-like lines of ECG, which suggests one is alive. I, too, had my share of electrocardiograms, but in the end, ECG is going on.

I have no regrets about IAN.

I wish AIAN and all forthcoming editors in making IAN more prideful. May AIAN remain an enlightening and enriching learning tool for students and researchers.

Jai Hind.

Vinay Goyal

Chairman Neurology, Movement Disorder, Institute of Neurosciences,
Medanta the Medicity, Gurugram, India

Address for correspondence: Prof. Vinay Goyal,
6th Floor, Room No. 11, Movement Disorder, Institute of Neurosciences,
Medanta the Medicity, Gurugram, Haryana - 122 038, India.
E-mail: drvinaygoyal@gmail.com

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