National Epilepsy Programme

MA Aleem*

Sir,

I have read the supplement on epilepsy with great interest. In India more than 70% of the population living in rural area. Because of this and lack of awareness due to illiteracy the treatment gap for epilepsy is more in Indian population so it is better to have a National Epilepsy Programme “and the same can be implemented in the primary health care level as other National health programme in India.

Reference


Reply from Author

SV Khadilkar*

Sir,

I thank Dr. MA Aleem for his interest and remarks.

As has been mentioned by him and stated in my editorial, the treatment gap in epilepsy is alarming, particularly in rural India. The Epidemiology of this treatment gap has been well elucidated. A national program in this regard will undoubtedly be of help. Tripathi et al, in a recent publication, have amply justified a national epilepsy control programme based on the prevalence, burden of treatment gap, economic burden, mortality and above all stigma of epilepsy, still prevent in rural India. Authors proposed a strategic approach to launch the programme.

I hope that such a programme becomes a reality and help neurologists and physicians caring for patients with epilepsy in rural and urban India.

References