

City's 1st Successful Interstate Pediatric Cardiac Heart Transplant Conducted at Fortis Hospital, Mulund

~ Donor heart transported from Indore, Madhya Pradesh to Mumbai, Maharashtra in 1hr 58mins ~

~ ZTCC Mumbai, Fortis Hospital, Mulund, Choitaram Hospital, Indore and NGO MOHAN Foundation join hands to open transplant channel between Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra

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Mulund, Mumbai, Jan 3rd 2015: Transplant channel bridged between Indore and Mumbai, today, spelt yet another story of success as it gave a little girl, waitlisted at Fortis Hospital, Mulund, a new lease of life. Team of doctors at Fortis Hospital, Mulund conducted a successful heart transplant surgery on a 16yr old female recipient, from Vikhroli, suffering from Dilated Cardiomyopathy; who received the donor heart from a 20yr old female who had suffered a head injury. Retrieved by Dr Anvay Mulay, Head of Cardiac Transplant Team, Fortis Hospital, Mulund, from the donor at Choitaram Hospital, Indore, the donor heart was transported to the hospital at Mumbai in 1hr 58mins covering 546kms.

Commencing its journey from MGM Medical College and Hospital, Indore, where the patient was declared brain dead and the family consented for donation of Heart and Liver; the donor was then moved to Choitaram Hospital, Indore for evaluation and assessment. With due consent being taken, Dr Anvay Mulay rushed from Mumbai to Choitaram Hospital, to harvest the donor heart which left for its journey to the city at 7.11am, while the Liver was sent for a deserving recipient at Delhi. The donor heart reached Indore Airport at 7.24am and was immediately moved into an IndiGo commercial flight which took off at 7.41am and landed at Mumbai's Domestic Airport at 8.49am. An ambulance, which was kept on standby for swift transfer of the donor heart, left the airport at 8.51am and reached Fortis Hospital, Mulund at 9.07am, following the Green Corridor route laid out from Domestic Airport(Gate No. 8) to Military Road - Santacruz Chembur Link Road - Chedda Nagar to Eastern Express Highway - Airoli Junction and finally to Fortis Hospital, Mulund. The donor heart was moved straight to the OT at 9.08am into the waiting hands of conducting surgeon Dr Vijay Agarwal, Head of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at Fortis Hospital, Mulund.

Proudly talking about the successful transplant, **Dr S. Narayani, Zonal Director, Fortis Hospital, Mulund**, said, "Yet another interstate transplant has saved a life, this time of a young one, the 1st patient in the Placard category. This transplant wouldn't have been possible without the support of ZTCC Mumbai, Airport & Traffic Authorities at both cities, IndiGo Airlines, Medical Social Workers and Medical Teams at all three hospitals and Hon. Sanjay Dubey IAS, District Commissioner, Indore who pulled off this mammoth task. Media have been instrumental in helping us drive the case. The transplant coordination link now grows from inside the hospital, reaching the community and larger stakeholders across the country. Increased awareness about the cause and sensitivity towards the rapid response required in transportation of organs will help drive a robust heart transplant programme, working with all stakeholders in clockwork like precision".

Dr Anvay Mulay, Head of Cardiac Transplant Team, Fortis Hospital, Mulund, who conducted the previous successful heart transplants and has been working passionately and tirelessly for the case of organ donation, said, “It is heartening to see that awareness about the case is being steadily built”.

Conducting surgeon **Dr Vijay Agarwal, Head of Paediatric Cardiac Surgery, Fortis Hospital, Mulund,** said, “This interstate transplant is indeed a breakthrough; with the channel opening up for PaedCard heart transplant surgeries, these little angels see a ray of hope. This success story will help young patients suffering from end-stage organ failure. The surgery has been successfully concluded; the patient is now stable and will be kept under observation for the next 48-72 hours”.

Dr Sujata Patwardhan, General Secretary, ZTCC Mumbai, said, “We hope that this interstate transplant brings in more awareness about the issue and the number of donations and transplants in the city go up. The list of patients with end-stage organ failure is increasing and we hope that we steadily progress towards bridging the gap. This successful heart transplant surgery is a golden example of teamwork beyond boundaries”.

This interstate transplant was made possible with support from Hon. Sanjay Dubey IAS, District Commissioner, Indore, Col. Abhay Vitekar(GVK), Abhijit Suryawanshi & Muazzam Bhajivi(Airport Coordinators, GVK), API Vikas Keshav Tawde(Police Control Room, Mumbai), PSI Dattatray Rane(Sahar Traffic Lead, Mumbai), NGO Muskaan who helped counsel the donors family and NGO MOHAN Foundation who joined hands to coordinate the transplant.

Fortis Hospital, Mulund has earned the distinction of being the only hospital in the state to conduct successful heart transplant surgeries successively. With this progressive development, patients in need of medical aid can now seek immediate help, not just from within the city but across state lines as well. With the hospital leading and conducting programmes for Doctors, Nursing Home staff, Intensivists and Medical Social Workers to create awareness about the importance of organ donation, the impact will positively drive organ donation on a larger scale. With this intercity transplant, a healthy transplant channel has been built between Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, going beyond state lines, more such alliances can help build a robust Heart Transplant Programme.

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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, Dubai, Mauritius and Sri Lanka with 54 healthcare facilities (including projects under development), approximately 10,000 potential beds and 306 diagnostic centres.

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