Dear ISCCM members & Colleagues,

Greetings!

ISCCM elections have once again been successfully concluded. I congratulate Dr. Atul Kulkarni and his election committee for conducting the elections smoothly. This was the first time we had elections with a one time password that could be uniquely generated by ISCCM members. My congratulations to all the successful candidates.

The WFSICCM meeting in Korea was a remarkable success and there was a sizeable representation from India as well. Dr. Pravin Amin, Dr. Shirish Prayag, Dr. Jigi Divatia, Dr. Sheila Myatra, Dr. Atul Kulkarni, Dr. Ramesh Venkataraman were invited as speakers. We were also represented well in the task force meetings on Ethics and End of Life, ICU organization, Who is an intensivist?, What is an ICU?

Agreements with ESICM, ANZICS, Neurocritical Care Society USA, SCCM have also been reviewed. Our membership in APACCM, WFSICCM and SAARC are also well in place. A SAARC intensive care societies meeting is planned at Agra for taking this regional partnership initiated by Dr. Rungta forward.

The ISCCM day is fast approaching and we have decided on “Communication in the ICU” as a theme. Dr. Vijaya Patil and her team is working hard to put together a webinar on 1st October that will act as a “Train the Trainer” session for all ISCCM branches and ISCCM members who wish to hold sessions in their respective cities.

Criticare Agra 2016 preparations are in full swing. Dr. Ranvir Tyagi, Dr. Diptimala Agarwal, Dr. Rakesh Tyagi and the Agra committee are working closely with the central committee to put together a good show. The scientific program is being prepared with the International Sepsis Forum and promises to be a great feast. I will be meeting Prof Mervyn Singer in Berlin during the EISCM conference in this regard. We are also putting up an ISCCM booth at the EISCM trade exhibition to showcase our conference and attract international delegates.

CHITRA is ready for testing the beta version. A couple of centers have obtained ethical committee clearance and now need to sign the agreement with ISCCM and apply for a SNOMED CT license to start collecting data for testing the beta version.

The winds of change are blowing in ISCCM. We move to a one-year presidency from next year. These changes will necessitate a highly professional approach by the executive committee and the ISCCM office. I have seen how the SCCM and ESICM function in a professional manner. I strongly feel our office requires to undergo a management transformation through ISO or other certification. We are already the third largest critical care society in the world and we have the potential to become the best in the world. The way forward is to work as a team and involve all ISCCM branches and members in the growth process.

Regional conferences are growing in strength. This year we have already had a North Zone conference, a Gujarat Criticon, Mahacriticon, South Zone conference, Uttarakhand UP chapter conference, East Zone conference are all scheduled. Kolkata branch has planned an imaging conference, Pune has already had it’s highly successful Brussels meeting and Mumbai branch will also be having the THEMATITICC workshop. These conferences auger well for the growth of critical care and ISCCM in the country. At the same time we need to work together to schedule the meetings properly and avoid having any of these regional conferences three months before the national conference and a couple of months after.

Central CRITICARE ISCCM Conferences also need to be strengthened. Coming conferences at Agra, Kochi and Varanasi will see increasing participation from the center not only for the scientific program but also for overall management. A number of workshops will be standardized and run by the ISCCM center. This year at Agra I hope we will be able to have standard ISCCM workshops for hemodynamic monitoring, mechanical ventilation, EOLS and Communication, Neuro-critical Care and Ultrasound. 4C will be our flagship course and will continue to improve and be run throughout the country. The all new version of 4C will be unveiled at the Criticare Agra.