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OBSTETRICIANS & GYNAECOLOGISTS**

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Editor's choice

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High literacy rates, good information facilities, excellent health indices, inadequate resources, increasing clinical commitments and, unenlightened health administration is a recipe for litigation in medicine, particularly so in obstetrics. Today's obstetrician in Sri Lanka is no longer the relaxed clinician of two decades ago. However, responsible members of the profession are seemingly oblivious to this reality mainly due to their inability to evolve with times.

In this backdrop, it was natural for the editor to pick the excellent commentary by our own Dr. S. Navaneethan, now practicing in Australia as the leading article. I think it is imperative that every practitioner of obstetrics understands the principles and practice of risk management. We have to adopt the mechanism sooner than later to ensure our practice a more client and practitioner friendly one.

Treatment of sexual dysfunction is a need of many but not the responsibility of any, as far as our country is concerned. Many would feign that there is no such problem in this country, until probably they themselves are at the receiving end, and the few who realize the presence may not know how to manage the complex situation. It will be a welcome learning experience to read the comprehensive, yet very absorbing account by Dr. Kapila Ranasinghe, a lone ranger in this domain.

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Psychological disturbances in obstetrics is another area we like to avoid delving deeply into. Mostly so because our training program does not address the issue as an integral part of the obstetrician's day to day clinical practice needs. Nothing can be far from the truth. Childbirth cannot be called normal unless the mother is physically and emotionally sound after the experience. Sunera Fernando is a very promising psychiatrist, who understands the obstetrician's need in this respect, being a mother herself. This issue carries an excellent article on the subject, which covers all aspects of the clinical puzzle.

Editing a journal in a country where research and updating one's knowledge is not compelled by a mandatory continuing professional development program is not very gratifying. Still, it is very satisfying to be able to open doors to those who are self motivated to indulge in both these activities. I thank all those who have contributed and fervently wish more will move into the circle in time to come.

Hemantha Perera

Editor

Instructions to authors

Can be downloaded from the website of the
Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

<http://www.slcog.lk>