

Preface

We feel proud and privileged to host the 7th National Conference of Indian Society For Prenatal Diagnosis and Therapy in Ahmedabad. We are very much thankful to the Editors of *International Journal of Human Genetics* for their help in bringing out this supplementary issue of the journal with the abstracts of all plenary lectures of invited distinguished scientists and also free papers, posters to be presented by the young scientists of the country.

Though the Ahmedabad city is well known for its rich heritage, management institutes, Pharmaceutical and Textile industries, the conference on prenatal genetics and possible therapeutic intervention is a step towards our entry into the field of modern medicine and Genomic research. The conference is coinciding with the completion of the Human Genome projects and the 50th anniversary of the discovery of DNA's double helix by Francis Collins and James Watson. We are sure that the subject of molecular biology, which was considered to be a completely useless subject by the medical fraternity, will demonstrate the transformation of the laboratory science to the desk of clinical management at large and its noble application for the well being of the society and a healthy nation.

Last but not least we are deeply grateful to our scientists without whose contribution present issue would not have been possible.

Our profound thanks to the Research Council of various Government agencies like Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Medical Council of India (MCI) and Gujarat Council of Science and Technology (GUJCOST) and DSL, Abbott-Vysis for their generous financial help.

We hope the scientific matter published in the journal will be of great help to all of us in bridging the gap between scientists, clinicians, health professionals and policy makers for the better world of tomorrow.

Dr. Jayesh Sheth

Dr. Frenny Sheth
(Organizing Secretaries)

Dr. Bindu Shah