

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Publication

Fortis Escorts Heart Institute achieves yet another milestone through a stellar performance in composite graft replacement of the total aortic valve

- *63 year old Zimbabwe patient gets a new lease of life after uncertainty on discovery of her disease*
- *Total arch of aorta is replaced along with aortic root, ascending aorta with re-implantation of the coronary arteries into the graft*

March 14th, 2016, New Delhi: Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI) achieved yet another milestone in clinical excellence through a complex graft replacement of total aortic valve on a 63 year old Zimbabwean national. The complex surgery was conducted by **Dr Yugal Kishore Mishra, Director, Cardiac Surgery, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI).**

Mary Chawasemd was suffering from repeated episodes of chest pain over the last six months. Local doctors in Zimbabwe were unable to diagnose her condition accurately and she approached doctors in FEHI for the specialized care she could receive here. Diagnosis revealed that she was suffering from a leaking of aortic valve with ballooning of aorta and her condition had been undetected over the last six months.

Further evaluation by Dr Mishra also revealed that she was having dilated ascending aorta along with moderate aortic regurgitation. The patient was hypertensive and in instances when her blood pressure shot up the valve which had multiple tears would start bleeding from the walls of the aorta. It is important to note that the aorta has branches going into the brain and supplies blood to the brain. With the aorta ruptured concurrently with dilation and swelling, there was severe leakage of the aorta and this would have resulted in instant death. Replacement of the aorta and the valve were immediately required to save the patient's life.

Dr. Yugal Mishra, **Cardiac Surgery, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute** said, *"The condition she came in was bad and required urgent surgical intervention. The swelling in her body, her inability to walk or eat indicated that her condition was deteriorating. The scan subsequently revealed her leaking aortic valve and this determined that the next step in her treatment had to be urgently conducted. The challenges of this surgical procedure were duly met and she is back on her feet."*

The surgery involved repairing the tears in the aorta, plugging the leakage of the valve and reconstruction of the entire aortic passage to facilitate the easy flow of blood to the brain and other parts of the body.

Dr. Ashok Seth, Chairman, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute said, *“Dilatation and dissection of descending aorta is a rare life threatening condition as all the major branches of the brain and arm arise from it. Replacement of the whole aorta and all its branches is a very rare highly advanced surgery and is the only life saving surgery of greater complexity to recreate an artificial aorta and its branches. Such rare surgeries required close coordination between the team to achieve this commendable outcome.”*

About Fortis Escorts Heart Institute

Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI), Delhi, a pioneer and centre of excellence in cardiac care, is celebrating 25 years of path-breaking work and service to the numerous heart patients, who have benefitted from treatment, at this outstanding facility. Armed with clinical expertise and cutting-edge medical technology, the hospital has set enviable benchmarks in Cardiac Bypass Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Interventional Cardiology, Non-invasive Cardiology, Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery. Till date, FEHI has successfully completed over 1,72,000 Coronary Angiographies, over 90,000 Cardiac Surgeries and almost 52,000 Coronary Angioplasties, in addition to several life-saving procedures. The hospital also performed India’s first Trans Catheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) and Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold (BVS); Asia Pacific’s first Directional Atherectomy, Angioscopy, Drug Eluting Stenting, etc. Over the years, FEHI has cloned a Heart Care Network of 19 hospitals and Heart Command Centers in India and abroad. It has also launched the revolutionary e-ICU program, enabling remote and timely access to critical care. Fortis Escorts Heart Institute has won numerous awards and accolades, the most recent among them being the ‘Best Cardiology Hospital’ at the ICICI Lombard & CNBC TV18 India Healthcare Awards for 2012, 2013 and the No 1. Ranking in the Private Cardiac category Hospital by The Week Nielson Best Hospitals Survey, 2014 and 2015.

About Fortis Healthcare Limited

Fortis Healthcare Limited is a leading integrated healthcare delivery service provider in India. The healthcare verticals of the company primarily comprise hospitals, diagnostics and day care specialty facilities. The company operates its healthcare delivery services in India, Dubai, Mauritius and Sri Lanka with 54 healthcare facilities (including projects under development), approximately 10,000 potential beds and 306 diagnostic centres. In a global study of the 30 most technologically advanced hospitals in the world, its flagship, the Fortis Memorial Research Institute’ (FMRI), was ranked No.2, by ‘topmastersinhealthcare.com, and placed ahead of many other outstanding medical institutions in the world.

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