

## **GAPIO Vision**

N K Jairam, President

The Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO) is a confluence of physicians of Indian origin spread across the globe on a professional platform of a collaborative essence. A non-profit organisation established in 2011, GAPIO was conceived by Padma Vibhushan Prathap C Reddy, Chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group, Sanku Rao, Past President, AAPI, USA, and Ramesh Mehta, President, BAPIO, UK.

As a potent collective force of 1.4 million physicians of Indian origin, this non-profit body seeks to steer pathbreaking healthcare innovations globally and in India. Our presence in 57 countries includes medical practitioners across various specialities, sub-specialities, and super specialities, a robust Indian diaspora actively working in the living waters of healthcare spread across the Middle East, South East Asia and Africa.

Guided by its vision of 'Improving Health Worldwide', GAPIO is empowering physicians of Indian origin to achieve the highest professional standards, provide affordable good, quality healthcare, contribute to local and regional community development, and collectively help minimise health inequalities and human suffering across the globe, and lead the concerted movement to transform the silent Global South (Latin America, Africa, Asia and Oceania) into a salient Global South.

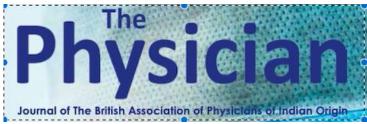
In this era of post-pandemic disruptive innovation, Indian physicians are playing a pivotal role globally through pathbreaking collaborations and co-creations. Talking of the phenomenal impact and footprint of the Indian diaspora across the globe, the clinical advancements of our physicians have emerged as the crowning glory of India's value proposition for the world at large. GAPIO is channelising the power of Indian physicians by a potent and purposeful organisational thrust to make a lasting difference in healthcare worldwide.

GAPIO is committed to making the most of the new-age tools, techniques, philosophies, and paradigms to keep pace with the shifting priorities of a new era of disruptive innovation in healthcare. Going forward, GAPIO has chalked out a comprehensive action plan encompassing the following:

 To provide an international forum for physicians of Indian origin to exchange notes on crucial issues, including how to avert a worldwide biological disaster situation like the Covid-19 pandemic, arriving at a consensus on contemporary health challenges, and evolving constructive and tangible ways of making healthcare affordable and accessible to all citizens. Such interactions will also promote multi-disciplinary and cross-systemic learning.



- To participate in global health agendas by liaising with public, private and voluntary organisations to identify barriers and opportunities to improve policies and practices and the availability and distribution of resources towards improving health. This priority encompasses a host of activities like exploring the possibility of collaborations to foster manufacturing (medical devices) and service innovations, improving the quality and reach of medical, nursing and technical education, and using tech-enabled media to conduct upskilling programs, reimagining the role of nurses, and formalising allied healthcare workforce.
- To promote initiatives that empower individual physicians to achieve professional excellence. It will involve exploring ways and means to establish a potent mechanism where physicians become the gatekeepers of people's health and continuously update and upgrade their knowledge to deliver appropriate care to patients through focused leadership development programs. The underlying purpose is to create a pool of competent and conscientious physicians to provide value through clinical excellence and leadership skills.
- To liaise with appropriate statutory and registering bodies internationally for recognition of qualifications and experience of Indian physicians and access to equal rights in their careers.
- To promote a greater understanding of challenges faced in addressing healthcare issues and strive to ensure safe and affordable services. Solutions to address sticky challenges include a lack of medical staff, low government spending on healthcare, poor insurance coverage, flawed universal care programs, poor primary and secondary care facilities and infrastructure, and lack of parity in healthcare delivery.
- To actively contribute towards medical education, training and research to develop highly competent and well-rounded physician leaders. The priorities under this initiative include critical areas like clinical excellence, evidence-based medicine, precision and personalised medicine, tech-enabled clinical practice and innovation, and ethics and morality in medical practice.
- To encourage its members to support social and cultural organisations in promoting better health awareness amongst the local communities. The purpose is to make the target audience aware of the critical need for preventive health practices, mental health and wellbeing, early detection of disease and disorders, and routine examinations and check-ups.



- Facilitate professional networks to develop academic and clinical initiatives for mutual knowledge sharing will help build a repository of clinical insights for the fraternity and promote holistic academia-industry conversations around key Clinical, Research, Academics, and Training initiatives.
- To offer support and encouragement to statutory and non-statutory institutions to further the aims of GAPIO. The underlying purpose is to widen the circle of GAPIO's influence for better global reach and impact.

Going forward, a new era of personalised medicine and targeted therapies is beckoning us from the mists of the future. By doing its best to bring about a transformation through a systemic change - from making communication skills integral to the medical curriculum to changing legacy mindsets to embrace innovation wilfully - GAPIO seeks to pave the way for establishing a thriving culture of patient-centric healthcare, undoubtedly the lifeblood of care and cure.

GAPIO is leaving no stone unturned to ensure the collaboration and cohesion of our bright minds. Their combined intellectual and technical prowess becomes vital to enable the Indian healthcare sector to move up the value chain of innovation, excellence, and sustainable growth.

To this effect, we are already in the process of institutionalising better protocols and parameters for ensuring patient safety, developing effective methods for reducing medical errors, making GAPIO membership truly global by providing its representation in every country where the Indian diaspora is present, increasing community awareness about non-communicable diseases and promoting good clinical practices aimed at wellness and wellbeing, and, providing organisational support to charity-driven programmes in India and other developing countries.