

World's smallest and lightest leadless pacemaker MICRA implanted at Fortis Malar Hospital

Chennai, 22nd January 2019: Doctors at **Fortis Malar Hospital** successfully implanted world's smallest and lightest leadless pacemaker MICRA on a 31-year lady here recently. The patient was suffering from complex congenital heart disease and altered cardiovascular anatomy. The challenging procedure was conducted by a team of expert doctors led by **Dr E Babu, Consultant Heart Failure & Interventional Cardiologist, Fortis Malar Hospital, Chennai.**

Commenting on the procedure **Dr E Babu**, said *"This procedure was particularly challenging due to the altered anatomy and septal defects. The uniqueness of this case is MICRA catheter has been manipulated via transfemoral approach and deployed successfully in RV septum in this underweight patient with complex congenital heart disease."*

The patient was diagnosed with complex cyanotic congenital heart disease (complete atrioventricular canal defect with Eisenmenger syndrome), and later developed atrial tachyarrhythmia and complete heart block with low ventricular rate. After discussion with *Dr K R Balakrishnan, Director of Cardiac Sciences and Chief Cardiothoracic & Transplant Surgeon at Fortis Malar Hospital*, she was deemed not suitable for corrective surgery and was advised single chamber permanent pacemaker implantation. Eventually MICRA leadless pacemaker was decided for this patient.

Dr E Babu added *"The function of a pacemaker is to increase the heart rate when it is low. Conventional pacemaker has two parts namely the pulse generator (generator) and the lead. This pulse generator is implanted beneath the skin in upper chest wall through a mini surgical procedure and a long lead connects it to heart. This requires 3-7 days of hospital stay, removal of stitches after 1 week and may be associated with issues of infection, wound healing, etc. On the other hand, MICRA pacemaker procedure is a percutaneous procedure just like undergoing angiography; cosmetically good because there is no scar in the chest wall; patient can be mobilised on the same day and may be performed as day-care procedure in straightforward cases."*

MICRA pacemaker is the world's smallest and lightest leadless cardiac pacemaker currently available. It is delivered percutaneously via transfemoral venous approach through a catheter and implanted directly in the right ventricle. MICRA is a single chamber pacemaker; it is the pulse generator and does not require the use of leads. MICRA is 93% smaller (25.9x6.7mm) and also lighter (1.75g) than conventional pacemaker, with an average battery longevity of 12-years and MRI compatibility. It is just the size of a large tablet/capsule. It has >99% higher implant success rate and 63% fewer long-term complications (primarily) than conventional pacemaker.

Press Release

For Immediate Publication



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 45 healthcare facilities (including projects under development), approximately 10,000 potential beds and over 374 diagnostic centres.

About Fortis Malar Hospital:

Fortis Malar Hospital was acquired by Fortis Healthcare (India) Limited in early 2008. The hospital founded in 1992, is established as one of the largest corporate hospitals in Chennai providing quality super specialty and multi-specialty healthcare 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, Paediatrics, Diabetics, Nephrology and Internal Medicine. Fortis Malar Hospital 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 Paediatric Cardiac surgeries, Orthopaedic and Joint replacements, Neurosurgeries and Plastic reconstruction surgeries have been performed at this hospital. The hospital's Obstetrics and Gynaecology services are among the busiest in the city, successfully performing many complicated deliveries and surgeries. They are supported by a dedicated Neonatology unit.

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