

## Completely Recuperated, 5<sup>th</sup> Heart Transplant Patient Walks Home

*~ Treated for Dilated Cardiomyopathy, 58yr old recipient is ready to go back to his daily routine ~*

**Mulund, Mumbai, Jan 5th 2016:** City's 5th successful heart transplant patient walks home today after almost a month's stay at Fortis Hospital, Mulund, where the transplant surgery was conducted. Operated on December 19th, the 58yr recipient, suffering from Dilated Cardiomyopathy, received the donor heart from 45yr old brain dead patient admitted at Mahavir Hospital in Surat, Gujarat; marking city's first successful interstate transplant.

Journey of the donor heart began from Mahavir Hospital, Surat, where the donor's family consented to save a precious life; immediately, the Airport and Traffic Authorities came together to swiftly lay out a Green Corridor between Surat and Mumbai. Roadmap and flight map was immediately put in place and the donor heart left Mahavir Hospital at 10.36pm reaching Surat Airport at 10.45pm. Upon being transferred into a chartered flight that took off at 10.50pm, the donor heart landed on Mumbai Airport at 11.43pm. The Green Corridor laid out from Domestic Airport(Gate No. 8) to Military Road - Santacruz Chembur Link Road - Chedda Nagar to Eastern Express Highway - Airoli Junction and finally to Fortis Hospital, Mulund, helped the heart reach Fortis Hospital Mulund at 12.08am. The preserved heart reached the OT in a record time of 1hr 32mins covering 269kms across state lines, reaching straight into the waiting hands of Dr Sanjeev Jadhav, CVTS Surgeon, Fortis Hospital, Mulund, who had the recipient prepared and ready to receive the donor heart. Conducted by Dr Anvay Mulay and Dr Sanjeev Jadhav, the surgery concluded at 3.45am and the patient was moved to the ICU by 5am.

An emotional Mr Rajan Desai said, "I'm indebted to Dr Mulay and his team at Fortis Hospital, Mulund, they've given me a new lease of life. My family and Dr Mulay stood by me and were strong rays of hope throughout my hospital stay. I'm very excited to go home now".

Recounting her husband's ordeal, wife Mrs Shraddha Desai said, "In the past four years, his condition was deteriorating and due to low immunity, he was not capable of undergoing a surgery. The previous successful surgeries at Fortis Hospital, Mulund, gave us hope and we got him admitted immediately. Dr Anvay Mulay has given my husband a second chance at life and we couldn't be happier. He is very excited to go home now. We will do my best to further the cause of organ donation, it saved my husbands life and it can save many more".

**Dr S Narayani, Zonal Director, Fortis Hospital, Mulund,** said, "I salute the doctors, medical teams, Medical Social Workers at both hospitals, ZTCC, Traffic & Police authorities and Airport authorities who, in a textbook example of teamwork made the heart transplant possible. They worked tirelessly,

so the transplant could be successful. With this golden testimony of medical excellence, more awareness is being created in the city”.



Talking about the patient’s progress, conducting surgeon **Dr Anvay Mulay, Head of Cardiac Transplant Team, Fortis Hospital, Mulund**, said, “We are happy to see Mr Desai back on his feet, ready to go home. My team, with the help of ZTCC, Traffic & Airport authorities, Medical Social Workers and doctors at both the hospitals worked in perfect synchronization to make this transplant a success. We hope that many more are encouraged by his story and come forth to join the case of organ donation”.

With the discharge of the patient, the family is being extensively educated on care giving at home. It would now be very important to avoid infections so there is progressive recovery and the patient steadily moves back to his routine life.

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For more information, please contact:

**Fortis Healthcare:**

**Priya Bendre - 77385 70894**

[priya.bendre@fortishealthcare.com](mailto:priya.bendre@fortishealthcare.com)