Dear All,

We are in the midst of exciting times as we commission two more hospitals - one of which being our Apex Centre at Guwahati and Silchar Cancer Centre, while stabilizing and growing the operations of our existing seven hospitals.

ACCF aims to establish the concept of affordable, high-quality service in the healthcare sector. Our execution of this means spearheading many innovations, hard work, diligence and consistently raising the benchmarks while deeply valuing efficiencies in both our service and our costs. We need to be accessible and sustainable and persistently enhance patient care and service.

It is obligatory on each one of us to take responsibility for the care of our patients. This is all about setting new benchmarks for what hospital care should be. For example, this year we will work with our Clinicians to implement best practices of care to improve recovery times, shorten hospital stays and deliver better patient outcomes.

We have taken initiatives aimed at enhancing personalized patient care. Partnering with each of our key stakeholders is core to this change. Our collaborations with TMC NCG Navya and MSD India ensure to strengthen care delivery at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre. DMart and Federal Bank have sanctioned CSR grants to provide care for the poor and financially stressed patients and ensure that no patient is deprived of treatment due to financial constraints. Our partnership with Novartis and Pfizer aims at reaching out to the community for creating awareness and capacity building for healthcare professionals.

In the last six months, ACCF has accomplished significant milestones. The Dibrugarh Cancer Centre has been awarded with NABH certificate - a first in the Quasi-Government sector in Northeast of India; and a sixteen-component Blood Centre was inaugurated – which boasts of having the maximum high-end components in Upper Assam.

We have started construction works in six of the Phase-2 hospitals. The Silchar Cancer Centre is nearing completion and is expected to be operational by December 2023, while SCI Guwahati is being targeted to be completed by January 2024. There has been significant progress in Diphu, and all efforts are being put in to complete by end of 2024.

Each one of you should be proud of your individual contributions that have made us get this far. We still have a long way to go to achieve the vision of making, arguably the largest cancer care initiative in the country and possibly the world a resounding success story. The dream will only be fulfilled when no patient would need to travel out of Assam for accessing world-class affordable cancer care. I am confident that we will achieve it. We can do it together.

Wishing all a happy festive season!

Gautam Chintey
Milestones

Instituting Quality Care… Dibrugarh Cancer Centre Awarded with NABH

In the realm of healthcare excellence, the attainment of NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers) - a constituent board of the Quality Council of India - represents the pinnacle of quality and patient-centric care in the healthcare landscape. It signifies a profound dedication to patient well-being, process standardization, employee satisfaction, facility safety, financial stability etc.

Our journey towards this prestigious accreditation commenced in November 2023, as we set out to embark on this challenging yet profoundly rewarding endeavor. With the resolute support and guidance from our esteemed senior management at Head Office and the unwavering commitment of the entire Dibrugarh unit, we embarked on this transformative path. On December 23, 2022 - a significant milestone was achieved when our hospital was officially registered on the HOPE Portal.

The momentum continued to build and on January 11, 2023 - we successfully concluded the registration process, marking a critical phase of our journey. Subsequently, a crucial physical evaluation was scheduled for April 1, 2023 - following a meticulously conducted assessment. With commendable diligence, we overcame the evaluation with flying colours, a testament to our unwavering commitment to excellence.

By February 15, 2023, all observations had been meticulously addressed. The culmination of our dedicated efforts was realized on June 14, 2023 - as we fulfilled all stipulated procedures and additional requirements outlined by the NABH office. With this achievement, Dibrugarh Cancer Center proudly assumes the distinction of probably becoming the first regional Hospital in Government / Quasi-Government to receive the coveted NABH certification.

The tangible benefits of NABH accreditation are palpable in every facet of our operations:

**Patient-Centric Excellence**

Above all, patients are the ultimate beneficiaries of this certification. It ensures that our entire system revolves around their well-being, delivering high-quality care and unwavering commitment to patient safety. It fosters community trust and elevates patient satisfaction as services are rendered by qualified and trained medical experts.

**A Safer Haven for Patients**

Our commitment to safety extends beyond words. Continuous training and meticulously planned mock drills equip our unit to handle any unforeseen emergency.

**Continuous Learning**

Our dedicated staff - both clinical and non-clinical - benefits from continuous learning opportunities, enabling us to provide error-free services to our valued patients.
Dibrugarh Cancer Centre has received the NABH Hospital certificate. It is the first hospital in Government / Quasi-Government sector in Northeast to achieve this distinction.

**Outcome-Oriented**
Regular monitoring of a plethora of outcome-related indicators empowers us to pinpoint areas ripe for improvement - driving us to higher levels of excellence.

**Error-Free Documentation**
Through meticulous and ongoing file audits, we enhance our patient documentation - a critical aspect in preparing for any unforeseen medico-legal cases. Error-free documentation also expedites the settlement of claims - be it Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS), Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), or Third-Party Administrator (TPA).

**Benchmark Quality**
As a certified hospital, we stand shoulder to shoulder with our peers across the nation - affirming that our quality and patient outcomes are comparable to the very best.

**Exclusive Benefits**
Our certification open doors to exclusive privileges, including special rates approved by various corporates and TPAs, further enhancing our financial stability. Additionally, we are poised to apply for a Silver Certificate under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) - entitling the hospital for entry into the exclusive league.

The path from application to certification was arduous however, our collective determination and unwavering commitment have brought us to this momentous juncture. With NABH accreditation in our corner, we reaffirm our promise to deliver unparalleled healthcare excellence to the communities we serve.
Congratulations on achieving five years of exemplary service!

Deepanjal Konwar  Dr Tanma Mahanta  Anupam Sharma  Jintu Borah  Bikash Konwar
Kasturi Kalita  Tondepu Satyanarayana  Shabana Ahmed  Samiran Das  Suman Majumder
Shabnam Biswas  Sabnam Nargis Hussain  Trishna Mahanta  Jayasmita Nath  Angel Daimary
Aditi Das  Soibam Gordhoni Devi  Ningthoukhongjam Sanatombi Devi  Banrilang Kharnaior  Shayari Uk
Monjula Hussain  Nayan Jyoti Khaund  Salisa Poudel
Milestones At A Glance

State-of-the-art Dialysis Facility services launched at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre

Dental services started at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre for patients with assistance from Government Dental College, Dibrugarh

Department of Surgical Oncology – Dibrugarh Cancer Centre started Laparoscopic Surgery (Radical Nephrectomy)

Sixteen component Blood Bank inaugurated at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre with maximum high-end components in Upper Assam - catering to the needs of oncological as well as non-oncological patients of Dibrugarh and nearby areas on 24hrs/365days basis
The State Cancer Institute, Assam (SCI) was inaugurated on February 17, 2017 as a comprehensive cancer care hospital. It is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to provide various treatment modalities and services for cancer patients.

SCI has a total of 140 operational beds - allowing accommodation and treatment of a significant number of patients. The institute offers several departments and specialties to cater to different aspects of cancer care. These include Surgical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Medical Oncology, Onco-anaesthesiology, Critical Care and Pain and, Palliative Medicine. This multidisciplinary approach ensures that patients receive comprehensive and holistic care throughout their treatment journey.

The radiation therapy unit is equipped with advanced machines such as Elekta Synergy and Varian TruBeam that can deliver sophisticated techniques like IMRT (Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy) and IGRT (Image-Guided Radiation Therapy). The machines are complemented by a CT Simulator and Computerized Treatment Planning System (TPS) for precise treatment planning. SCI boasts of a High Precision radiation treatment facility enabled by Radixact Tomotherapy machine. This cutting-edge technology allows for highly targeted and precise radiation therapy delivery.

The Nuclear Medicine Department at SCI is equipped with PET-CT (Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography) and PET-MRI (Positron Emission Tomography-Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scanners. Additionally, the department houses a Medical Cyclotron - the only cyclotron in Northeast India. This enables the production of radiopharmaceuticals for various diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. The laboratory facility offers comprehensive services in Hematology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Histopathology. These facilities play a crucial role in diagnosing and monitoring cancer patients, facilitating timely and accurate treatment decisions. Additionally, SCI has established a modern Molecular Oncology Laboratory, which operates alongside other laboratory services. This facility focuses on molecular diagnostics, enabling the identification of specific biomarkers and genetic alterations that aid in personalized treatment approaches.
In recent years, SCI has seen a significant number of patients seeking cancer care. In the last year, approximately 49,000 patients visited SCI - out of which 8,000 were new patients. This indicates the growing demand and importance of the institute in providing cancer care services to the community.

SCI is undergoing a significant expansion to further enhance its capabilities and establish itself as an Apex Cancer Care Hospital (Level 1) in the Distributed Cancer Care model of Assam Cancer Care Foundation. The responsibility for constructing and developing the new State Cancer Institute building has been entrusted to M/s L&T Construction by ACCF. L&T Construction has handled both the design and construction aspects of the project which commenced work in November 2019. The expected completion date for this project is December 2023.

The new development will add an additional 3.24 lakh square feet of area to the existing infrastructure. Once completed, the total area of the hospital will be 4.76 lakh square feet - allowing the accommodation of more advanced facilities and services. The expanded hospital will feature 350 beds, enabling a larger capacity to treat cancer patients effectively. The increase in bed capacity ensures that a greater number of patients can be accommodated and provided with high-quality care. To support comprehensive diagnostic capabilities, the hospital will house modern imaging facilities such as MRI, CT, Mammography and Digital X-Ray.

To facilitate sophisticated surgical procedures, the hospital will include five Modular Operating Theatres. These specialized operating theatres are designed to meet the requirements of complex surgeries, ensuring a sterile and controlled environment for optimal patient outcomes. The introduction of Robotic Surgery signifies the hospital’s commitment to utilizing cutting-edge technology in the field of surgical oncology. Robotic-assisted surgery enables surgeons to perform precise and minimally invasive procedures, resulting in faster recovery and reduced post-operative complications.

Recognizing the critical care needs of cancer patients, the expanded hospital will provide 23 intensive care units (ICUs). The specialized units are equipped with advanced monitoring systems and medical support to cater to patients requiring intensive care during their treatment. The Nuclear Medicine Department will also be further augmented with installation of Gamma Camera. The Gamma Camera will use special imaging techniques called planar dynamic or single-photon emission-computed tomography (SPECT) to detect radioactive energy that is emitted from the patient’s body and convert it into an image. Additionally, Iodine therapy treatment will also be introduced in the near future.

Furthermore, the development project will incorporate a Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) unit. BMT is a specialized procedure used in the treatment of certain types of cancers and hematological disorders. Having a dedicated BMT unit within the hospital ensures comprehensive care for patients requiring this advanced treatment modality.

Overall, the expansion of SCI into an Apex Cancer Care Hospital with additional facilities will significantly enhance its capabilities in providing comprehensive and advanced cancer care. The inclusion of modern diagnostic technologies, surgical advancements, specialized neuro-oncology facilities, intensive care units, and a dedicated Bone Marrow Transplant unit underscores the institute's commitment to delivering state-of-the-art care to cancer patients.
New Projects

Silchar Cancer Centre

Diphu Cancer Centre
In our fight against cancer, DMart Foundation has joined hands with us in the noble cause. Diagnosis of cancer brings along with it emotional and financial baggage - especially for those who have meagre income. Many underprivileged people suffering from cancer are unable to get medical help or continue with their ongoing treatment due to financial burden. DMart Foundation has extended support through a grant - an initiative that has been able to aid more than eighty patients in the last nine months, who might otherwise have to discontinue their treatment due to financial limitations.

Debojani visited Lakhimpur Cancer Centre complaining of weight loss, breast pain, and discharge from the nipple. After undergoing requisite investigations including biopsy, she was diagnosed with carcinoma left breast, IDC, Grade 2, PT3N0. Her diagnosis had shattered her not only emotionally but, made her weary about the cost of treatment. Debojani lost her husband a couple of years back, has a daughter to be taken care of and has financial constraints. She supports herself and her daughter with the little help she receives from the villagers. Her treatment was initially started under PMJAY scheme with external beam radiation and adjuvant chemotherapy. After six months - due to technical snag - her card got deactivated and she was unable to continue with the treatment. Her health started to deteriorate further, and she had become feeble.

Understanding Debajani’s critical situation, Lakhimpur Cancer Centre took the initiative to offer her free treatment under DMart Foundation Grant. Eligibility assessment for receiving the grant was done instantly, and her treatment was resumed. Since then, her treatment is being continued seamlessly and there is a ray of hope for her swift and complete recovery.

It is stories like these that reaffirm our commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.
I live in a remote location in Assam. I never thought that a dreaded disease like cancer can be treated so near to my hometown. About two months back I was heartbroken when I was diagnosed with ovarian cyst. I thought the end has come. But not yet. My health has improved a lot now. I am grateful to the team of doctors, nurses and all other staff who have relentlessly helped me during my challenging times. My surgery at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre and regular checkups post-surgery at Jorhat cancer Centre has given me a new hope and with the low-cost treatment it has saved us from financial burden too.

~ Swarna Kalita – 74 years, Female, Village Khonamukh – Sibsagar

During a routine visit to a community for health checkup and awareness camp, ACCF outreach team came across Swarna and suspected her of having an abnormal growth in the ovary. They advised her to visit Jorhat Cancer Centre where thorough examination was done, and a few tests were undertaken. She was diagnosed with ovarian cyst and was immediately referred to Dibrugarh Cancer Centre as she required surgery immediately. At Dibrugarh, her surgery was successfully conducted after due processes. Swarna is gradually recovering and visits the centre regularly for checkups.

As mentioned by Swarna’s nephew Arup Saikia – who has been a strong support to Swarna since the time of her diagnosis – the seamless processes, the hospitality, the care given by all the staff at ACCF hospitals were undoubtedly the best they have come across. Arup is thankful to the Government of Assam and Shri Ratan N Tata for making quality cancer care accessible to the people of Assam.

In his testimonial, Mr Saikia has written that he was surprised by seeing such state-of-the-art infrastructure, modern diagnostics facility, and even comfortable accommodation for attendants - and all of these were available at minimal cost. He has pleaded all those who need cancer care to visit their nearest ACCF hospital and get treated there instead of going outside the state.
Project ‘Soundarya’
- A Gift Of Confidence And Dignity

Until a few days back, I was doubtful about going out of my house as I had hair loss due to chemotherapy treatment for my breast cancer. But now it is different. Wearing a wig has brought much assurance in me. Now I can visit my relatives, travel in public transport, and go to the market without hesitation. I would like to thank Dr Venkata and ICCW for helping me, and many more women regain our dignity through project Soundarya.”

~ Reena Pathak (name changed), 47 years – Lakhimpur

Project Soundarya is an initiative undertaken by Tezpur Cancer Centre (TCC) and Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW) – to provide wigs to women patients undergoing chemotherapy at TCC. Recently launched, the project aims to empower women patients with hair loss to look and feel their best during and after their treatment and beyond, to cope with confidence and dignity.

Nearly 90% of patients undergoing chemotherapy faces hair loss and chances are even more for breast cancer patients. Appearance-related effects of cancer treatment can be difficult for many individuals. Due to this distressing side-effect, many refuses to get treated or continue with the ongoing treatment. We come across such patients almost every day. A few are even ready to take the risk even if their cancer is curable – all due to fear of hair loss. In such a situation it becomes challenging for us to counsel them. The emotional and physical changes associated with cancer are often overwhelming. We do not want them to give up.

For cancer patients who has experienced hair loss, a wig can mean so much. To encourage people to continue with their treatment, Dr Venkata initiated to provide them wigs. However, with more and more patients being treated at the centre, it was important to procure wigs in large quantity. It was a challenging task to bring on board a team who would distribute wigs to these patients for free. However, as the saying goes – ‘goodwill is the mightiest practical force in the universe’ – TCC was able to collaborate with ICCW with the support from Natco CSR. Project Soundarya was launched under the leadership of Dr Lakshmi Goswami – a renowned physician and social worker. This association has delivered customized wigs to thirty patients so far.

“This is not just a wig, but my pride” – says Monima (name changed), 53 years old from Nagoan, who was diagnosed with breast cancer and is undergoing treatment in TCC. Earlier, she had stopped coming to the centre after her third chemo cycle. Because of her hair fall, people in the neighbourhood had begun to ask her various questions about her disease and treatment that had made her uncomfortable. She lived in seclusion for several days. TCC team approached her and gifted her a wig, after which she is now happily coming to the centre and continuing with her treatment.

Every cancer patient deserves access to quality healthcare that will help them undergo treatment with the support and dignity they need. We believe, with our continued efforts we will be able to give care and hope to all.

Dr Venkata Pradeep Babu Koyyala
Medical Oncologist
Tezpur Cancer Centre
We Came...We Saw...
We Were Flabbergasted

PET CT – Detection with Precision

The rampant practice of betel nut and tobacco abuse and on top of that gulping down of extremely hot tea has taken a toll of innumerable mortals by causing cancer in the Northeast region. It was not before the establishment of a network of state-of-the-art cancer care centres under the aegis of Assam Cancer Care Foundation - the true picture about the havoc created by the cancer in this region was revealed. The Positron Emission Tomography (PET) facility has been a boon to this region of Upper Assam. The PET scan can produce a pixelated depiction of cancer cells in the body.

As the saying goes - a picture is worth a thousand words - in this section one would be aghast to see the whole body images unravelling untold pain of the cancer sufferers as a proxy to their unheard cries - the pain which is so difficult to express, describe and even prove to exist.

These pictures provide the map of distribution of glucose hungry, growth belligerent parasitic cancer cells inside the body. These cells have taken the control of body machinery, and it has been hijacked to make them thrive. They also put forward a fierce contest for space with normal body cells by depriving them of nourishment and destroying them.

As depicted in the images, such advanced cancer treatment will not be easy even with the best of the facilities. However, the silver lining is that - ACCF centres are geared to provide another state-of-the-art treatment using Linear Accelerator (LiNAC) as an interim relief.

Dr Vijay Gupta
Nuclear Medicine
Dibrugarh Cancer Centre
Community Outreach
An Impact

The road to recovery was not easy – I had moments of fear and doubt. But the care I received at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre gave me the confidence and the spirit to fight back. I am thankful to the doctors and nurses who have treated me and helped me heal not just physically but emotionally too.

~ Majid Gohain – 60 years, Bharaluwa, Dibrugarh

Triumph Over Adversity

Majid, a daily wage labourer was suffering from unusual fatigue, nagging cough and unexplained weight loss for a few months. His energy waned and body weakened gradually. Worried, he visited a local ayurvedic practitioner. There was no respite and his health deteriorated further.

During a visit to Bharaluwa village for Cancer Prevalence Survey with frontline workers, the Community Outreach Programme team (COP) of ACCF along with ASHA worker visited Majid’s home. After screening him it was detected that he had ulceroproliferative growth on his right buccal mucosa, including his lip and needed immediate medical attention. Majid’s ordeal however, extended beyond his physical condition. He was grappling with the fear of his ailment and financial constraints that made accessing healthcare a distant dream. He is the sole earner of his family and was unable to muster courage to seek medical help. Driven by the commitment to provide care and support to those in need - the COP team swung into action despite numerous challenges. Arrangements were made by the team to bring Majid to Dibrugarh Cancer Centre on June 21, 2023.

Majid’s ulceroproliferative growth had expanded and the pain was unbearable. He underwent a punch biopsy, and the result came back as squamous cell carcinoma. The diagnosis was undoubtedly grim but, it was the turning point in his journey towards recovery and a specialized treatment plan was put into action. The treatment involved a multidisciplinary approach that included surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy. The complete treatment was done cashless under the Central Government Scheme – PMJAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana).

Majid displayed immense courage and resilience throughout, and his positive attitude became an inspiration to both the medical team and fellow patients. Gradually, his ulceroproliferative growth began to recede and the pain had also subsided. In the following months, his regular check-ups and treatments showed promising results - with the cancerous growth continuing to shrink and his overall health steadily improving. Majid’s journey from fear and despair to recovery and renewed life is a testament to the unwavering commitment of the COP team and the importance of timely medical intervention at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre.

With continued efforts and distinguished works of the COP team in the community, we have ensured that quality cancer care is accessible to the underserved.
ACCF Collaborates With TMC NCG Navya and MSD India

Strengthening Care Delivery at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre

ACCF is proud to partner with TMC NCG Navya to make the expertise of Tata Memorial Centre and National Cancer Grid oncologists available to patients at Dibrugarh Cancer Centre.

TMC NCG Navya was founded in 2010 with the belief that every cancer patient deserves access to expertise, no matter their location, socioeconomic status, or ability to research medical information. Tata Memorial Centre, India’s largest cancer research and treatment centre, the National Cancer Grid, a coalition of over 300 cancer centres, and Navya, a cancer informatics organization came together to design this offering as a way to scale access to cancer expertise. The platform matches patient reports to data from published literature, national guidelines, and over 100,000 previous cases to make personalized, data-backed treatment recommendations. The platform also facilitates a virtual, multidisciplinary tumour board with medical, surgical, and radiation oncologists from Tata Memorial Centre or one of the NCG centers.

ACCF is focused on enhancing access to cancer care for the population of Assam and neighbouring states by minimising travel time and out-of-pocket expenses. With TMC NCG Navya’s technology platform, patients will have access to the nation’s best oncologists and assurance that they are getting a treatment plan that is optimized for their case. This helps Dibrugarh cancer center increase capacity and augment expertise to better serve patients.

As Dr. C.S. Pramesh, Director - Tata Memorial Hospital, Convenor - National Cancer Grid, puts it- "The TMC NCG Navya offering combines the decades of experience and expertise at TMC, the robust treatment guidelines of the NCG, and the technological and patient-centric prowess of Navya to work towards a uniform standard of care while taking into account resource stratification in a place like Assam. This is an innovative model to promote guideline-based and expert-backed care plans even in the most remote areas of our country."

We are grateful to MSD India for enabling this collaboration.
Our Partners In The Journey Has Made All The Difference

Federal Bank Hormis Memorial Foundation – through signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) - has contributed grant towards treatment of new patients at ACCF hospitals. The grant supports Diagnostics, Chemotherapy, Radiation Therapy, Transportation, and Accommodation. It will ensure that patients with financial constraints will not have to opt out of treatment.

Novartis India – in their continued journey of strengthening the healthcare ecosystem across India – has joined hands with ACCF to provide education and awareness on different diseases; capability building programme for healthcare professionals through train the trainer approach; scientific conclaves to raise awareness on concepts of Health Economics / Health Technology Assessment (HTA) among healthcare professionals and key decision makers.

Navya Care has collaborated with ACCF for an Innovative Service Model wherein, cancer cases will be processed through Navya’s AI system and provide evidence-based, guideline-compliant treatment recommendations.

Brahmaputra Crackers and Polymer Limited (BCPL) and ACCF collaborates to launch a community-level cancer screening initiative in Charaideo and Dhemaji Districts.
Honouring Patients And Caregivers On WHPCD 2023

On October 14, 2023, Barpeta Cancer Centre observed World Hospice and Palliative Care Day (WHPCD). The event gathered a diverse audience of over sixty attendees - including oncologists, specialist doctors, nurses, and individuals deeply interested in palliative care.

The programme was graced by esteemed guests, including Prof. Dr Ramen Talukdar, Principal-cum-chief Superintendent of Barpeta Medical College - who presided as the chief guest, and Ms Gilly Burn, the chief presenter. Gilly Burn - a specialist oncology & palliative care nurse by profession - is the founder-director of Cancer Relief India, a registered charity in United Kingdom. Special invitees included Prof. Dr Partha Pratim Baruah, Medical Superintendent of Barpeta Medical College; Mr Rontu Sangma, Regional Coordinator of Eastern & Northeast region of Pallium India; and Mrs Abha Devi, Principal nursing school of Barpeta.

Dr Nirmal Kumar Singha - Medical Superintendent of Barpeta Cancer Centre - with a warm welcome speech, set the tone for the event. The focal point of the day was the captivating speech delivered by Ms Gilly Burn. Her speech resonated with the essence of providing the right kind of palliative care, emphasizing the importance of empathy, compassion, and dignity in the final stages of life. In a heart-warming gesture, Ms Burn distributed fruits to all the patients of the hospital. The act of kindness symbolized the core principles of palliative care - a holistic approach to improve the quality of life for patients facing life-limiting illnesses. The event also highlighted an experience sharing session by a caregiver who had recently lost her husband to cancer. It was emotional yet, enlightening as she shared how being in palliative care had contributed to relieving a huge amount of suffering during their trying times.

The event not only shed light on the significance of World Hospice and Palliative Care Day but, also underlined the dedication of healthcare professionals, organizations, and individuals in providing comfort and support to those in need. It was a day of reflection and inspiration, reaffirming the commitment to ensuring that every individual receives the care and dignity they deserve during their most vulnerable moments.
Leadership & Team-Work Exercise - A Philanthropic Approach

A vastly ambitious project needs strong team-pillars to grow, develop and sustain with time. When it comes to teamwork, there is nothing more powerful than collaboration. After all - ‘Teamwork’ makes the dream work’.

Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much. If everyone is moving together - then success takes care of itself. Ideas can create wonders when transplanted into another mind, then the one where they sprang up. To accomplish the great ideas, we must not only act - but also dream - not only plan - but also believe. That is the reason behind organizing the titled programme - “Leadership and Team-Building Exercise”.

The programme was organized for the leadership group and the eminent Oncologists of Assam Cancer Care Foundation wherein a total of twenty-four employees had participated, on September 2, 2023 - an initiative to deliver the desired results in the days to come - was the motive behind organising such an event of great magnitude.

The programme speaks volumes on the topic - the way it was conducted, with energizers, activities.

The environment has turn to a ball of positivity and vibrant ambiance, with these different approach to the process of developing the session gradually.

This is just a stepping step, being a baby in lullaby - many more such activities will develop the organisation to a place which we all dream to be with open eyes.

KNOWLEDGE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE---every life, every moment, everyday…”Let’s learn and grow together’.
Statement from Participation

It was really a very nice experience altogether. The kind of quality interaction we had with each other will be cherished for long. The team building activities was fun and intriguing. I have learnt from everyone and specially, my interaction with our CEO Sir inspired me at many levels. Thanks to the organizers of this wonderful meeting.

Dr. Dalal Kiran Mondal
Consultant Medical Oncologist
Jorhat Cancer Centre

I would like to take the privilege of thanking our management team from HO for nicely organizing this retreat in one of the finest locations in Kaziranga. Our special thanks to Gautam Sir for his leadership and HR team lead by Deepanjal, Sasanka, Sumeyla and other HO team members. Participants are energized to work as a cohesive team now with goals in front. Also, thanks to all participants for making this programme a grand success. Success to ACCF journey!

Dr. Nabajyoti Choudhury
Medical Director
Dibrugarh Cancer Centre

Kudos to team HO for the workshop at Iora on September 2, 2023, which was so well organized – with all details meticulously planned and executed. The event was a welcome break from the routine and an opportunity to informally meet and interact with colleagues in the organization. It was a pleasure to see the rapport and bonhomie exuded by all the participants. We look forward to such events in the future too.

Special thanks to you for being the pivot in so efficiently organizing everything on ground and giving a personal touch to the event.

Dr. Gopal Kumar Purkayastha
Medical Superintendent
Lakhimpur Cancer Centre

Respected all Seniors and colleagues, thanking you all for the wonderful programme at Kaziranga.

Dr. Nirmal Kumar Singha
Medical Superintendent
Kokrajhar Cancer Centre

Sasanka Saikia
Lead - Training and Development
Embarking On A Healing Odyssey:
Our SVICCAR Hospital Experience

The art of healing thrives in the garden of shared knowledge, where every bloom is a testament to the beauty of collaboration.

Recently, a team from ACCF embarked on an exchange tour to Sri Venkateswara Institute of Cancer Care & Advanced Research (SVICCAR) in Tirupati. SVICCAR, a collaborative effort between the Tata Cancer Care Foundation (TCCF), the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam, is a pioneering institution in the field of cancer care. The core objective of our visit was to glean profound insights and hands-on experience across the various facets of this remarkable hospital. Our versatile team, comprising ACCF's adept functional heads, hospital administrators, HR specialists, procurement experts, and operations aficionados, were bestowed with the unique opportunity to delve deep into SVICCAR's multifaceted functioning.

As we set foot on the sprawling 25-acre campus nestled at the foothills of Tirumala, the ethereal beauty of SVICCAR's surroundings was the first enchanting note of our journey. The warm embrace of SVICCAR's dedicated team of doctors, nurses, and support staff marked the beginning of a rich exchange. Interactions flowed seamlessly, nurturing a mutual exchange of knowledge and experience between ACCF and SVICCAR. This harmonious exchange proved invaluable in understanding the challenges and nuances of running cancer hospitals across diverse geographical landscapes.

Among SVICCAR's many gems, its nursing workforce stood out as a shining example of dedication and exceptional training. To our astonishment, the hospital was run by a mere 29 dedicated nurses, a testament to their expertise and commitment. Equally striking were the clinical team, spearheading clinical care across various departments, including medical oncology, surgical oncology, radiation oncology, and palliative care. Their strength lies in the collective dedication and expertise. An innovative move was the appointment of a general medicine physician to oversee ECHOs. SVICCAR's clinicians have also established a robust healthcare network with nearby hospitals, including CMC Vellore, JIPMER, Kidwai, SVIMS, and others - providing essential support for non-oncology complications and emergencies, given that the hospital's emergency and ICU services are currently non-operational.

SVICCAR's handling of patients under the Arogya Shree scheme was another highlight. Approximately 80-90% of the patients benefited from this scheme. SVICCAR partnered with a dedicated third-party vendor - CS Creatives, and Arogya Mitra to provide comprehensive support. This team of ten staff members served as a single point of contact for scheme patients, streamlining their experience. Moreover, the Arogya Aasara feature of the scheme provided post-operative sustenance allowances to cover wage loss for post-operative patients, spanning 1,519 procedures across 27 specialties. Notably, the requirement for a Tumor Board meeting for Arogya Shree approval stood out as a unique feature.
The pharmacy functionality was another important takeaway because of the different nature of agreement that SVICCAR has with IMG. Due to the cost-plus model of the contract, they were able to pass on some discount on medicines etc. to the patients.

The exchange of ideas was a two-way street. The interaction with the SVICCAR team also led to appreciation of ACCF’s initiative like the system of visiting doctors as SVICCAR consultants expressed their desire to implement similar system to support to their departments like Anesthesia which is currently having only one doctor. Similarly, the discount functionality for needy and BPL patients at ACCF was appreciated by them. They also expressed their fascination with ACCF’s ability to tap non cancer patients for investigations, vast corporate tie-ups and innovative solutions like the DiNC teleradiology setup and the Navya platform. Both teams found common ground in their challenges regarding HMIS implementation.

In the spirit of collaboration, the ACCF team extended a warm invitation to SVICCAR, welcoming them to Assam and offering participation in unique clinical programmes like the upcoming NEOS (Northeast Oncology Summit) 2023. The synergy between ACCF and SVICCAR is indispensable in achieving clinical excellence. Together, we aspire to ensure that both ACCF and SVICCAR Hospital continues to deliver unparalleled care to its patients.

This collective commitment to addressing challenges is poised to propel the hospitals towards enduring success in the realm of cancer care. Would like to leave everyone with the following quote:

"In the symphony of healthcare, collaboration harmonizes our experiences, creating a melody of healing that knows no bounds."

Dr Dipijyoti Das
Head – Medical Operations and Planning
Snippets

**Kokrajhar Cancer Centre**
- COP Team of Kokrajhar Cancer Centre organised an awareness and screening camp on 40th Kokrajhar District Day
- Cancer Awareness meeting held by Kokrajhar Cancer Centre at Bongaigaon Refinery
- Former Minister of Agriculture and welfare of Tribal Affair visits Kokrajhar Centre

**Lakhimpur Cancer Centre**
- Awareness and Health Screening programme at District Court
- Health Camp Mela (Swastha Sewa Abhiyan) held in North Lakhimpur
- Awareness programme organised by Rainbow Welfare Society

**Darrang Cancer Centre**
- Awareness Session held in Kharupetia College
- Head and Neck Day observed at Darrang Cancer Centre
Caregiver Education and Counseling conducted with ASHA workers in collaboration with Indian Medical Association, Barpeta Road

KUDOS!
ACCF HOSPITALS RECEIVE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE UNDER AB-PMJAY

A six-day hands-on training programme for doctors in Pain and Palliative care was organised at Barpeta Cancer Centre for providing a comprehensive and practical education in modern palliative care principles and practices. The programme was designed to equip participating doctors with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance doctors' competencies in palliative care - focusing on patient-centric care, symptom management, communication skills, psychological and spiritual aspects, communication, ethical considerations and shared decision making. Each theory session was followed by bedside demonstrations and discussions on practical issues.
Elite Awards

We periodically recognise our employees for their achievements and contributions.

Tezpur
- Sanjay Kumar Prasad Star Award (April’23)
- Teresha Khakhlari Voost Award (April’23)
- Robina Begum Voost Award (May’23)
- Jennie Hijam Voost Award (June’23)

Darrang
- Risuklang Lyngdoh Voost Champ Award (May’23)
- Jianul Hoque Function Champ Award (June’23)
- Arun Hariom Gothi Functional Champ Award (May’23)

Lakhimpur
- Nijora Lahory Kaman Voost Champ Award (Mar’23)
- Parameswar Sarmah Functional Champ (Mar’23)
- Lakshya Jyoti Bhuyan Functional Champ (Mar’23)
- Rituraj Kalita Functional Champ (Mar’23)
- Indrani Bordoloi Functional Champ (April’23)
- Debanam Deori Functional Champ (July’23)

Barpeta
- Dr Ronit Roy Champ Award (March’23)
- Anjana Gurung Voost Award (March’23)
- Sabita Sen Star Award (May’23)
- Meher Ali Star Award (March’23)
- Utpal Deka Star Award (March’23)
Elite Awards

Dibrugarh

Pranami Sarmah
Star Award
(April’23)

Kokrajhar

Soibam Bedomoni Devi
Voost Award
(April’23)

Azanuddin
Champ Award
(April’23)

Sathish R
Star Award
(April’23)

Mallika Barman
Star Award
(May’23)

Nisha Daimari
Functional Award
(June’23)

Pritam Malakar
Functional Champ
(June’23)

Nestida Marthong
Voost Champ
(July’23)

Jorhat

Amritraj Mazinder Barua
Function Champ Award
(Mar’23)

Dhruba Jyoti Nath
Voost Award
(Mar’23)

Momt Borah
Star Award
(April’23)

Sabhajit Barik
Function Champ Award
(April’23)

Pori Boruah
Star Award
(Mar’23)

We periodically recognise our employees for their achievements and contributions.
Hospital Footfall

April 2022 – September 2023

105265
OPD

23168
Chemotherapy

3168
Radiation Therapy

33676
New Patients

27304
MRI & CT

Stay Connected...

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