

The beginning

Sri Lanka Journal of Neurology, 2012, 1, 2



The formation of the Association of Srilankan Neurologists in 2007 is still fresh in our memories, though we have progressed rapidly. Our annual scientific sessions are of very high quality with many local and overseas participants and official delegations from the Association of British Neurologists every year. Our CME programmes are well attended and are popular with monthly lectures and case presentations. We conducted a MCQ course for trainees and it has received high praise. A journal of the Association is another milestone and this year we launch the *Sri Lanka Journal of Neurology*, the official publication of the Association. The idea was first mooted by Dr Bimsara Senanayake, the current President of the ASN, and he and the council have placed their confidence in me to carry out this special task as the Editor in Chief. The *Ceylon Medical Journal* (CMJ), the oldest and the most popular, regular journal in the country is published only quarterly. There are many other journals having started

finding it difficult to publish regularly due to lack of proper research articles. In a survey of articles published in the *CMJ* and recently in an article in *Practical Neurology*, it was shown that neurology case reports lead the way in journals and in grand rounds. *Practical Neurology* article also showed that the number of Neurology text books is far ahead in number when compared to other specialties. This fascination for Neurology led to the coining of a new word "Neurophilia".

The *Sri Lanka Journal of Neurology* (SLJN) is a forum for debate, education and entertainment for health professionals interested in Clinical Neurology, Neurosurgery and Neurosciences. The Journal is aimed at practicing Neurologists, Neurosurgeons and Neuroscientists with commitments in Sri Lanka and has relevance to all those working in the health sector. The Journal's prime responsibility is to the members of the Association of Srilankan Neurologists (ASN) and its objective is to promote good clinical practice and influence policy making across the medical world through publication of original research and peer reviewed articles on current issues and to foster responsible and balanced debate on issues that affect medicine and health care in Sri Lanka. Contributions to the *SLJN* will reflect its national and multidisciplinary readership and will include current thinking across a range of medical specialties and the Journal will assist the ASN in its continuing medical education programme. The success of the Journal and its continuation will depend solely on the commitment of the ASN membership, and the performance in the past few years is good evidence how the Sri Lankan Neurologists though small in number can rally round to advance their field to the benefit of the specialty and their patients.

I wish the *SLJN* long life.

Saman B Gunatilake

Editor in Chief