

Tata Memorial Hospital - Service to Humanity



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The word Cancer Derived from a Latin word cancrum which means a crab evokes fear and sorrow . The Cancer cases are increasing exponentially all over the world including India due to various reasons. 4 February is observed as World Cancer Day.

Tata Memorial Hospital in Parel Mumbai is India's largest prestigious and the first Cancer Hospital serving the patients of India as well as neighbouring countries.

Goa has also benefitted largely from Tata Memorial Hospital.

Sir Dorab Tata the second Chairman of the Tata Group had a vision to start this massive Institution.

Sir Dorab Tata's wife, Lady Meherbai Tata died of leukemia in 1931.

Her husband Sir Dorab Tata had the idea and vision for this project.

He died soon after.

But the Trustees of Sir Dorab Tata Trust had the determination and the commitment to start this Cancer hospital in Mumbai.

At that time there was a great economic depression because of the world wars.

The project was ambitious and expensive but JRD Tata with the Trustees and with the philanthropic mind of the Tatas , there was no looking back.

It was Asia's first Cancer hospital

The construction began in 1937 in the vicinity of Haffkine Institute in Parel in Mumbai.

The Indian doctors were sent for training in Cancer hospitals in Europe and USA.

It was the combination of imagination, Energy, Patience and tenacity.

The Tata Trust gave a capital of Rupees 30 lakhs which was a massive amount in those days.

The Tata Memorial Hospital started functioning in 1941

It is Tatas gift to India.

It was Asia's first comprehensive Cancer hospital.

TMH has treated millions of patients since 1941 and touched the lives of millions to alleviate the pain, suffering and depression.

Patients of all ages, all genders , all ethnicities, and all walks of life have been treated here.

Any taxi driver in Mumbai knows Tata Memorial hospital.

64000 patients visit TMH every year. The numbers are rising.

TMH is now run by the Department of Atomic energy with joint support by the Government of India and the state government.

In USA the similar counterpart is Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

In 1884 it was the General Memorial Hospital which was called the Sloan Kettering Institute in 1945 and finally in 1960 Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center .

This is the world's premier Cancer hospital where all the rich Cancer patients from across the globe flock due to the cutting edge research, pioneering treatment and the clinical trials. Many patients join these clinical trials which definitely benefits them and prolongs their lives.

This is personalised treatment and personalised medicine with integrated support. Yes indeed, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is the Best Cancer hospital in the world .

In UK the top Cancer hospital is Royal Marsden.

In 1948 NHS the National Health Services set up the Post Graduate teaching hospital in Sutton Surrey which became the Royal Marsden hospital in 1963.

In Pakistan it was Imran Khan, the world class cricketer turned politician who started the fund raising drives in Pakistan and the Gulf and winning the crickets World Cup in Melbourne Australia in 1992 helped set up the Shaukat Khanum Cancer hospital and Research center in Lahore and Peshawar in 1994.

It is named after Imran Khan's mother who died of cancer in 1985.

This is Pakistan premier Cancer hospital

Coming back to Tata memorial hospital there was a need to have other satellite centers all over India. So the Tata Trust Established similar Cancer hospitals across India.

The AECTREC (Advanced Center For Treatment. Research and Education in Cancer) was set up in Navi Mumbai.

Also the Tata Trust set up the Tata Medical Center in Kolkata in 2012.

The Tata Trust has set up Cancer hospital in many towns in india.

In Goa a Cancer hospital is being built in the Goa Medical College campus behind the Super-speciality Building in Bambolim.

It is being advised and mentored by Tata Memorial hospital.

Tata Memorial Hospital produces India's best oncosurgeons , oncopathologists , radiation oncologists , Medical Oncologists. Counsellors. Preventive care specialists, palliative care experts , Molecular biologists .

They treat patients of all ages, and all types of Cancers.

Due to the sheer volume of the patient load, the experience , expertise, Competency and

skills in all disciplines reaches a very high level.

Tata Memorial Hospital is involved in Cancer research, Training teaching , patient care , Prevention of Cancer, rehabilitation , counselling. Palliative care , personalised medicine , personalised treatment.

Besides the Surgeries they also excel in diagnosis, ancillary tests. Biochemistry , Microbiology. Immunology , blood banking. Radiation Oncology the latest technology. Medical Oncology with the latest molecules.

The doctors in TMH are trained in the Best centers in India. USA UK. and other Cancer Centers. They also organise many Conferences. CMEs , Updates and Workshops to teach and train doctors in all specialities all over India , Asia and the world.

This knowledge and experience and expertise gained is then used all over India.

Goa has a special connection with TMH

Many Doctors have served TMH and brought the Institute name ,fame and glory.

Notable are Dr Ernest Borges the Former Director of TMH and a skilled, humane and compassionate surgeon .

The road in front of TMH is named after him.

Dr E Pinto was a Radiotherapy Head in 1970s and 80s.

Dr L. J de Sousa the Head of GI Surgeon who is also famous for the palliative care centers Shanti Avedna Ashrams that he set up in Bandra Mumbai, New Delhi and Loutolim in Goa .

Dr Anita Borges India's top oncopathologist and histopathologist.

Dr Anil De Cruz served as the Director of Tata memorial hospital and Head of Head Neck surgery.

Dr Sangeeta Desai was the Professor and Head of Pathology dept TMH is also a Goan.

The author has been trained in Surgical Pathology in TMH in 1987

Tata Memorial Hospital Directors have visited Goa and delivered talks and conducted Workshops in Goa

The author initiated a Visiting Faculty Programme in Goa Medical College and under this scheme many top consultants TMH visited GMC. In addition to world class Faculty from all over the world .

From early times

Dr Jussawala. Dr P.B Desai , Dr Sultan Pradhan , Dr SH Advani, Dr Rajan Badwe , Dr Anil De Cruz , Dr Srikandhe , Dr Goel , Dr Anita Borges , Dr Tanuja Seth , Dr K Dinshaw. Dr LJ De Sousa , Dr Anita Borges , Dr R Chinoy. Dr S Gujral , Dr S Gupta. Dr Pinto ,Dr S Kane ,

The earlier pathologists of TMH were Dr Sirsat , Dr GV Talwadkar , Dr Soman , Dr Srikandhe, Dr Krishnamurti , Dr M Sampath. Dr Sarin and others.

The family of Dr Ernest Borges instituted a scholarship in his name on his 100 birth centenary which helps a goan staff from GMC to undergo training in Cancer in TMH.

Many goan Doctors. Nurses , technicians have been trained in TMH.

The TMH has a rural center in Barshi in Solapur , Maharashtra

TMH is also instrumental in launching the Cancer Registries in India. Both hospital based and population based.

TMH also collaborates with NGOs, Indian Cancer Society, Make a wish Foundation and other organisations and charitable Institutes.

This atlas gives a very good mapping of cancers all over India
So that research can be done to prevent them by studying various life styles , habits and food habits etc .
These will give a wealth of information for future prevention and treatment.

Telemedicine , Digital Pathology, AI , Robotics , Genomics ,proteomics , personalised medicine. Personalised treatment. Multi-Disciplinary medicine , Integrated medicine, rehabilitation and palliative care are some of the areas covered, as also Immunotherapy, CART therapy and evidence based research.
Also Medical ethics , counselling. Communication skills. Grief management. Telling bad news are also areas they deal with.

TMH has started Post Graduate and Super-speciality Courses. Programmes and Degrees in different disciplines associated with Oncology and Cancers.

The author has been invited as Visiting Professor , Faculty , Examiner and NMC (National Medical Commission)
Assessor and Inspector for TMH

The author has been a PG Examiner all over India
Accordingly the 3 best MD Pathology students examined by the author are Dr Mufaddal Moonim , Dr Deepa Bhandari and Dr Pranjali Gupta nee Wagle a Goan whose family migrated to Mumbai many decades ago
These 3 PG students of TMH trained by Dr Anita Borges and Dr N Jambhekar are occupying high academic positions in UK ,USA and Mumbai.

Still today thousands of Goan patients still flock to TMH .

Dr Anita Borges launched a Travelling Pathology School under the Tata Trust and TMH.

Many Goan students have done PG and training in TMH and are now serving Societies all over the world. ,in India and Goa.

The author has interacted with the world's best oncologists from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer New York. USA Royal Marsden hospital UK. Shaukat Khanum hospital in Lahore.

They all are of the unanimous opinion that the TMH Oncologists are among the best in the world

They see , Examine and treat the largest number of Cancer patients world wide and have extensive Scientific publications.

In Parel Mumbai the TMH has 3 buildings the main building and the Annexe building connected by a bridge.

In Navi Mumbai another wing for advanced research ,Training and treatment named ACTREC has been started.

This is the greatest gift the Tatas have given to India and the world.

India , Goa. and the neighbouring countries are blessed to have Tata family , Tata Memorial Hospital, their doctors, nurses and staff.
