



# JIMSA

JOURNAL INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL SCIENCES ACADEMY

JAN. - MARCH 2006  
VOL. 19 NO. 1

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Inland	Rs.	500.00
Overseas	\$	200.00
Single copy	Rs.	150.00

## FROM EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Colleagues

Breast carcinoma is one of the commonest malignances in women with a very high mortality and morbidity if detected in late stages of the disease. In early stages, breast carcinoma is less aggressive with low incidence of metastasis and is potentially curable; hence early detection is crucial. An effective screening method has not yet been developed; self examination of breast and mamography have their own limitations. Estrogen is a crucial hormone; anti-estrogens are affective in reducing recurrence; chemotherapy has its own hazardous effects and should be replaced by hormone manipulation in future. The ideal goal should be prevention of breast cancer; dietary manipulation is an attractive idea as high fat in take is known to increase the chances; development of vaccine remains a remote possibility; gene therapy is another exciting field which needs to be explored. The enormous increase in our knowledge about breast cancer has unfortunately brought about only a relatively modest reduction in mortality. It is time that we review this common subject in detail so as to get acquainted with approaches to its early detection, newer diagnostic and therapeutic modalities.

Friends, I take pride in presenting to you this special issue 'Advances in Breast Cancer Management'. I am indeed grateful to **Dr. Chintamani**, a senior consultant surgeon at Safdarjung Hospital and Vardhman Mahavir Medical College, New Delhi, India, for pains taking efforts put in by him and his team members and several experts for their contribution to the special issue. The issue is well planned; scientific material is of high standard with good representative photographs/illustrations; latest developments in early diagnosis and treatment of carcinoma breast have been amply highlighted. I am indeed indebted to Dr. Chintamani for bringing out this excellent monogram.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all members of editorial/advisory boards, for their fruitful suggestions, cooperation and help rendered in the compilation of this issue. I am thankful to all the advertisers without whose help this publication would not have been possible.

P.D. Gulati

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