



***FIRST SUCCESSFUL*** DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANTATION DONE IN COIMBATORE ! .....and the

***FIRST SUCCESSFUL*** DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANTATION DONE IN A ***TEACHING INSTITUTE*** IN WHOLE OF INDIA !!

The Lung Transplantation team of PSG Hospitals; Coimbatore; performed the first DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANTATION on a thirty year old young man; Mr. Ravi Tursiani, from Mumbai..

On November 19; 2017, the Diwali night, a suitable young donor became available for Ravi. The Lungs were harvested from this brain dead donor and preserved with special preservation solution and hypothermia.

Ravi Tursiani was under treatment of Dr. Zarir Udawadia; a well known Pulmonologist of Mumbai, for Last 7 years for Fibrotic Interstitial Lung Disease. This is a progressive disease, that causes scarring of the lungs. There are no medicines that can prevent its

gradual progression to the last stage. When Ravi had Advanced End stage Lung Disease he required 6 to 8 litres of Oxygen per minute. The only definitive treatment for such End Stage Lung Disease; all over the world is Lung Transplantation. Thus; Dr. Zarir Udwadia referred him to PSG for Lung Transplantation

PSG Hospital, Peelamedu; Coimbatore, has a comprehensive and well equipped Lung Transplantation program. PSG Hospital has state of the art Operation theatres, imported titanium and nitinol surgical instruments, Intensive care units specially designed and used only for Transplant patients, step down transplant unit, Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation ( ECMO) machine made by Maquet, Inhaled Nitric Oxide Delivery system; NOXBOX(i), and a **fully equipped Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Center.**

PSG Lung Transplant Program blessed with enormous support from various departments like Immunology, Immunopathology, Biochemistry, Pathology, Psychiatry, Sociology, Dietary and Transplant Infectious Diseases, as it is teaching hospital.

The Lung Transplantation Team is also well experienced as it is formally trained with hands-on experience; in Canada and USA.

**Dr. RMPL Ramanathan;** is the **Medical Director of Lung Transplantation.** He has 18 years experience in Pulmonology; Critical Care Medicine and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation.

He was a Clinical Fellow in Lung Transplantation; formally trained at Toronto General Hospital, Toronto; Canada. It is the centre where the first successful Lung Transplantation was done in the whole world. One may say; that the Lung Transplantation operation was born in Toronto General Hospital.

**Dr. Jnanesh Thacker;** is the **Surgical Director of Heart and Lung Transplantation.** He did a two year Clinical Fellowship in Heart and Lung Transplantation at the University of Pittsburgh. He is formally trained to do Lung Transplantations. He was then taken as a full faculty at Temple University and the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA; for 4 years. He has done more than 150 Lung Transplantation in USA. He has also trained more than 10 cardiac surgical Fellows and Residents in both harvesting and transplantation of Lungs.

He has also pioneered the Lung Transplantations in India; in Mumbai and Chennai. In July of 2012; he operated on Jayshree Mehta; the **FIRST INDIAN** to get a successful Lung Transplantation in India. In November of 2013; he did the **FIRST MINIMALLY INVASIVE LUNG TRANSPLANTATION IN WHOLE OF INDIA.**

He is now the Surgical Director of Lung Transplantation at PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research and PSG Hospitals.

**Dr. Ganesan** who is the **Head of the Lung Transplantation Anesthesia team** was also trained at Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, Canada.

The rest of the Transplant Team consists other pulmonologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, and anesthesiologists. Also intensivists, transplant coordinators - separate for donor and recipient; infectious disease specialists, immunologists, pharmacists, ; rehabilitation specialists, dietician, psychologists, social workers; and consultants of all different super specialties.

Ravi's disease was complex and advanced. He was so advanced that would not have been alive to see December of 2017. ( He later informed the Transplant nursing team that he had a similar premonition)

He was brought from Mumbai to Coimbatore by his family in an Ambulance; as Commercial flights do not accept patients who are too advanced in their disease. He was admitted in PSG hospital, where he was introduced to the entire Lung Transplantation Team.. He was carefully evaluated for his eligibility for Lung Transplantation as per International Guidelines and Standards.

After being presented at the Multidisciplinary Lung Transplantation Selection Committee Meeting;

he was placed on a two month Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation program as was decided by the Committee; prior to his Double lung Transplantation.

"Lung Transplantation is the most complex medical endeavour undertaken by Man" United Network of Organ Sharing; USA. The Transplant Team could do this complex Surgery because of strong support from the Hospital Management.

Ravi had a slow but an uncomplicated recovery. This was as per our expectation. Ravi is now on room air with a saturation of 97% to 100%. He is able to walk by himself without oxygen. He is almost like a normal person.

He has an excellent life expectancy as he is compliant and intelligent to enthusiastically participate in the complex medical regimes necessary after his Double Lung Transplantation!

He will be rehabilitated into phase 3 of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation. His brothers, his Mom; his Dad and his entire family are overjoyed to see him walk; climb stairs without oxygen.

May God bless him with a long; trouble free life will be the PSG-LUNG TRANSPLANT TEAM's prayers for him.