

18-year-old Rizwan from Sialkot in Pakistan hopes to be able to walk free like his twin

A CA aspirant, the victim of cerebral palsy responds positively to controlled drug infusion through a sophisticated programmable external device at Fortis Hospital Mohali

Mohali, January 2, 2016: Eighteen-year-old Rizwan Nasrullah from **Sialkot in Pakistan** is not quite like his twin brother back home. Cerebral Palsy since birth has rendered his leg muscles weak, making him unable to stand straight or walk without support. His twin is, however, hale and hearty and Rizwan is determined to match his brother at every step in life. Ever since he grew up enough to be able to think independently, he has had a burning desire to live life normally, but lack of an effective medical remedy for his ailment in Pakistan has been frustrating the youth so far.

Aspiring to be a Chartered Accountant, Rizwan, accompanied by his landlord father Nasrullah Khan, has for the first time in his life shown signs of hope and confidence that he will be able to stand and walk on his own, through with the help of drugs, which have been infused into his body with programmed external device for life.

On his second visit to Fortis Hospital Mohali and under medical consultation of **Dr. Ashis Pathak, Director – Neurosurgery**, the young man has responded very positively to a trial of programmed infusion of drugs into his body with the help of the sophisticated Baclofen Pump, because of which there has been a remarkable easing of stiffness in his legs and he has for the first time in his life been able to stand and gingerly walk about on his own.

As if the delight of being able to stand on his feet without external support was not enough, he was pleasantly surprised to receive a visitor on New Year's eve. The visitor was none other than the CEO of Fortis Healthcare Ltd, Mr Bhavdeep Singh, who while presenting him a New Year greeting card wished him a speedy recovery to a normal life ahead. Bhavdeep, accompanied by COO – Region North East Ashish Bhatia, and Facility Director Abhijit Singh, motivated him to steel up his resolve to get better and fulfil his dream of becoming a CA.

Dr Pathak said Rizwan's father Nasr-ullah Khan, a landlord, has been apprised of the issues involved in getting a Baclofen Pump implant, and of subsequent replenishment of the drugs to be infused, and now the family has to take a final call. He expressed confidence that with this treatment, Rizwan can live a normal life and compete with his twin brother in most activities.

About Fortis Hospital Mohali

Fortis Hospital Mohali is a 355 bed, JCI and NABH-certified, multispecialty care hospital. The hospital commenced operations in 2001, and is today considered one of the most recognized cardiac hospitals of India. Located in the heart of Punjab over 8.22 acres, the tertiary hospital has a comprehensive team of clinicians delivering world-class patient care, supported by advanced technology. In July 2014, Fortis Hospital Mohali added the 55-bed 'Fortis Cancer Institute' on its premises to offer the latest and most comprehensive Medical, Surgical and Radiation Therapy modalities.

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