

EASL International Recognition Award Recipient 2015 Prof. Shiv Kumar Sarin

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Shiv Kumar Sarin was born in 1952 in Jaipur, the wonderful Pink City which is the capital of Rajasthan, India. He obtained his M.B.B.S. degree with seven gold medals (in 1974), his M.D. in General Medicine (in 1978) from Rajasthan University, and his Fellowship in Gastroenterology from the 'All India Institute of Medical Sciences' (known as AIIMS), in 1981. He then moved to the Department of Gastroenterology at Govind Ballabh (G.B.) Pant Hospital of University of Delhi in 1983. There he became successively; Associate Professor (1987), Professor (1991), Professor and Head (1997), Director Professor and Head of Department (2004). He is currently the Senior Professor and Head of the Department of Hepatology and Director, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi, India.

An important phase of his life was his transformation from Gastroenterologist to a 'Lab worker'. In the early days of his career, Dr. Sarin earned a fellowship from the Japanese Society for Promotion of Science, and worked with Professor Kunio Okuda at Chiba, Japan where he learned ultrasound Doppler and dog model of portal hypertension. Subsequently, he received the Fulbright Fellowship of NIH and worked with Professor Roberto J. Groszmann at the University of Yale, USA. He was the first to develop the portal hemodynamics in mice and reported the schistosomiasis model of portal hypertension [1].

Dr. Sarin has published 416 articles (PubMed, June 30, 2015) in important Journals such as New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, Annals of Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology, among others. For example, he published two important articles in the field of portal hypertension: one giving the first classification of gastric varices which is still used [2]; the other was the first to compare band ligation to propranolol in the context of primary prophylaxis of variceal haemorrhage [3]. Dr. Sarin was also a pioneer in the field of acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF) as he was the organizer of the first international Asian-Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) consensus conference on ACLF which resulted in a highly cited article [4]. He developed interesting approaches predicting prognosis of cirrhosis using serum ferritin levels [5], new therapies for ACLF with granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) [6] or preventing its development by a combination of G-CSF plus erythropoietin [7]. His indicators available on Web of Science™ are excellent: 8753



citations; 20 articles cited 100 times or more, h-index of 50. Moreover he edited 11 books and wrote 69 book chapters.

Dr. Sarin is an entrepreneur. In 2002, the Delhi Government decided to set up *de novo* an institute of excellence dedicated to liver and biliary diseases. Dr. Sarin was chosen as Project Director of this Institute called ILBS. On January 2010, the first building of the ILBS was opened; it was immediately dedicated to patient care. The ILBS has the following missions: (1) multidisciplinary patient care; (2) education: ILBS has been conferred the status of a Deemed-to be University by the Government of India and University Grants Commission and is the first dedicated 'Liver University', in the world; (3) research & development. Some figures related to the clinical activity last year at the ILBS are impressive: 5435 inpatients, 80 liver transplantations, 72,578 outpatients, 12,658 digestive endoscopies, 650 transjugular liver biopsies & HVPG. Inpatient management is given in 93 'traditional' beds and 49 ICU beds. The second building of the ILBS has been inaugurated in 2015.

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Editorial

Dr. Sarin is the founding Chief Editor of the Journal called 'Hepatology International'. He has served editorial assignments in some of the most prestigious Journals in the specialized fields. He is credited with mentoring more than 100 fellows in the field of Gastroenterology and more than two dozen students as guide for Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) courses in basic sciences.

Dr. Sarin has been the President of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology, Indian Association for the Study of the Liver, APASL, Vice President of International Association for Surgeons, Gastroenterologists and Oncologists. He is currently the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the APASL.

For his outstanding contributions in the field of basic sciences, he has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor at the Special Center for Molecular Medicine at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Honorary Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru Center for Advanced Research, Bangalore. Dr. Sarin has contributed to medical education in liver diseases, and has set up the first APASL School of Hepatology, in New Delhi, India. It has a summer and a winter session.

Dr. Sarin was nominated to lead the Medical Council of India as the Chairman of the Board of Governors, 2010–2011. He developed with other members of the Board the 'Vision 2015' document for Medical Education in India. He introduced far reaching reforms in medical education and health sciences. Dr. Sarin, with his intense dedication, vision and work, is a role model for the country. He has been bestowed with Padma

Bhushan (the third highest civilian Indian award) by the President of India.

For all these reasons Dr. Sarin received an EASL international recognition award in April 2015 on the occasion of the International Liver Congress that was held in Vienna, Austria.

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