

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Publication

First at Night Green Corridor helps transport live heart in 25 minutes from Gurgaon to Delhi

- *24-year-old donor to save four lives and gives sight to two*

Gurgaon, February 5, 2016: In its continuing endeavor to promote organ donation and save lives, a **Green Corridor** was set up for the first time at night between Fortis Memorial Research Institute (FMRI) in Gurgaon and the Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI) Delhi. This was made possible with the cooperation and assistance from the Haryana and Delhi Police and the donor heart was transported to its destination in a matter of just 25 minutes.

The **32-km** journey started at 1:54 AM on Friday morning. It took just **25 minutes & 40 seconds** after the live heart was retrieved from a 24-year-old brain dead patient. This is the first Green Corridor for Fortis for this year in the city created seamlessly.

This becomes the **fourth Green Corridor** created from FMRI to FEHI and AIIMS and the **fifth donation facilitated by** FMRI since the beginning of last year. The effort was driven by the **Fortis Organ Retrieval and Transplant (FORT)** initiative under the leadership of **Dr Avnish Seth**.

The donor, a young man was brought to the FMRI on January, 30, suffered stroke. Despite the best efforts of our doctors, the patient could not be revived and was declared brain dead by the internal medical committee on Thursday. The family was counseled and they agreed to take this noble and inspiring step to donate their young son's organs to save the lives of others.

His heart was transplanted in a 44-year-old man from Meerut admitted to the Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI). At the FMRI itself, his liver and the left kidney were transplanted in a 53-year-old man and a 39-year-old woman, respectively. The donor's right kidney was sent to the AIIMS, Where it was implanted in a patient who has been waiting for a long time for this

act of grace. His corneas were sent to Nirmaya Eye Bank in Gurgaon. Surgeons along with their teams at FMRI & FEHI worked relentlessly in tandem through the night to harvest and transplant the retrieved organs.

“It is heartening to note the positive change happening in our country towards organ donation. More and more people are saying yes to organ donation after the brain death of their loved ones, thus helping to save the lives of individuals unknown to them. This is the 28th Organ donation within the Fortis network over the last three years and more than 100 lives have been saved,” reiterated **Dr Avnish Seth, Director, FORT.**

“It has been our constant endeavor to make a difference in this sector and though we have a long way to go, we have been able to spread awareness amongst people. FMRI has emerged as the only hospital across the state to carry out regular cadaveric donations, because of the expertise we have here. This has been made possible since we receive uncompromised support from the police departments who are responsive and understand the requirement of such Green Corridors, irrespective of the time of the day or at night, as in this case,” said **Jasdeep Singh, Zonal Director, FMRI.**

According to **Dr Anil Behl, Medical Director, FMRI,** *“If there is robust mechanism to transport organs through drones, the travel time for transporting these organs can be cut further. Drones could be the future of green corridors and brain dead donations with the ever-increasing traffic concerns in the city and no alternative options for organ banking.”*

In brain death, damage occurs to the brain because of stroke or head injury or an illness. However, the heart continues to beat for a few hours or days and the vital blood supply to the organs are maintained. Once the diagnosis of brain death is confirmed by the doctors and the family consents to a donation, organs like kidneys, liver, heart, lungs, small intestine and pancreas can be retrieved and transplanted into needy recipients.

About Fortis Memorial Research Institute

Fortis Memorial Research Institute is the flagship hospital of Fortis Healthcare Limited. It is a multi-specialty, quaternary care hospital with a comprehensive team of clinicians and patient care programmes, supported by advanced technology and medical research solutions. Set on a spacious campus with a potential bed capacity of 1,000 beds, this ultra-modern facility utilises and showcases some of the latest technologies in use in

world class health care. Some of the milestone technologies at the hospital include amongst the first pilot project for precision Radio-surgery in the world, integrated operating and procedure rooms, digitized critical care cubicles, advanced Cath-labs, transplant rooms, endoscopy suites, private birthing centres, a state-of-the-art radiation wing and a stem cell lab to name a few facilities. A range of thoughtful services and health facilities for patients and their attending family include several Art 'n' Health programmes to recuperate, a mini theatre to de-stress, retail therapy outlets for immediate needs and a food court providing a choice of dining options to replenish energies.

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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