



Fortis Hospital, Anandapur observes “World Lung Cancer Day 2016: Honor, Unite, Inspire”

- *World Lung Cancer Day commemorates and supports those afflicted by lung cancer*
- *FORTIS salutes the lung cancer survivors – It’s all about **HOPE** from Illness to Wellness*

Kolkata, August 1, 2016 – World Lung Cancer Day 2016 highlights the risk factors to be aware of and the necessity to be aware of to detect Lung Cancer at the early stages. Smoking is the single most important cause of Lung Cancer; other risk factors include environment and genetics. Environmental exposure to radon, asbestos, arsenic, beryllium and uranium have all been linked to lung cancer. The risk of lung cancer also increases with a history of cancer in another part of the body, age, radiation to the chest area and lung diseases like COPD.

In India, lung cancer constitutes 6.9 per cent of all new cancer cases and 9.3 per cent of all cancer related deaths in both sexes, it is the commonest cancer and cause of cancer related mortality in men, with the highest reported incidences from Mizoram in both males and females (Age adjusted rate 28.3 and 28.7 per 100,000 population in males and females, respectively). The time trends of lung cancer show a significant rise in Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai and Bengaluru in both sexes.

“Lung cancer in the earlier days was considered to be uncommon, but now it has reached epidemic proportions. This is a leading cause of cancer death in developed countries and is rising at alarming rates in lower and middle income countries. Fortis is committed to deliver apt, affordable and accessible and multidisciplinary care and support to every individual who comes to our hospital for Lung Cancer treatment or screening or for evaluation. As part of this ongoing effort we have launched the **Lung Cancer Awareness and Anti-Cancer Clinic** today,” said **Mr. Samir Singh, Zonal Director, Fortis Healthcare Ltd. (East)**

“The face of, lung cancer is changing. It is the story from nihilism to HOPE and opportunity. This is because the mindsets are changing. The change of mindset has come from technologies and good science. This has given us better understanding of the diseases, game changing treatment which has lead to precision medicine for lung cancer which has made treatment personalised, predictive participatory (from patients end and multidisciplinary), and preventive. The treatment has become more holistic. It is basically a journey for and from – lung cancer illness to lung wellness,” said **Dr. Gouri Shankar Bhattacharya, Consultant Medical Oncology, Fortis Hospital, Anandapur** and Committee Member of **International Association for Study of Lung Cancer** and **Member of the Global Cancer Policy Committee (WHO)**.

According to **Dr. Raja Dhar, Consultant Interventional Pulmonology, Fortis Hospital, Anandapur** , “Lung cancer typically does not cause any specific signs and symptoms in its initial stages. The patients may just have general symptoms of feeling unwell. In patients with lung cancer, the symptoms arise only in relative advanced stages. The common symptoms include persistent cough that gets worse despite usual treatment, shortness of breath, coughing up phlegm (sputum) with traces of blood in it, coughing up frank blood, wheezing, an ache or pain in the chest or shoulder, unexplained weight loss, feeling of extreme tiredness and loss of appetite. Thus patients who are in the high risk group are advised lung cancer screening for early detection and cure.”

“Gone are the days when respiratory patient was treated based on chest x-ray. Now days, with increasing awareness amongst health care personnel and public in general, early use of advanced scanning methods like CT scan, MRI and PET scan have changed the scenario leading to early attention of cancer and hence a better a opportunity for cure of the disease is achieved,” said **Dr. Gunjan Gupta, Consultant Radiology, Fortis Hospital, Anandapur**.

“The gatekeepers of lung cancer are surgeons (thoracic). The primary modulus of treatment of early lung cancer is surgery followed by other treatments. The role of surgeon is in diagnosis, staging , treatment and palliation. Surgical techniques have evolved and trend is towards precision surgery,” said **Dr. K M Mandana Senior Consultant Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgery, Fortis Hospital, Anandapur**.

“The exact diagnosis of Lung cancer, its staging can be made by proper imaging, like CT, PET CT and MR. These are the best modalities for follow up of the disease, and to see for the progression and regression

of pathology. Guided Biopsies from the accessible lesions are the best modality for establishing the exact diagnosis, the type and the help in further management. Otherwise interventional technique likely drainages, bronchial stenting can help in improving the life quality of patient,” said **Dr. Salim Parvez, Co-ordinator & Consultant Radiology, Fortis Hospital, Anandapur.**

“Management and treatment of lung cancer is dependent on tissue diagnosis. It may be cytopathology or histopathology. Though cytopathology is able to provide diagnosis in most of the cases, histopathology or biopsy along with molecular subtyping is the final say. We are well equipped to diagnose lung cancer in terms of expertise, technical aspect and infrastructurally,” said **Dr. Sraboni Chakraborti, Regional Head, Fortis SRL Lab (West Bengal).**

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. Currently, the company operates its healthcare delivery services in India, Singapore, Dubai, Mauritius and Sri Lanka with 55 healthcare facilities (including projects under development), approximately 10,000 potential beds and 270 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.

For more information, please contact:

Deborshi Saha

Fortis Hospital, Kolkata

PR and Communications

9831957376

deborshi.saha@fortishealthcare.com