The fourth India - UK healthcare meeting was held at Royal College of Physicians on 12th May 2022. It aimed at fostering collaboration between healthcare companies and communities in India and the UK. Dr. Anupam Sibal (President, GAPIO) shared the lessons that COVID has taught in this summit.
Dr. J S Bamrah (Member, GAPIO) also attended the Summit.

Source: HCI London, 12/05/2022.
Link: https://www.heilondon.gov.in/event_detail/?eventid=82
Dr Harshil Shah, a well-known neurosurgeon at Ahmedabad’s Shalby Hospitals performed a five-hour surgery to remove a ‘rare’ cancerous tumor from the brain of an African infant.

Ayrton Timm de Oliveira and Edwina, both 26 and from Mozambique, were devastated when their ten-month-old infant son and first child, began experiencing major vision loss, delayed growth and feeding difficulties.

After presenting their child’s reports to several hospitals, the parents were informed that their child had a massive brain tumor. Symptoms such as insufficient oral food consumption resulted in the child remaining underweight and constantly crying. The tumor was 7x8x9 cm in size and took up one-third of the brain.

The couple travelled to India in an attempt to save the baby, where Dr. Shah performed a five-hour surgery and successfully saved the child.

Source: India Today, 02/05/2022,

Dr. Narendra Kaushik, a Delhi-based surgeon will attempt to transplant a womb into a trans woman who was born a man – with the view of making them pregnant. Dr Narendra Kaushik, who runs a gender reassignment clinic in the national capital, has said he is ‘very, very optimistic’ about making the success of the procedure. The risky process will involve taking the reproductive organs from a donor or a dead person who has transitioned the other way and had their organs removed.

The procedure cannot connect the woman’s uterus to the fallopian tubes, so the operation doesn’t lead to any person becoming pregnant naturally. But experts claim that it is theoretically possible to impregnate a trans woman using IVF, with the embryo being implanted.

Source: The Logical Indian, 10/05/2022
Brown University presented eight professors in various fields of study with Research Achievement Awards at its annual Celebration of Research program in April. Dr. Gaurav Choudhary (medicine) received a Mid-Career Research Achievement Award. He is a physician-scientist conducting basic, clinical and epidemiological research on pulmonary vascular disease and right ventricular dysfunction. His clinical and epidemiological work on pulmonary hypertension has been influential in redefining the diagnostic criteria for this condition, while his basic science research has identified novel therapeutic targets. He currently serves as director of cardiovascular research at the Warren Alpert Medical School and Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute, and as associate chief of staff for research at the V.A. Providence Health Care system. He leads a research and clinical program in pulmonary hypertension funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Institutes of Health at the Providence V.A.

Source: India Education diary, 03/05/2022
Link: https://indiaeducationdiary.in/research-achievement-awards-honor-early-mid-career-brown-scholars/
Dr. Vityala Yethindra and his team reported a very unusual case of a 36-year-old right-handed male patient performing unconscious ‘mirror-writing’ with his left hand during the epileptic seizures that was published in a peer-reviewed journal, Clinical Case Reports (Wiley).

Mirror writing is defined as the writing of letters, words, and sentences in the direction opposite to that of normal writing and with the letters reversed. It is most commonly observed in individuals writing with their non-dominant hand and after a focal brain injury. However, mirror writing in patients with epilepsy has not been reported previously.

This rare case involved a 36-year-old male with non-lesional refractory frontal-lobe epilepsy, diagnosed at 16 years of age, and with a history of four hospitalizations for refractory status epilepticus and admitted to the intensive care unit with focal seizures. He patient had a spontaneous 4-min-long episode of mirror writing with his left hand, after regaining consciousness following a seizure and he did not remember these events. During the episode of mirror writing, he wrote that ‘I want to go home’. 

Dr. Yethindra is the World’s Youngest Scientist in Medicine and also, he was the first to report and publish new and rare case reports on other diseases such as frontal-lobe epilepsy, neurofibromatosis, hereditary sensory and autonomic neuropathy, and ischemic stroke.

Source: dailyexcelsior, 29/04/2022

Dr Ramchandani has started ‘One Rupee Clinic’ in Barla in Odisha’s Sambalpur district to provide treatment and medicine to the poor and underprivileged people. It was his father’s dream to educate his children and make them doctors who could serve the poor. This realisation came to him after losing his father and uncle to cancer because of lack of medical facility and the huge transportation expenses to get the treatments.

It’s been a year since he started the one rupee clinic, and it gives him immense satisfaction to help the poor,” says the 38-year-old doctor, who also started a ‘one rupee medicine service’ on the first anniversary of their clinic in 2022. The doctor has also received widespread appreciation for his helping people during the pandemic. He was also praised by Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan for his One Rupee Clinic initiative.

Source: The Better India, 17/02/2022
**Dr Sandra Desa Souza**, the first Indian doctor to perform cochlear implant surgery, has performed surgery on underprivileged children with hearing impairments, winning a place in the Limca Book of World Records and a Padma Shri for her endeavours. She remembers that her parents used to hold a lot of events to raise funds for the school, so she would engage with the kids to train them in dancing, theatre and other such activities for the programme. These kids used to wear hearing aids, couldn’t speak, and could only hear loud sounds. “There was no surgery as such for them in those days.”

To cover this massive gap in healthcare, Dr Sandra has dedicated 50 years to improving the lives of children living with hearing impairments. In 1987, she became the first Indian doctor to perform cochlear implant surgery, a feat that earned her a name in the Limca Book of Records. Over the years, her programme to offer surgery to underprivileged children has changed around 2,800 lives, and in 2020, she won the Padma Shri for her efforts.

*Source: The Better Indian, 06/04/2022*