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Prof. Jagannathan's research interests are in clinical and pre-clinical cancer research using molecular imaging methods like magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and NMR Spectroscopy, metabolomics and biophysics. He is author or co-author of over 300 publications and 5 edited volumes. Currently, he is a member of the Editorial Boards of: (i) NMR Biomedicine (John Wiley); (ii) MAGMA (Springer); (iii) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (Elsevier); (iv) Magnetic Resonance Insights (Libertas Academica); and (v) Biomedical Spectroscopy & Imaging (IOS Press). Also he is the Associate Editor of Biophysical Reviews (Springer), an official journal of the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics (IUPAB).

Prof. Jagannathan is a Fellow of International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), USA. He is also a Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences (FASc, Bangalore); Fellow of National Science Academy (FNASc, Allahabad); Fellow of National Academy of Medical Sciences, India (FAMS), Fellow of Indian National Science Academy (FNA; INSA) and Fellow, Indian Science Congress (FISC). Currently Prof. Jagannathan is the Vice-President of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi.

Dr. Jagannathan serves/served as an expert member in many International and National medical and scientific organizations like in International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), USA; World Molecular Imaging Society (WMIS), USA and National Cancer Institute (NCI) of NIH, USA. He was also a member of the Executive Council of International Union of Pure & Applied Biophysics (IUPAB); and member of the Council of ICMRBS. He was the past President of Asian Biophysics Association (ABA) and past President of Indian Biophysical Society (IBS). Currently he is the Vice-President of National Magnetic Resonance Society of India.

He received the prestigious J. C. Bose National Research Fellowship of DST for outstanding contribution to science in 2015. Dr. Jagannathan also received the highly prestigious S. K. Mitra Birth Centenary Gold Medal Award for significant and lifetime contribution to the development of Science and Technology in the country of the Indian Science Congress Association on January 3, 2017 at Tirupati from the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Prof. Jagannathan is a recipient of Drs. Kunti & Om Prakash Oration Award for significant contribution in the field of biomedical sciences from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). He delivered the Achanta Lakshmipathi Oration of National Academy of Medical Sciences, India and the A V Modi Birth Centenary Lecture, Bombay College of Pharmacy, University of Mumbai.