

Thiru M. Annaswamy, MD, MA, FAAPMR  
Chairman, Quality, Practice, Policy and Research Committee

Tell members a little bit about yourself.

**Your Practice**

I work in the PM&R Service at the Dallas VA Medical center in the North Texas VA Health Care System and am on faculty as a Professor in the Department of PM&R at UT Southwestern. My clinical interests—where I spend more than 75% of my time—are in spine, chronic pain, electrodiagnostic and neuromuscular medicine. I also help train students and trainees who rotate with us, and conduct research in applications of technology in rehabilitation in addition to the clinical research in the above topic areas.

**Your Life Outside of Work**

I enjoy spending time with my family including my wife (we will be celebrating 25 years of marriage in 2022), and two children (college sophomore son and high-school senior daughter), watching movies and TV shows and working out with them. I am an avid Boston sports junkie (Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics and Bruins), and Longhorns fan. I have also dabbled in community theater and Indian classical dance. I fantasize of one-day writing a coffee-table book on picturesque and famous capes of the world.

**What accomplishments/honors are you particularly proud of that you would like to share with members?**

The two honors I am most proud of to date are the Service Recognition awards from AAPM&R and AAP.

**What have you advanced in your local community outside of or in conjunction with your medical practice?**

I helped found and grow the PM&R spine clinic at our VA, through which I enjoy being able to serve our veterans and help contribute to make their lives a little less painful, and a little more functional.

**What special skills or unique attributes do you bring to the Board of Governors?**

I cut my teeth volunteering with AAPM&R in evidence-based medicine and quality and performance measurement. My background and experience in the domains of evidence, quality and outcome assessment informs my contributions to the discussions and deliberations of the Board so that we can better understand the indispensable, vital and essential “value” that we bring to healthcare and to the patients we serve. I will endeavor to continue to listen, learn and serve.

**What do you most look forward to in your service on the Board?**

I most look forward to listening to the rich and diverse wisdom and experience of the Board members and staff.

**What have we not asked you that you think members should know about you?**

I love the variety and breadth of PM&R, which I believe mirrors my life experiences and interests as well.