

# FROM NOTHING TO COMPREHENSIVE HEMOPHILIA CARE – AN EXPERIENCE OF KARNATAKA HEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

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25 yrs back, in the state of Karnataka in South India hemophilia was almost an unknown disorder even amongst medical fraternity. With no government support, no insurance cover, no factor concentrates, no FFP, no cryoprecipitate, no diagnostic facilities what that was left was on demand whole blood transfusion and a lot of pain, financial burden and suffering.



*Self infusion being taught in a youth camp*

It is in this background some of the PWH, parents of some CWH and their sympathisers formed a support group, Karnataka hemophilia society. With the gradual accumulation of individual donations it organized a fashion show and got some corpus to run a care centre separately and also they could garner resource for a bigger event.



*Inauguration of Musical Concert*



*Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the Comprehensive Hemophilia Care Center*

It was then that they involved a famous singer of film industry who came forward to give a musical concert free of cost.



*Famous Indian playback Singer Dr. S.P. Balasubramaniam who gave musical concerts free of cost*

Some good individual donation came in and 2 bedded care centres improved to 20 bedded hospital.



*Comprehensive Hemophilia Care Center being constructed*



*Lobbying with government*

But how to fund the running cost? It was then that National AIDS Control Society, NACO was involved. NACO needed space for spreading its work and society needed to source fund for the running cost of the hospital. It formed a great win-win combination. Meanwhile international twinning programme brought new ideas, new instruments and new contacts.



*International Collaboration – A visiting team*

Physiotherapists recruited, duty doctors trained and a blood bank was started. In 23 years from nothing to a 20 bedded comprehensive care hospital with diagnostic and treatment facilities was a dream come true for PWH but the fruit of hard labour for its key persons.



With musical evenings, twinning programmes, working with NACO, lobbying with government, arranging CMEs, youth camps, women wing activities, Karnataka Hemophilia Society has come a long way from almost nothing to a full fledged comprehensive care centre with ideas worth emulating.



*Youth Camps*