

Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation

NOMINATION FOR SUN PHARMA RESEARCH AWARD

CLINICAL RESEARCH CATEGORY

It gives me a great pleasure in Nominating Prof. Mohammad Javed Ali, the renowned Dacryologist and Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Laureate, for the prestigious SUN PHARMA CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARD. I can broadly justify the reference under 6 points as follows.

1. He is a Clinician-Scientist (h-index = 39) who has concentrated all his efforts in the area of Dacryology, which is the study of biology of tear ducts and treatment of their disorders. He is a surgeon of repute globally and a well appreciated Senior level Alexander Von Humboldt scientist. He has described three new diseases of the lacrimal drainage pathways, named, and classified them and proposed diagnostic criteria and treatment modalities. He has this year described a new surgical technique called NCR, where coronary stents have been for the first time deployed into the tear ducts to manage their disorders. Several such efforts in the past have won him several international awards, named professorships in Singapore at the National University of Health and in Germany at the University of Nuremberg, and the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize by the Government of India.
2. He has thus pioneered in establishing Dacryology as a separate branch of medicine, integrating basic and clinical sciences together. This pioneering translational work has helped patients directly within India and abroad. The major impact of his fundamental work and surgical innovations has been in understanding and managing numerous congenital and acquired disorders of the lacrimal pathways.

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3. His major work in the last five years has been the discovery of surfactant proteins in the human lacrimal canaliculus (first part of the tear drainage ducts), first demonstration of an intrinsic cholinergic system in the lacrimal sac and the first ultrastructural insights into the etiopathogenesis of dacryolithiasis (stone formations in the tear ducts), decoding the etiopathogenesis of punctal stenosis, introduction of the concept of Lacriome and metagenomics work in patients with lacrimal drainage disorders.
4. He was the first mover globally in the intra-operative experience of path-breaking technology in the lacrimal surgeries (with continuously variable telescopes and 3D endoscopic lacrimal surgeries) and was hence the first to establish guidelines in the field for their use.
5. The extent of his research work can be summarized as 582 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters; 21 editorial board positions on major journals including one as the Editor-in-Chief of the journal, 'Seminars in Ophthalmology'; Associate editor for 'Survey of Ophthalmology (IF 6.9) and Ocular Surface (IF-6.4); 3 Textbooks; 346 conference presentations; 17 keynote addresses and 38 national and international awards, including the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Lester T Jones Award for outstanding contributions to the lacrimal sciences. Please see the attached curriculum vitae for details.
6. Recognition in the field for the work
 - 6.1 – Received the Merrill-Reeh Prize, from the American Academy of Ophthalmology for his research on punctal stenosis (narrowing of the entrance to tear ducts)
 - 6.2 – Offered and accepted professorships in Germany (from the University of Nuremberg) and Singapore (National University of Health) and visits them once a year.

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6.3 – Received the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize of India for his work in Dacryology in 2019.

6.4 – Received the Senior level Humboldt Research Award by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany

6.5 - Has been nominated for the Fellowship of the German Academy of Science (Leopoldina).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information.

Thank you.



Dr. Sayan Basu

Director of Research,

Dr. SAYAN BASU
Director of Research
Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation
L V Prasad Eye Institute
Road No.2, Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad-500 034, Telangana, India

