

#### For the Poor & Needy

May : 2015 Volume : 2

#### EDITORIAL.



Poverty in India is widespread and a common phenomenon. As per the statement of World Bank in 2011, 32.7% of the total Indian people fall below the international poverty line of US\$ 1.25 per day while 51.7% live on less than US\$ 2 per day. According to 2010 data from the United Nations Development Programme, an estimated 37.2% of Indians live below the country's national poverty line.

Before we could assimilate the above fact we find an alarming statistics of an estimated 1,50,000/- children are being born with heart disease annually in India. Every child comes to this beautiful universe, full of dreams to cherish its life with the loving parents and the people around. But it's unfortunate that many say good-bye and part from us very soon after their birth. It is estimated that a small number of 20 – 25 thousand reach to the treatment and the rest choose the path to a slow painful death. Their only prayer is that can someone will reach out to me with a helping hand to give new leas of life.

How nice it would have been if these children were born to parents who could afford to save their life or an uncle and aunt who could induce confidence in them to live.

It is sad that these kids are forced to choose the death just because they are born to poor parents.

We at Needy Heart Foundation have a Dream, to give every person suffering from Heart Disease, irrespective of cast, creed, color, religion or gender; a chance to live a healthy Life. In order to realize this dream the foundation initiated a partnership with major world famous cardiac hospitals in Bangalore to reach out to the needy to have a new lease of life with timely interventions.

Every year, hundreds of needy patients from unfortunate community have new lease of life through successful timely heart operation. Thanks to all the dedicated cardiac professionals and support staff at these major partnering hospitals. NHF also thanks all the philanthropic organization and individuals who contributed towards this cause.



This year we are proud to announce that we touched upon 680 lives through the providence of God. The need is plenty as said in the Bible, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." *Mat 9.37*. Let this noble cause inspire many more likeminded people to join hands to create a bright future for the disadvantaged.

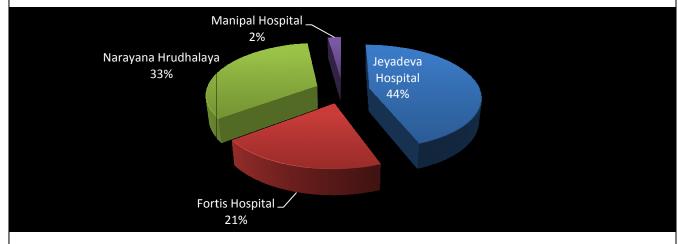
Abel....

## Surgeries overview

#### **Brief Operational Report on the Rotary Year 2014-2015:**

In the first three quarter of the Rotary year 2014-15, NHF saved 680 precious lives by facilitating heart surgeries of needy poor patients-often in critical conditions.

MONTH	JEYADEVA HOSPITAL	FORTIS HOSPITAL	NARAYANA HRUDHALAYA	MANIPAL HOSPITAL	TOTAL
July 14	34	32	24	0	90
August 14	28	17	15	1	61
September 14	43	29	15	1	88
October 14	27	22	10	0	59
November 14	27	09	41	0	77
December 14	35	04	30	6	75
January 15	44	09	20	3	76
February 15	41	09	29	2	81
March 15	22	08	41	2	73
	301	139	225	15	680



A beneficiary after the surgery



## We made these hearts beating

Some of the most complex surgeries performed by our doctors

### IFTIKAR ALAM

In 2012, a small boy named Iftikar Alam (now aged 5 years), was admitted in Fortis Hospital on Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore, with a rare heart condition. Iftikar was presented with symptoms showing breathlessness, bluish discoloration of the skin & lips. Hailing from Kolkata, the helpless parents of little Iftikar entrusted their son at the safe hands of the cardiologists and cardiac surgeons at Fortis Hospitals.

Iftikar had his first surgery 2 years ago, and now needed to complete the diversion of all the blood in the body to the lung. In this operation the right side chambers of the heart are completely bypassed and impure blood reaches the lung directly. This is called as a Fontan operation. This physiology is different from the normal person's physiology. Here the impure blood reaches the lung by the pumping action of the muscles of the lower limbs. He will have a normal life says Dr. Joseph, but there will be some limitation and he cannot do very strenuous activities like athletic sports.



**HEARTS** 

THEY CAN HAVE

NORMAL LIFE"

JOSEPH XAVIER

NORMAL





**CAUSE ORIENTED MISSION** world class treatment for the needy

#### **AALIYA**

**NEAR** 

WITH

Says DR.

The normal functioning of the heart is where the blood flows from the Right Atrium to the Right Ventricle (RV), to the Pulmonary Arteries and thereon to the lungs. The lungs receive the oxygenated blood which then flows through the Left Artery to the Left Ventricle (LV), to the Aorta and then through the whole body. But, it was not so in the case of Baby Aaliya who was brought to Fortis Hospital on Bannerghatta road to treat her heart in 2012, at the age

Doctors at Fortis learned that Aaliya suffered from a case of Tetralogy of Fallot wherein, there is lack of blood flow to her lungs due to an obstruction and under development of the part of the heart which diverts blood to the lungs. There was also a large hole between the Right and left ventricles (pumping chambers of the heart). This mixing of pure and impure blood and the fact that the blood was not going to the lungs for oxygenation (purifying) the child was a blue baby. In addition this child's problem could not be corrected at one stage because where it was required to cut and make a path to the lungs, there was a large blood vessel of the heart (coronary artery) crossing the path.

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Therefore, to improve the blood supply to the heart the doctors decided to perform a BT Shunt (Blalock – Taussig Shunt) surgery as the first stage and that the complete correction of the heart would be made at a later stage.

Hence, in 2012, BT Shunt was performed and during this surgery the doctors created an artificial tube between the Aorta and the Right Pulmonary Artery. This helped blood to flow into the lungs easily and therefore reduce the symptoms of blueness and breathlessness. It also helps to prepare for the full operation later.

For the complete correction of her heart, Aaliya, now aged 5 years, was again brought to Fortis Hospital. The plan was to perform an Intra Cardiac Repair for complete correction, wherein, the obstruction would be bypassed with a tube and the hole between the RV and LV would be closed. This is called as Rastelli's Operation.

Rastelli procedure is where a tube is used to connect the RV and the Pulmonary Artery directly to protect the Coronary Artery. The advantage being, no resection is required in this region. Coronary heart very import for the functioning of the heart as it supplies blood to the heart.

"During the surgery, it was found that some modification of the operation could help to avoid using the tube to correct this problem. If the tube was used as Aliya grew up and became bigger she would require 2 or 3 subsequent operations to change the tube as she outgrows the tube. So a very technically demanding operation was performed to skillfully cutaway just enough muscle from inside the heart and create a passage for blood to pass from the right ventricle to the lung so that the tube could be avoided. An artificial valve is created at this region to prevent leakage of blood into the right ventricle. The hole was closed leaving an additional hole so that the heart will not fail after this modified procedure". said Dr. Joseph and he added that now Aliva can have a normal life like any other child. The hole left deliberately can be closed at a later age with a catheter intervention without a reoperation.

#### KUSHAL

In 2012, Mrs. Nalina, mother of a one and a half month old baby Kushal was worried sick to see her new born suffering from Diarrhea. Kushal also faced the bluishness of his skin whenever he cried. After consulting various Pediatricians. She was then told by a doctor to visit a specialist at the Fortis Hospitals located at Bannerghatta road.



At Fortis Hospital, Mrs. Nalina was informed that her new born son was suffering from a Congenital Heart Disease called Tetralogy of Fallot where in there is lack of blood flow to her lungs due to an obstruction and under development of the part

of the heart which diverts blood to the lungs. There was also a large hole between the Right and left ventricles (pumping chambers of the heart). This mixing of pure and impure blood and the fact that the blood was not going to the lungs for oxygenation (purifying) the child was a blue baby. In addition this child's problem could not be corrected at one stage because the right ventricle was under developed. So he underwent a BT shunt surgery when he was 5 months old to divert more blood to the lungs and allow time for the right ventricle to grow.

Now at the age of 3 years he is undergone a rare operation called "One and a Half Ventricle Repair". Unlike other children with Tetralogy these children have half the impure blood coming to the heart going through the small sized right ventricle to the lungs. The other half of blood returning the heart from the upper part of the body is diverted directly to the lungs. This part of the operation is called as "Glenn Shunt". Kushal will now have normal life with no further need for any surgical intervention.

"Strangely we had 3 cases at the time which are variants of the same pathology. Both Aaliya and Kushal would have ended up with an abnormal physiology for circulation like Iftikar. But technical expertise and God's grace we could treat them with modified procedures requiring lot of skill from the team, such that they can have near normal hearts with normal life" said Dr. Joseph.

# Enabling 4000 Hearts to Beat

MILESTONE IN THE NHF HISTORY



# $E_{\text{nabling}} \, \underline{4000}_{\text{Hearts to Beat}}$

MILESTONE IN THE NHF HISTORY



#### BLOODLESS HEART SURGERY ON 1-YEAR-OLD

# City docs keep the faith, save a child

**SANCHITA SEN** 

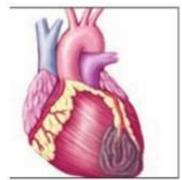
#### **DC**|BENGALURU

**Aug.4:** You can trust the doc to sometimes do even the impossible.

Doctors at Fortis Hospitals in the city have successfully repaired a hole in the heart of a one-year-old girl from Nigeria, whose religious belief forbids her from accepting a blood transfusion or blood products. Baby Florence from Nigeria was suffering from a congenital heat defect called Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD), which meant she had to undergo immediate correction with an open heart surgery.

"We had to accept the fact that if the child suffered bleeding, we would simply have to sit back and watch her bleed to death," explained Dr.Joseph Xavier, consultant paediatric cardiac surgeon, Fortis Hospitals who performed the major open heat surgery.

"Open heart surgery normally involves the use of a heart lung



"In normal circumstances, blood would be pumped into the heart lung machine. But this could not be done in Florence's case as the child is a Jehovah's Witness and will not accept any blood. So we had to use other methods to overcome this problem".

Dr.Joseph Xavier, Consultant paediatric cardiac surgeon

machine which reduces the haemoglobin content to so low levels that various organs could even be damaged due to oxygen deficiency. In normal

circumstances, blood would be pumped into the heart lung machine to correct this problem. But this could not be done in Florence's case as the child is a Jehovah's Witness and will not accept any blood. So we had to use other methods to covercome this problem," added the doctor.

He said that in children such surgery is even more difficult as they may need more blood from the heart lung machine than an adult

The Fortis team took up the case as a challenge with each member sensitized on the profile of the patient and the need to prevent blood loss at any cost. "the baby's haemoglobin was built up from 9 grams to 15 grams before the surgery, which succeeded in closing the hole completely," he added.

Florence's mother, Esta Lala's faith in Jehovah has been strengthened after the surgery. She said, "Now I know that there is a place which will take care of my baby's heart and won't let my religious belief be compromised in any manner."

International goodwill and understanding award 2014-15
By the Rotary club of Bangalore cantonment

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