

Successful surgery performed on a two-year old to treat a Complex Brain Tumor at Fortis Escorts Hospital, Faridabad

Faridabad, Wednesday 13th July, 2016: Fortis Escorts Hospital Faridabad performed a complex surgery on a two-year old baby girl from Faridabad suffering from a large irregularly marginated solid cystic lesion in the brain. The team was led by **Dr. Vikram Dua, Principal Consultant** and **Dr. Ashish Gupta, Principal Consultant- Department of Neuro Surgery & Spine, Fortis Escorts Hospital, Faridabad.**

The patient, Baby Akshara, was suffering from seizure and hemiparesis or weakness of the left side of her body. An MRI test of her brain revealed a large irregularly marginated solid cystic lesion involving the right temporo-fronto-parietal lobe or cavity like regions. This condition is also accompanied with headaches and paralysis. A perilesional edema or swelling was tracked along the adjacent fronto-temporo-parietal white matter tracts with resultant significant midline shift of approx. 12.5 mm towards left side. A midline shift is a condition when the brain shifts from one side to the other. This shift can be fatal and the patient can lose their life within days. The lesion was anteriorly displacing the M1 segment of right middle cerebral artery and completely effacing the right sylvian fissure which divides the top brain from its bottom.

Dr. Ashish Gupta, Principal Consultant, Neuro Surgery & Spine said, “The baby required immediate surgical intervention to remove the tumor. Any delay in surgery could have led to a paralysis of the whole body and blindness, which could have been fatalistic for the baby. These are rare tumors and require multi-disciplinary approach in terms of neuro anaesthesia, neuro surgery and critical care. The baby tolerated the surgery and has responded well.”

Dr. Vikram Dua, Principal Consultant, Neuro Surgery & Spine said, “The tumor was highly vascular and very large, occupying half of the brain. Considering the age of the baby, we had to ensure minimal blood loss during surgery (not more than 200 ml) as total blood volume was less. The surgery was required to be performed rapidly to avoid the blood loss. Subsequently, when the blood loss was strictly measured it was estimated around 150 ml only.”

Mr Rajeev Bhandari, Facility Director, Fortis Escorts Hospital Faridabad, said, “Fortis Escorts Hospital Faridabad is fully equipped with necessary resources & infrastructure to deliver advanced, excellent, patient centric care with latest tools and know-hows available for diagnosis & treatment. With such surgeries, we have established ourselves as one of the top centres for similar procedures in the

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country. The clinical excellence we have displayed in complex brain surgeries demonstrates the highest level of expertise in clinical excellence the institute has to offer to its patients.”

The parents of the child expressed their gratitude, “We are very thankful to the doctors who have given a new lease of life to our little one. We do not have enough words to thank Dr. Vikram Dua, Dr. Ashish Gupta and Fortis Escorts Hospital Faridabad.”

As per the National Health Portal, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, more than 500 new brain tumour cases are diagnosed everyday worldwide and the number is gradually growing in India. The Brain Tumour Foundation of India states that brain tumour is the second most common cancer among children after leukemia or blood cancer. According to a study on childhood cancer, brain tumour is very common among girls in children and in both men and women among adults.

Brain tumour can occur at any age with no established exact causes. Symptoms depend on their size, type and location. The most common type of primary brain tumours in children are medulloblastoma, grade I or II astrocytoma, (or glioma) ependymoma, and brain stem glioma. Treatment methods include surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy or a combination of these.

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