

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Publication

# **Fortis Escorts Heart Institute sends 5<sup>th</sup> Heart Transplant Patient home after Successful Surgery**

≈ *The patient had been under Dr. T S Kler's care for the last 17 years*  
≈ *Dr T S Kler had allayed all apprehensions and had advised the patient that a heart transplant was the recommended option*

**New Delhi, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2016:** Fortis Escorts Heart Institute bid adieu to the patient who received a heart from Fortis Hospital NOIDA on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. After a successful surgery and an uneventful recovery, the patient went home fit and healthy, looking forward to a new innings in life.

Bhimsen Jhamb, aged 61 years, had been suffering from dilated cardiomyopathy, categorized as 'Heart Failure' for the past 17 years. **Dr. Tarlochan Singh Kler, Executive Director, Cardiology Sciences, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI)** had been treating the patient for almost two decades. Over the last 2- 3 years the patient's condition had progressively deteriorated and he had gone into refractory heart failure.

**Dr. Tarlochan Singh Kler**, said, "The patient was on medication and had also been implanted with a Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Device (CRTD) to cope with the extreme condition and optimize the output of the heart. When he went into refractory heart failure with class 4 symptoms and the anginal pain persisted even while resting, I advised him to undergo a heart transplant as it was the only option."

**Dr Z S Meharwal, Director, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, FEHI** said, "The patient had been suffering from a severe heart condition for very long. Despite the multiple treatment solutions administered during the interceding years, his heart continued to deteriorate and a heart transplant became imperative. The surgery was successful and the patient responded well to the treatment. As his condition has been stable, he was discharged with a maintenance dose of immuno-suppressants and will do well."

**Dr. Vishal Rastogi, Director & HOD, Heart Failure Clinic, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute** said, "It is a fine balance that we maintain to ensure the life of a heart failure patient remains stable. The team manages the day-to-day monitoring of such patients with optimized levels of skill and expertise as, many a times, it has to be remotely managed as well."

The donor in this case was a 55 year old ex-serviceman who had met with a road accident . He was brought to Fortis Hospital, NOIDA in a critical condition and was later pronounced brain dead. When his family consented to donate the organs, a green corridor to FEHI Okhla was immediately created with total

cooperation from the traffic police in Ghaziabad, Noida and Delhi. The donor heart was transported in a matter of just **16 minutes & 20 seconds** covering a total distance of **22 kms**. Given the criticality of an early transplant for success, the heavy vehicular traffic was briefly halted and the harvested heart sped to its destination where it was transplanted.

An emotional patient thanked the doctors and the family of the donor. He said, *“I am going home now for a new innings in life. Pain had become so much a part of my life that after the surgery it feels like a new me again. My heartfelt gratitude to the doctors who have treated me so caringly. I could feel God’s hand in that. My personal gratitude to the family of the donor who has extended my life in the conclusion of their loved one.”*

India is reported to have the maximum number of road accidents annually in the world. According to a survey by the WHO, 60 % of the deaths in road accidents are of people in the age group of 15 – 44 years. This constitutes young and healthy people. Organ donation by their family members can go a long way in bridging the yawning deficit for desperately needed organs. No doubt, this noble act can save many, many lives that are lost due to non-availability of organ donors. **(Ref. SaveLife Foundation.org).**

#### **About Fortis Escorts Heart Institute**

*Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI), Delhi, a pioneer and centre of excellence in cardiac care is celebrating 28<sup>th</sup> year of path-breaking work and service to the numerous of heart patients, who have benefitted from treatment, at this outstanding facility. Armed with clinical expertise and cutting-edge medical technology, the hospital has set enviable benchmarks in Heart transplants, Cardiac Bypass Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Interventional Cardiology, Non-invasive Cardiology, Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery. Till date, FEHI has successfully completed over 2 lakh Coronary Angiographies, over 1 lakh Cardiac Surgeries and almost 65, 000 Coronary Angioplasties, in addition to several life-saving procedures. The hospital also performed India’s first Trans Catheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) and Bioresorbable Vascular Scaffold (BVS); Asia Pacific’s first Directional Atherectomy, Angioscopy, Drug Eluting Stenting, etc. Over the years, FEHI has cloned a Heart Care Network of 19 hospitals and Heart Command Centers in India and abroad. It has also launched the revolutionary e-ICU program, enabling remote and timely access to critical care. Fortis Escorts Heart Institute has won numerous awards and accolades - ‘Best Cardiology Hospital in the private sector’ at the ICICI Lombard & CNBC TV18 India Healthcare Awards for 2015 and the No 1. Ranking in the Private Cardiac category Hospital by The Week Nielson Best Hospitals Survey, 2014 2015 and 2016.*

#### **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 330 diagnostic centres.*

**For more information, please contact:**

<b>Fortis Healthcare Ltd.</b>	<b>Avian Media</b>
<p data-bbox="342 275 704 331"><b>Ajey Maharaj: +91 9871798573</b> <a href="mailto:ajey.maharaj@fortishealthcare.com">ajey.maharaj@fortishealthcare.com</a></p> <p data-bbox="334 363 712 420"><b>Vidya Pawan Kapoor: +91 9899996189</b> <a href="mailto:vidya.kapoor@fortishealthcare.com">vidya.kapoor@fortishealthcare.com</a></p>	<p data-bbox="1013 275 1305 331"><b>Rishu Singh, +91-9958891501</b> <a href="mailto:rishu@avian-media.com">rishu@avian-media.com</a></p> <p data-bbox="987 363 1331 420"><b>Preeti Sehrawat, +91- 9711170599</b> <a href="mailto:preeti@avian-media.com">preeti@avian-media.com</a></p>