

Dear IAN members and neuroscience community,

World is facing the COVID-19 crisis that has attained a humongous magnitude, and so is our country. Thanks to the timely action taken by the government for social distancing, that the disease is still in stage 2 and so far its community spread has been contained. The governments, policy makers and society worldwide and in our country look towards the entire scientific and medical fraternity for finding rapid diagnostic tests, cures and managing the sick. The science departments - DST, CSIR, DBT, ICMR etc have asked proposals in this direction. We urge you to contribute your expertise and intellect. The Science Academies are also building National Taskforce and have requested their Fellows to register. We also urge all members and fellows of IAN who are also fellows of National Science Academies to register and come forward to help. Recent reports suggest that in addition to attacking the respiratory cells, the virus may also have effects on the nervous system (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jmv.25728>), this calls for the contribution of the neuroscience community in our fight against the novel corona virus.

Another important task is the safety of our members. We hope that all IAN members are safe, are maintaining physical distancing and following the government guidelines for the lock down. We request all members to rely only on reliable sources of information from sites such as CDC, WHO or <https://www.mygov.in/>

<https://www.mygov.in/covid-19/?cbps=1>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/events-as-they-happen>

In case if you decide to be a volunteer in the war against Covid-19 against our countrymen, you may register yourself - <https://self4society.mygov.in/volunteer/>

We wish that all our members, their families remain safe and successfully strive through this unprecedented global crisis.