

Enhancing the Quality of our Medical Discourse

This year's Nobel Prize in medicine has been jointly won by William C. Campbell of USA, Satoshi Ōmura of Japan and Youyou Tu of China. With Youyou Tu winning the prize for her discoveries concerning a novel therapy against Malaria, China has won its first Nobel Prize in medicine in the 114-year history of Nobel foundation. This is also China's only second prize in Science after its scientists Tsung-Dao Lee and Chen-Ning Yang won the Physics Nobel in 1957.

What does this win for China mean to us in India? In a way the story of both China and India are similar on the Nobel front. Until last year, both India and China had almost equal number of Nobel laureates, with only one Nobel winner apiece in Science. While the number of Nobel winners from the World's most populous countries is a matter of concern, by winning a Nobel prize in medicine, China has achieved a long awaited honor. And therein lies the hope for Indian scientists that they too can achieve the coveted prize sooner than later. The problems and challenges faced by both China and India are similar in many ways in the areas of public health and medicine. So, China's achievement should motivate the Indian medical research community to continue their good work. What is required though is a culture of research orientation in our medical institutions and a spirit of innovation in our medical researchers to achieve this elusive prize.

Journals and research publications have a role to play in helping this cause as well. 'Today's Clinician', with a clear focus on advancing the understanding of medical fraternity in all fields of healthcare and medicine, intends to further this cause in its own unique way. We look forward to the active participation of physicians from all hues in enhancing the quality of discourse on medical research through the pages of this publication.

This issue of 'Today's Clinician' carries some interesting articles and research/case studies on contemporary medical research topics. We feature in the lead an insightful article that discusses the impact of digital devices on children's eyes and how to prevent the ill-effects of viewing digital screens (laptops, tablets and mobiles) for prolonged periods of time.

To provide a retrospect to this journal's precursor 'The Clinician', we reproduce an article from our archives on the challenges faced in correcting leg length inequalities ('Leg Length Inequality: A Challenge' published in 'The Clinician' April 1980, VOL 44 No.4 issue) in this issue.

We hope you will find the articles in this issue informative and thought provoking. We welcome your feedback on this issue as well as suggestions for the future.

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