

## Milestone for Yashoda Hospitals

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Yashoda Hospitals performed successful heart transplantation to Venkata Ramya, a 25-year old young mother from Pithapuram, East Godavari district taking the medical facilities in AP one step forward. Yashoda Hospitals is one of the three centres in India where world-class facilities for both lung and heart transplantations are available under one roof.

The heart transplantation was done on 15 December 2013 by a team of cardiothoracic surgeons headed by A G K Gokhale, chief cardiothoracic, Transplant and Minimal Access Surgeon and G Subramanyam, senior consultant, Anaesthetist, giving a new lease of life to Venkata Ramya by making her move normally again. For the past seven years after delivering her baby girl, Ramya had been suffering from a heart condition called 'Postpartum Cardiomyopathy', where the heart started failing slowly. This rare condition starts during pregnancy and after delivery, heart condition continues to worsen. Due to this, she was getting breathless while walking and she could not even lie down flat. Her feet were getting swollen. She needed repeated admissions for this heart failure. Her treating Cardiologist at Kakimada suggested that the only option left for her now is heart transplantation and he referred the patient to Gokhale at Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad. After almost 2 months of counselling, they understood that there is no other choice and agreed to go for heart transplantation. Ramya was evaluated for heart transplantation by Gokhale and Rajasekhar, Consultant Cardiologist at Yashoda Hospitals and kept on a waiting list for a heart donor. She stayed with her husband at Hyderabad after evaluation for nearly a month.



Venkata Ramya and her family along with Yashoda Hospitals M.D, G S Rao and Gokhale -cardio thoracic surgeon with Transplant team

On the evening of 15th of December 2013, a 21 year male patient was declared brain dead after a motor vehicle accident in another hospital at Hyderabad and his attendants magnan-

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imously agreed to donate the organs to save other people on the death bed.

Joyous with the success, Gokhale said, “Organ transplantations like heart and lung are the new hope for those suffering from end-stage organ failure. Transplantations not only save lives but also help patients live longer. Our past experience of performing 7 heart transplants

helped us reduce the ischemic time to 2 hours which made the recovery of patient very fast like any other routine open heart surgery”.

Expressing his happiness over this successful heart transplantation, G S Rao, managing director at Yashoda Group of Hospitals said, “Recognising the importance of transplantations in saving lives, we've established world-class facilities for both heart & lung transplantations. With this surgery, we have taken the medical facilities in A.P. to the next level making us a world-class centre performing the largest number of successful transplantations with fastest recovery. Fast recovery after this rare and difficult operation was possible only because of highly experienced team in heart and lung transplantations in AP”. Incidentally A G K Gokhale also performed the first successful heart transplant in Andhra Pradesh in 2004 and first successful single lung transplant in 2013. He is one of the two surgeons in India who performed heart and lung transplants successfully so far.