

Fortis Hospital, Kalyan, Spreads Awareness on Tuberculosis through Street Play & Skits, on occasion of World TB Awareness Week

~ Building on to the year's theme for the World TB Awareness Week is "Unite to END TB" ~

Kalyan, March 30th, 2016: Fortis Hospital, Kalyan, united Kalyan-kars to spread awareness about Tuberculosis through street play and skits on the occasion of the ongoing World TB Awareness Week. The World TB Day, which falls on March 24th, is celebrated to build public awareness about Tuberculosis (TB). Today, TB remains an epidemic, especially in the developing world that cause death of nearly one-and-a half million people each year. The theme for this year's World TB Awareness Week is "Unite to END TB".

The doctors and nursing teams of Fortis Hospital, Kalyan took active participation in these street plays and skits which were held at the Out Patient Department (OPD) and In Patient Department (IPD) lobbies of the hospital. Through the Street Play, the residents of Kalyan were urged to get united to prevent and end the incidence of TB by observing simple measures like improving personal hygiene, consume nutritional diet and maintaining healthy lifestyle.

Talking on the occasion, **Dr Sandya Kulkarni, Chest Physician** at Fortis Hospital, Kalyan, said, *"The incidence of TB has witnessed a spike in Maharashtra and remains a major health concern. Earlier, there has been a sharp increase in the incidence of Drug-Resistant TB. Predominantly, there are two types of TBs that are observed in patients of the country. There is a great deal of misconception that remains around TB among common people. It is important that people know about TB and that it is curable. The Standard TB that responds to first-line medicines and takes up to 6-9 months to heal. The other type is the Drug-Resistant TB, which requires special medicines and takes longer duration of about 24-27 months to get treated."*

Adding further on the importance of completing one's medicine **Dr Sandya Kulkarni, Chest Physiciat** Fortis Hospital, Kalyan added, *"It is important that patients don't stop medicines after they start feeling better. For best possible result, it is always advised that the patient should complete the course of treatment. It is also important that people should test for TB if symptoms like coughing continuously for more than two weeks."*

Dr Sameer Kulkarni, Facility Director, Fortis Hospital, Kalyan said, *"As a responsible healthcare provider, it was our duty to raise awareness about TB among Kalyan-kars. The wonderful street plays and skits by our doctors and nursing team put forth messages on TB awareness and measures that needs to be taken to prevent. We continue to engage with local NGOs in order to create awareness about TB in Kalyan."*

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For more information, please contact:

Fortis Healthcare:

Priya Bendre - 77385 70894

priya.bendre@fortishealthcare.com