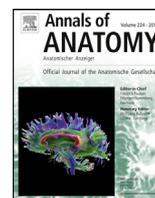


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## Editorial

### Focused practice of lacrimal drainage disorders



Modern medicine has witnessed evolution and establishment of numerous subspecialties and dacryology is one such recent addition to the list. Dacryology is the science of tears and its drainage through the lacrimal system into the nasal cavity. This branch is mostly practiced by Ophthalmologists (mainly the oculoplastic surgeons) and Otorhinolaryngologists. To advance science, a society “International Society of Dacryology”, originally referred as “Internationalis Societas Dacryologiae” was formed in 1982 at Lubbock in United States during an international tear film symposium. Subsequently, the society conducts regular conferences featuring advances in lacrimal sciences. With the rapid pace of developments in oculoplastic surgery pertaining to imaging, surgical techniques, education and research; lacrimal sciences got a parallel boost and soon became a subject of interest to numerous oculoplastic surgeons worldwide.

The global literature of the last three years demonstrates rapid advances in lacrimal drainage sciences including endoscopic techniques, instrumentation, three dimensional surgeries, evidence based approach to controversies, revisiting of fundamental anatomical and physiological concepts, electron microscopic understanding of lacrimal disorders, evolution of optical coherence tomography for proximal lacrimal system, enhanced understanding of surfactant expressions and hormonal profiling of the lacrimal drainage system in health and diseased states, to name just a few.

The need to practice this subspecialty to its full potential would require a larger dedicated space, structured education, research and

community health components. The establishment of the “Govindram Seksaria Institute of Dacryology”, the first of its kind on a global platform at the LV Prasad Eye Institute in India, is one such step. The aims should not be limited to catering for the simple and complex needs of patients of today, but to do more to deliver goods to the patients of tomorrow. Sharp focus on translational research and raising and nurturing the Clinician-Scientists of tomorrow, would go a long way in achieving these goals. While the commitment to excellence is unflinching, the effort to provide equitable care to every human being is equally unwavering. Do we have the audacity to reach out to the medicine of the future? The focused practice of lacrimal drainage disorders provides us with a unique opportunity to realize this dream.

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