

Namaste!

Greetings from Prof. Dr Ali Irani, India.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the President, Vice President and Executive Board for considering my nomination for the General Board Member, World Physiotherapy 2023-27.

I, Dr Ali Irani, born and brought up in Mumbai, can speak English, Hindi, Persian, Marathi and Gujarati. I began studying Physiotherapy in 1978. I started my career as a researcher and physiotherapist at Bombay Hospital, Mumbai, in 1985. I then joined as the first physiotherapist for the Indian National cricket team to tour with any sports team in my country from 1987-97. Currently, after 38 years of being a part of this glorious profession, I continue to serve my work as

- HOD of Physiotherapy, Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Centre, Nanavati Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mumbai (1987- present).
- Chairperson – International Affairs, IAP
- Principal, NMIMS University

When I was a student, there were only 7 physiotherapy colleges, today we have 250 UG colleges, 87 PG colleges and 15 PhD colleges. I have seen the profession growing from 2 years' diploma course to 4 ½ years degree course. I was the first physiotherapist to be awarded the PHD from Bombay University, India.

I have always believed that physiotherapy is an integral part of the health care system from "Womb to Tomb" from antenatal exercises for pregnant mothers to Geriatrics.

My IAP journey began as the Vice president of CEC, IAP in 1988-89 grew to become the President, IAP 2008 and currently hold the position of Chairperson, International affairs, IAP. I am also the only Patron Member of IAP . My intention of joining the IAP committee was to protect our Indian physiotherapists' interests and provide opportunities for continual growth of our profession. However, development

requires vision and 'super' vision to ensure that the goals and plans don't just remain dreams, but become a reality. I thus believe that my post's power came with a huge responsibility of paving the way for a secure future. Since the day I entered the profession, I promised myself and all of you to leave no stone unturned in taking Physiotherapy to greater heights. Hard work always pays off, so it should come as no surprise to you'll that our efforts have not been in vain. My work led me to be elected as the president for IAP for 4 consecutive turns.

Teaching is my passion and I never miss an opportunity to teach or learn. I have always devoted time to attend the conference- national and international and educational programs. I have been invited as a delegate/speaker and the sole purpose of doing that is to meet the younger generation of physiotherapists, interact and learn from them, guide them and also understand problems faced that need to be solved.

I've travelled across the country, visiting various physiotherapy universities to understand the roots from which our profession is growing and to reduce the gap between the students, teaching staff, and society. To achieve this, I have honored all the invitations to college seminars, webinars, youth festivals, conferences and graduation ceremonies to have maximum interaction with the up-and-coming physiotherapists. I've also taken workshops for physiotherapists in Oman, Ajman-UAE, Iran and Afghanistan. I keep myself updated with the latest researches by attending all the national and most of World Physiotherapy congresses - Amsterdam, Singapore, Switzerland and the upcoming Dubai.

World Physiotherapy has a global reach and lives of millions are impacted directly and indirectly via the work done by them. Through the august platform of the World Physiotherapy

- 1. At global level I would like to reach out to CIS countries (specially Hindi and Persian speaking) to join World physiotherapy bring about uniformity in academics and professional opportunities for all without barriers.*
- 2. Utilize my resources to help the physiotherapy community become stronger with a voice of their own which drives them towards innovation and creativity.*

My best experiences on field is the vital role we play in Disaster management. As healthcare providers, we also have an enormous social responsibility of taking care of our community in dire circumstances entrusted to us. My team and myself have conducted the most challenging camps immediately post natural calamities earthquakes:

1. The Bhuj Camp in Gujarat
2. The Bam Camp in Iran
3. The Uri Camp in Kashmir
4. Camps to Iraq in 2015 and 2019 to serve post the Iraq War

As I appeal to be elected as the Board Member for World Physiotherapy, I'd like to mention qualities that help me stand out as a leader:

Responsibility- My responsibility is primarily to the commitment of maintaining and conducting our services to the highest professional & ethical standards.

Excellence- Achieving high performance and excellent results. My aim has always been to provide outstanding quality and service to our patients always.

Innovation- Innovation is a cornerstone of our success. Research and development are essential to our profession.

The following are a few of my Achievements.

1. "HITRA ORATION" Award in 1994 for achievements made in the field of Physiotherapy
2. Lifetime Achievement Award by IAP, 2004
3. Fellowship by Indian Association of Sports Medicine, 2005
4. Fellowship by IAP, 2005
5. Best Citizens of India Award 2011
6. Best Physiotherapist Award in India from Medscape in 2014.
7. Global Outreach Physiotherapy Award 2020
8. Guinness Book of World Records 2022 for fastest time to travel 7 continents.

My Affiliations:

- Patron Member, Life member of IAP
- Life Member of Indian Association of Sports Medicine
- Vice-President of Bombay District Sports Medicine Association
- Vice-President of Bombay Suburban Amateur Athletic Association
- Member, Gujarat Physiotherapy council
- Member, Maharashtra OT PT Council
- Life member, International Board of Medicine and Surgery

My educational qualification includes:

1. B.Physio, M.S. University, Baroda 1983
2. PhD in Anatomy of Body Movement and Dance, Bombay University 1989
3. PhD in Sports Medicine 1990
4. Doctor of Physiotherapy, NUMS, Spain 2015
5. Kinesiology and Energy, Kinergetics National Association, Australia 2019

"The world is moved along, not only by the mighty works of its heroes but by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker".

I appreciate your time in reviewing my application.

Yours obediently,



Prof. Dr Ali Irani PhD, PhD
Chairperson, International Affairs,
Indian Association of Physiotherapists