



Indian Doctors Association

Greater Houston

February 2023 Edition

President's Message



Dear IDA Family,

Greetings. It is with great honor that I took over as the current IDA President after the gala in January 2023. I feel humbled at the great responsibility bestowed upon me. I am looking forward to working with the IDA Board to continue to grow this organization. I would like to thank all the previous presidents for their dedication and hard work in taking our organization to new heights.

The annual IDA gala held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Houston on January 23rd, 2023 was a great success. Along those lines, I look forward to continuing to organize events this year. We will be starting with an event in Sugarland followed by a Woodlands mixer. I look forward to seeing and meeting most of you at the events planned throughout the year.

We had our first board meeting of this year and we elected our new treasurer, Dr Niral Patel. We also elected two new board members, Dr Sheela Chandra and Dr Snehal Desai. Congratulations to all of them! I look forward to working with them this year.

I was honored to represent IDA at a few events the past month including the Republic Day Celebration organized by the Consul General of Houston. The Indo American Chamber of Commerce graciously invited me to their event honoring four Indo American judges that were recently elected. I also attended a victory party for Fort Bend County Judge KP George.

I would also take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors, ZT Corporate, HCA Healthcare, Amir Dodhiya, and Truist Bank for their continued support towards our organization. The growth of IDA would not have been possible without them. Thank you!



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Ashima Chauhan, MD
IDA President

Indo-American Chamber of Commerce



This event was in honor of the 4 Indo American Judges and Victory Party for Fort Bend County Judge, KP George.

2023 New Board Members

Sheela Chandra, MD



Dr Chandra is a Gastroenterologist at Kelsey-Seybold clinic. She currently practices at the Woodlands, Spring, & Conroe locations. She also serves on the Medical Board at Kelsey Seybold. She is board certified in gastroenterology and internal medicine. Dr Chandra earned her bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery in 1995 at Bangalore Medical

College in Bangalore, Karnataka. Completed Internal Medicine residency at Cook County Hospital Chicago in 2000. Served as an Assistant professor in internal medicine at Rush University and Cook County Hospital for 5 years. Completed fellowship in gastroenterology at John H hospital of Cook County in 2007. Her passion is patient care and physician well being and supporting the vision mission of IDA: Connect, Inspire, & Community.

Office Locations

Woodlands: 106 Vision Park blvd,
Shenandoah, Tx 77384 Ph: 713-442-1800

Spring: 15655 Cypress Woods Medical Dr,
Houston, Tx 77014 Ph: 713-442-1700

Conroe: 690 S Loop 336 W. Suite 222
Conroe, Tx 77304 Ph: 713-442-6661

Snehal Desai, MD



Snehal Desai is a native Houstonian who completed his medical degree and residency at Baylor College of Medicine. Since then he has practiced at Houston Methodist, Kelsey-Seybold and currently hold associate professor at Baylor College of Medicine in Radiation Oncology.

Dr Desai is an integral part of developing the division of Radiation & Oncology Divisions. Dr Desai has held positions of President, Board Member, Chair, Co-Chair, Medical Director, Assistant Professor, & Program Director of multiple national societies and divisions including Houston Chapter President of American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin. Snehal was awarded Hindu Youth Leadership Award-Hindus of Greater Houston by Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard. Dr Desai completed his undergraduate with Magna Cum Laude Honors in Bachelor of Science in Math and Chemistry at the University of Houston; Doctorate of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine; Radiation Oncology Residency & Chief Resident, Baylor College of Medicine; & additional training and fellowship in High Dose Rate Brachytherapy & Elekta – GammaKnife Training. He continues to participate and support current IDA events and initiatives.

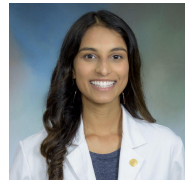
IDA Board Members 2023



Paresh Patel - Pulmonology & Critical Care
Niral Patel - Family Medicine
Vanitha Bala - Gastroenterology
Apurva Pancholy - Obstetrics & Urogynecology
Sangeeta Saikia - Cardiology
Arvind Bhimaraj - Cardiology
Atasu Nayak - Cardiology
Ashima Chauhan - Family Medicine & Hospitalist
Prashant Gajwani - Psychiatry

Vinita Bhagia - Endocrinology
Arusha Bavare - Internal Medicine & Hospitalist
Pushan Jani - Pulmonology & Critical Care
Neeta Hiray - Anesthesiology
Snehal Desai - Radiation Oncology
Sheela Chandra - Gastroenterology

A Special Thanks



Puja Shah
IDA Executive
Administrator

IDA Officers and Board would like to thank Puja for her hard work in helping us run the organization smoothly. Despite being a busy medical student, she has devoted a significant amount of time to IDA and we are forever grateful.

India Ministry of Culture: Hornbill Festival



An annual jamboree that sweeps the whole of Nagaland every December for 10 days is the Hornbill Festival. Hosted at the Kisama Heritage Village, on the outskirts of Kohima, it brings together the culture variety of the tribes of Nagaland. The festival hosts almost 16 tribes of Nagaland along with thousands of visitors, who come to watch the grand tribal spectacle unfold in a mesmeric array of activities.

One of the largest gatherings in the state, the festival sees a sea of tribal community members dressed in red and black hues, coronets, beads, cowries and kilts. Though from a distance they all look the same, at a closer look, one can distinguish the distinct features of each tribal ensemble. While the Sema Nagas don a necklet, called aminihu, that consists of pairs of boar tusks strung together with strings of cane, the Angami wear a precious necklace, called tsubo, which is made of multi-hued glass pieces and bone spacers and pearls engraved with geometrical patterns. In fact, patterns, motifs and colours on shawls and skirts, which differ from tribe to tribe, also tell stories of their history, valour and traditions.

For more information, [click here](#).

IDA Social Media



Members and events are highlighted on our social media channels.

IDA Speakers Bureau

Please update your membership profile on idahouston.org if you would be interested in becoming a motivational speaker for IDA at our future events.

IDA Physician Specialty Awareness Videos

<https://www.facebook.com/idahouston15>
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