

Fortis launches Bike Ambulances to health map marathon

Kolkata, Dec 21: In a path breaking effort Fortis Hospitals on Sunday became the first hospital to deploy Bike Ambulances for the 25 km marathon held here. Bike Ambulance is an entirely new concept to this part of the country and has not been tried to this scale for any sports event in India.

"This was one of its kind efforts taken by Fortis to ensure that all participants in the marathon were safe and injury free. The bike ambulance was focused to attend the amateurs mostly along with the professional," said Ms Richa S Debgupta, Zonal Director, Fortis Hospitals.

Taking a break from tradition, Fortis arranged for six bike ambulances for the marathon along with an ICU prepared base camp and six medical camps at different points along the route.

"The bike ambulances had a rider with a doctor riding pillion. The bikes had complete first aid kit and the doctors were trained in emergency medicine with BLS and ACLS certification and equipped to handle an eventuality of cardiac problems in addition to the factors of sports injury," said Dr Ashish Nandi, head Emergency Medicine, Fortis Hospitals.

The use of bike ambulance meant several advantages:

1. Minimal wastage of time significantly improving chances of survival in case of cardiac emergency.
2. Swift mobility and communication with nearest medical camp.
3. Easy coordination with the three ambulances in place at strategic locations.

In addition, Fortis had tied up with the super specialty hospitals along the route to ensure that the patients could be ferried to the nearest healthcare in case of any emergency.

