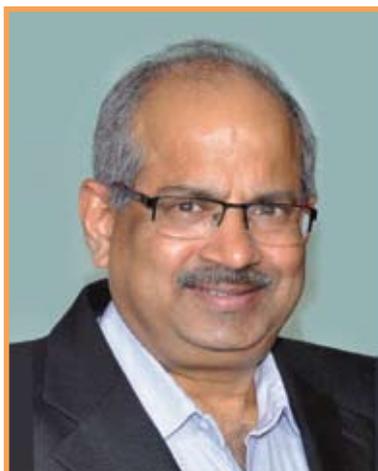


President Speak...



Since in our country the Pharmacists are not always included in the healthcare system, I would like to propose a list of 6 Ps for future medicine in our country. The first P must represent Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Care, only then our healthcare system should move towards so described future medicine

Dear Members,

This is the last month I am addressing you as the President of the Indian Pharmaceutical Association, as my tenure as the President of IPA will end on March 31 and it is time to hand over the responsibility to the newly elected President. I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to all the members of the association, all IPA centre office bearers, all the Past Presidents & the past office bearers, IPA senior members, all the IPA CEC members & invitees, all the state & local branch presidents, secretaries & EC members, the staff & consultants of the IPA secretariat for their immense support and encouragement throughout my tenure during the past 4 years. I have enjoyed working with all of you and I would like to apologize to those whom I might have caused hurt and pain due to my words and actions intentionally or unintentionally.

These past 4 years leave me with a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment as I believe IPA has been active and caught stakeholders attention both on the national and international platform. IPA was able to attract membership during the past 4 years which enabled IPA life membership to cross the 10,000 mark. IPA organized highly successful events and the most successful one happens to the 68th Indian Pharmaceutical Congress in December 2016, in Visakhapatnam, which has set many unbeatable records. IPA received the best professional association in India award and IPA was the first to institute 40 scholarships across the country to B. Pharm students with the help of Pharmaceutical Industry. IPA was able to organize IPA conventions, IPA national students' congresses and many other events in various parts of the country, which increased IPA's exposure and popularity. As a result, many new local branches were inaugurated across the country. IPA became highly active on the advocacy front sending suggestions and recommendations to the government and concerned authorities about the role and importance of pharmacy and pharmacists to the national healthcare. IPA publications with a global reach received great appreciation from all corners. Owing to the increased visibility of the association, IPA office bearers start to play significant roles in international pharmacy associations and I am indeed very happy to get elected as the president of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association as a direct outcome of IPAs popularity. The person who played a significant role in IPA's success and supported me in all aspects over the past 4 years has now been elected unopposed as the next President to lead the association to further glory and greater heights. I wish the incoming president and his team of office bearers all the success.

While addressing the AGM of IPA on

December 23, 2017, in Chandigarh, I mentioned that IPA and the pharma profession lost many great visionaries and leaders in 2017 and that I would sincerely pray not to lose anymore during 2018. However, the Almighty as always has his own plans and designs! In February 2018, Pharmacy profession lost another stalwart, Dr. C. L. Kaul, who was the founder director of NIPER Mohali. Dr. Kaul's contributions to IPA were phenomenal. He was the Hon. Gen. Secretary during 1988-92, a Vice President of IPA during 1992-94 and the President of IPA during 1994-96. He was also the Associate Editor of IJPS from 1986-92 and the Editor of IJPS during 1992-96. Dr. Kaul received the prestigious IPA Fellowship in 2000 and the coveted eminent pharmacist award in 2002. I would like to mention here that Dr. Kaul was responsible for my entry into IPA. He requested me to work as the associate editor of IJPS in July 1994, which I agreed and subsequently was involved with IJPS for the next 20 years and then as the president of IPA for the following 4 years. But for Dr. Kaul's request, I would not have been in IPA at all. I pray for his noble soul to rest in peace.

Last month I attended the Pharma CIO Leadership Series 2018 seminar in Mumbai on the theme "Digital Disruption Beyond the Pill". The keynote speaker gave an excellent talk on this topic and one of the slides described the 5 Ps of future medicine. These 5 Ps are, Predictive, Preventive, Point of Care, Parametric and Personalised aspects that define the future medicine. This is certainly true everywhere in the world where the 3 Ps of the healthcare system is firmly in place. The 3 Ps constitute the Physicians, the Paramedical Support (Nurses) and the Pharmacists. Since in our country the Pharmacists are not always included in the healthcare system, I would like to propose a list of 6 Ps for future medicine in our country. The first P must represent Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Care, only then our healthcare system should move towards so described future medicine, a disrupting digital revolution beyond the pill. Nevertheless, first, we need a pharmacist next to the pill to think about what lays beyond the pill.

Thank you, friends and colleagues, for reading and appreciating my thoughts shared with you for the past 48 months through this column. All the best to the new IPA leadership team and a great future for our professional association, IPA!!

V.S.V. Vadlamudi Rao

Rao V. S. V. Vadlamudi, Ph. D.,