



## **FORTIS MALAR SUCCESSFULLY ORGANISES THE "ADVANCED HEART FAILURE AND MECHANICAL ASSIST MEET 2013"**

*First International conference in India to discuss Heart failure, latest medical technology and the future of cardiac care in India*

**Chennai April 01, 2013: Fortis Malar Hospital** organised India's first "**Advanced Heart Failure And Mechanical Assist Meet 2013**" in Chennai recently. Cardiac surgeons from around the world gathered at IIT Madras on March 30 & 31, 2013 to address the issue of Heart Failure in the context of the Indian subcontinent. Recognised by the Medical Council of India (MCI), the forum served as a platform to discuss the latest in technology such as new heart pumps like the *Incor Berlin Heart*, *Heartware* and the *Heartmate II* as well as assist devices of the future such as the *Heartmate III*.

Speakers at the the two day sessions included a team of Fortis Malar doctors – Dr. K.R. Balakrishnan (Director - Cardiac Sciences), Dr. Ravi Kumar (Senior Consultant Interventional Cardiologist), Dr. Suresh Rao (Head of Cardiac Anaesthesia & Cardiac Critical Care) and Dr. Nandkishore Kapadia (Senior Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon) as well as renowned international doctors – Dr. Colleen Gruenwald (Director of Cardiovascular Perfusion Services), Dr. Christof Schmid (Adjunct Professor & Director of Heart Failure Program and Cardiovascular Surgery at University of Regensburg Germany), Dr. James W. Long (Director of INTEGRIS Advanced Cardiac Care & Medical Director of INTEGRIS Nazih Zuhdi Transplant Institute), Oren Malkin ( Head of PulseCath) and Dr. Valluvan Jeevanandam (Professor of Surgery, Chief Cardiac & Thoracic Surgery, University of Chicago) each bringing a distinct area of expertise to the table.

Speaking about the first of its kind conclave organized by Fortis Malar Hospital, Dr. K.R. Balakrishnan, Head of Cardiac Sciences, Fortis Malar Hospital, said "***This medical meet proved to be a mutually enriching experience as it provided an opportunity to discuss our experience learn from the experience of the senior cardiologists from other countries.***

***Important topics such as External RVAD using a Pulmonary Cannula, which is rarely used in India, challenges for the Heart transplant scene in India as well as newer immunisuppression protocols, new Ecmo programs for Hospitals, future clinical applications of Cardiomyocyte culture on Biogel platform, Bone marrow stem cells for Heart function recovery, etc. were discussed. We look forward to organize more such conferences in the future.***



With diverse and vast experience in their respective fields, the doctors shared complex real life cases in India and abroad.

Since heart failure continues to be a major cause of death in India; the conclave aimed to spread awareness amongst the Indian medical fraternity on current and futuristic innovations in medical technology to treat heart failure and the means to make it a viable mode of treatment to the average Indian. This sharing of knowledge is aimed at encouraging hospitals across the country to train and provide the latest treatment for patients, reduce the cost for the common man thereby improving accessibility to the best treatment.

With several accomplishments in their repertoire including the maximum number of successful ECMO procedures in the country and the first Heartmate II LVAD surgery, Fortis Malar Hospital has taken the lead in making India the focal point for *Destination Therapy* for severe heart failure patients. in Asia.

#### **About Fortis Malar Hospitals Ltd (erstwhile Malar Hospitals Ltd)**

Fortis Malar Hospitals Ltd is established as one of the largest corporate hospitals in Chennai providing quality super specialty health care services. Fortis Malar Hospitals, with 180 beds, focuses on providing comprehensive medical care in the areas of cardiology and cardiac surgery, Neuro Surgery, Gynaecology, Orthopaedics, Gastroenterology, Neurology, Pediatrics, Diabetics, Nephrology and Urology. All health care needs are delivered here by the best of doctors.

Fortis Malar Hospitals also has a state of the art Cath Lab and multiple dedicated cardiac operation theatres and intensive coronary care units. Several rare and complex Adult and Pediatric Cardiac surgeries, Orthopedics and Joint replacement, Neurosurgery and Plastic & reconstruction surgeries have been performed in this hospital. The hospital's Obstetrics and Gynaecology services are among the busiest in the city, performing many difficult deliveries and surgeries successfully, and are supported by a dedicated Neonatology unit. Fortis Malar Hospitals is a part of the Fortis Health care Network which is currently the largest hospital network in Asia Pacific with 74 hospitals and 12,000 beds.

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