

*San Bernardino County Medical Society
2010 Merlin A. Hendrickson, M.D. Award for
Outstanding Contribution to the Community*

presented to

Manmohan Nayyar, M.D., M.B.A., M.H.A.

This twenty-third day of June, in the year two thousand ten

Dr. Manmohan Nayyar has provided dedicated service to his patients, to his community, and to organized medicine. He has taken a leadership role in serving the High Desert communities for 23 years. He is deeply committed to mentoring many physicians moving into the area and promoting growth and improvement in patient care. He exemplifies the highest standards of physician conduct and leadership.

In 1990 Dr. Nayyar founded Choice Medical Group, and has served as President for twenty years. Through this group he has promoted and made possible an independent practice setting for many physicians who have remained in the community to serve the High Desert residents. His philosophy has driven the group to be part of the community, not only by recruiting physicians to fill the gap in this underserved area, but also by establishing charity programs focused on supporting non-profit entities providing medical services and education to these patients.

Under his leadership, Choice Medical Group founded and supports Today's Woman, a non-profit foundation celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. Today's Woman provides services, grants, and education to the community, and promotes breast cancer and heart disease awareness. The foundation has provided hundreds of free mammograms, breast exams, and other screenings to uninsured patients attending the yearly expo.

Dr. Nayyar is credited with saving the near bankrupt Victor Valley Community Hospital from closure. In 2004 Doctors Nayyar, Vijay Arora and Raman Poola formed Physicians Hospital Management, LLC, a collaboration of 32 local doctors who collected \$6 million in ten days to provide financial support to the hospital, allowing it to remain open by addressing immediate financial needs and providing the leadership to manage the facility so that it can remain open and continue serving the community. Victor Valley Community Hospital is vital to the community; it is the only hospital in the High Desert that welcomes all Medi-Cal, underinsured and uninsured patients.

He donated to St. Mary Medical Center's Foundation to start and support the expansion of the hospital's new wing in the mid-1990s. He has also generously donated to Victor Valley Community Hospital to purchase and upgrade equipment and support systems.

Dr. Nayyar has also contributed to the spiritual health of his High Desert community. He and colleagues Vir Nanda, Raman Poola, Rakesh Grover, and Rajeev Yelamanchili provided the financial means to build and open a Hindu temple in Apple Valley. This \$3 million project was initiated by his daughter, Megha, who as a high school student, collected funds in a decorated shoebox. The Krishna Valley Temple officially opened in January 2008, and since then has been providing spiritual comfort to many in the community while serving as a center to celebrate and explore interfaith activities. The Temple also gives the Indian-American community the opportunity to share its culture with mainstream Americans and to enrich children with the knowledge of Indian culture.

It is my sincere privilege to present the 2010 SBCMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community to Manmohan Nayyar, M.D., a physician of extraordinary vision, compassion and achievement.

Rodney Borger

Rodney Borger, M.D.
President

