

**Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated  
as Chief Guest at the inaugural function of the Operative**

**Workshop – Scarwars 2019 organised by the Right Hospitals (P) Ltd**

Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu participated as Chief Guest at the inaugural function of the Operative Workshop – Scarwars 2019 organised by the Right Hospitals (P) Ltd., at Hotel Beverly, Kilpauk, Chennai today (16.08.2019) and addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Governor said, "I am happy to be here today at the inaugural function of the Operative Workshop – Scarwars 2019 being organised by Right Hospitals (P) Ltd.

Tamil Nadu has always been an important centre for medical diagnosis and treatment. It was the first State to enact the Public Health Act. The Government General Hospital and the Government Eye Hospital in Chennai are among the oldest in Asia. The State enjoys an impressive record in the reduction of infant mortality and maternal mortality rates. Private sector involvement in the establishment of hospitals for medical treatment has also been existent in Tamil Nadu for more than 100 years. The State ranks first in the country in terms of number of children immunized and takes pride in the thousands of eminent medical practitioners specialising in various fields of medicine. It is therefore no wonder that Tamil Nadu serves as an important hub for medical innovations and practices in the eastern part of the globe.

Plastic surgery is a surgical specialty involving the restoration, reconstruction, or alteration of the human body. It can be divided into two categories. The first is reconstructive surgery which includes craniofacial surgery, hand surgery, microsurgery, and the treatment of burns. The other is cosmetic or aesthetic surgery.

The father of modern plastic surgery is generally considered to have been Sir Harold Gillies. A New Zealand doctor who was working in London, he developed many of the techniques of modern facial surgery in caring for soldiers suffering from facial injuries during the First World War.

After working with the renowned French surgeon Hippolyte Morestin on skin graft, he persuaded his army's chief surgeon to establish a facial injury ward at the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot. There Gillies and his colleagues developed many techniques of plastic surgery and more than 11,000 operations were

performed on more than 5,000 soldiers with facial injuries, usually from gunshot wounds.

It will be interesting for many in the audience to know that Reconstructive surgery techniques were being carried out in India even in 800 BC. Sushruta who lived 150 years before Hippocrates describes Plastic Surgery in his famous ancient treatise 'Sushruta Samhita'.

Sushruta is credited with performing advanced surgeries, including plastic and reconstructive surgery. Sushruta was not just a great surgeon, but also a great teacher. He used to advise his students that however well-read they are, they are not competent to treat disease until they have practical, hand-on experience. He taught his students surgical skills by making incisions on the skin of fruits. He also taught them how to remove foreign bodies from flesh by demonstrating the extraction of seeds from fruits.

The medical works of Sushruta and Charaka, originally in Sanskrit, were translated into the Arabic language during the Abbasid Caliphate in 750 AD.

British physicians traveled to India to see rhinoplasties being performed by Indian methods. Reports on Indian rhinoplasty performed by Kumhar Vaidya were published in the Gentleman's Magazine in 1794. Joseph Constantine Carpue spent 20 years in India studying local plastic surgery methods and he then performed perform the first major surgery in the Western world in 1815.

The job of a plastic surgeon is to use his surgical principles in assessing the scar and what best surgical method could be used to make the scar appear better. In doing so skin adjacent to the scar has to be utilized to correct the existing scar by using plastic surgery principles. The skin adjacent to the scar can be expanded using a balloon so that the normal skin can be advanced to cover the existing scar. This technique is called tissue expansion. If the adjacent skin cannot be utilised then skin from a distant portion has to be transferred as skin graft or as a flap with its blood supply. Principles of reconstructive microvascular surgery are used to transfer thin skin flaps to correct scar and contour deformities.

Burn injury is one of the most difficult problems to treat. It affects the individual physically, psychologically, socially and economically. Prompt, proper and comprehensive wound management is essential for saving the patient and also to prevent complications.

The use of stored skin grafts harvested from brain dead patients and fresh cadavers is one of the recent treatments in the management of major burns.

The motto of the conference is to spread the knowledge of such advanced surgical principles. In this workshop, twenty patients are going to be operated free of cost. The live operating workshop will particularly provide exposure about the evolving techniques in the management of post burn scar contracture.

I am happy to see that sessions are also being organized on improving results of aesthetic surgical procedures using minimal scars.

It is only through workshops such as these that ideas get exchanged, experiences get shared and the way for great achievement is prepared. The large number of Surgeons and medical practitioners across the globe who are participating in this august meet fills me with delight.

At today's function some of the outstanding professionals amongst you have been honoured. They include

1. Prof Paolo Persichetti specializes in Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery, Face Lift Periorbital Rejuvenation. He is a Member of the Executive Committee of the international Confederation for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery.

2. Dr. Shimpei Ono specializes in Microsurgical flaps and Repair and Post burn Reconstruction of Hand. He is an active member of American Association of Plastic Surgeons (AAPS)

3. Dr. Devendra K.Gupta from Bareilly is pioneer of a wide variety of operative procedures like Rinoplasty, Pinna Reconstruction, Burn contracture, Eye tumors, Ptosis, Lip reconstruction, Cosmetic gynecological Surgery with world class results.

I appreciate the efforts of the Right Hospitals (P) Ltd., for having taken special and painstaking efforts to organise the Workshop. I extend my best wishes and greetings to them and to all of you assembled here. May you all greeted with success in your endeavours".

On this occasion, Thiru. R.S. Munirathinam, Founder, Chairman, RMK Group of Institutions, Prof. G. Balakrishnan, Managing Trustee, Right Hospital Trust, Dr.S.Vijayaragavan, Consultant, Plastic Surgeon, Dr.Somesh Balakrishnan, Right Hospital Trust and other dignitaries participated.

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Raj Bhavan, Chennai -22  
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Joint Director (PR)