

Awareness programme on heart disease held



Dr Devananda N S and Dr Francisco Colaco along with the little wonders of Goa at the 'Little Wonders of Goa' - a congenital Heart Diseases awareness programme.

PANJIM: Manipal Hospital Goa on Tuesday conducted a health awareness programme on Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) that affects young children and new born babies. The day-long awareness program titled 'The Little Wonders of Goa' was conducted with children along their parents who had successfully overcome this disease and are moving ahead in their lives as normal, healthy and energetic kids. Dr Devananda, a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon from Manipal Hospitals Bangalore who operated on these children at Manipal Hospital Bangalore was present along with other pediatric doctors of Manipal Hospitals-Goa. On the occasion, Dr Devananda stated that, "In case of such diseases once detected, the parents are requested not to panic and consult the cardiologist immediately and understand the necessary steps and precautions." 'The Little Wonders of Goa' was conducted with an aim to create awareness amongst the general public about CHD, its treatment and clear all misconceptions about it.

Awareness programme on congenital heart disease

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PANAJI: Manipal Hospital, Goa, one of India's leading healthcare groups yesterday conducted a health awareness programme on congenital heart disease (CHD) that affects young children and new born babies.

The day-long awareness programme titled "The Little Wonders of Goa" was conducted with children along with their parents who had successfully overcome this disease and are moving ahead in their lives as normal, healthy and energetic kids.

Dr Devananda N S - MS, Mch, head of department and consultant, cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, Manipal Hospitals, Bangalore who operated on these children at Manipal Hospital, Bangalore was present along with other pediatric doctors of Manipal Hospitals, Goa. Dr Devananda has been visiting Goa, consulting and treating children suffering with CHD for the past five years and had also helped them to successfully overcome it.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Devananda stated that, "In case of such diseases once detected, the parents are requested not to panic and consult the cardiologist immediately and understand the necessary steps and precautions. Sometimes, CHD may not

require surgery but if the case is critical, the patient may require surgery and medication. Even though surgery is conducted on young children, there are no further complications and the patient can live a healthy normal life. Learning about the disease and being aware of the symptoms helps in managing such situations more effectively."

The Little Wonders of Goa' was conducted with an aim to create awareness amongst the general public about CHD, its treatment

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and clear all misconceptions about it. This awareness programme was an open forum for the parents of the 'Little wonders' and media and gave an excellent opportunity to interact with each other and share their experiences as well as with other present there.

Around 45 children who suffered from different health complexities attended this awareness programme with their parents.

According to Dr Devananda, congenital health disease is a problem with the structure of the heart at the time of birth and affects one out of 10 live births. Congenital heart defects may occur during the development of

the heart shortly after conception and can involve the walls of the heart, the valves of the heart and the arteries and veins near the heart. Congenital heart defects many result in disrupting the normal flow of blood through the heart and the blood flow may slow down, flow in the wrong direction and get blocked completely.

Dr Devananda has operated over 7000 successful cases including as many as 250 cases from Goa and has been consulting children in Goa for the past over five years. Dr Devananda thanked the department of pediatrics, Goa Medical College, Bambolim and renowned cardiologist Dr Francisco Colaco for Margao, who has been performing for the last 20 years, for all the support.

"Seeing is believing. All Kids who had undergone surgeries for CHD are here. We do not want any child born with defect to die but live a healthy normal life and be productive citizens of this country," Dr Devananda said.

To a question, Dr Devananda said that late marriages could be one of the causes for congenital heart disease in children reasons for CHD and added that development of heart of a child can be scanned after 18 weeks during pregnancy period. Dr Francisco Colaco was also present.

Manipal hospital holds prog: A programme titled 'The Little Wonders of Goa' was conducted by Manipal Hospital, Goa, and parents with their affected children were present. Speaking at the awareness programme on CHD in the city, Dr Devananda NS, consultant, cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon stated, "Once detected, the parents should consult a cardiologist immediately and understand the necessary steps and precautions."