

Commonwealth Tribute to Life conference report

Commonwealth Tribute to Life (CTtL) Conference “Celebrating Diversity” held in Gurugram, India

Pallavi Kumar, Lalitha Raghuram, Hemal Kanvinde, Sunil Shroff, Sujatha Suriyamoorthi
MOHAN Foundation, India

A three-day International Conference, "Celebrating Diversity" was organized by MOHAN Foundation and Commonwealth Tribute to Life (CTtL) at Courtyard by Marriott, Gurugram, India, from March 22-24, 2024. The aim of the conference was to share knowledge on organ donation and transplantation to help initiate and improve donation rates in Commonwealth countries. The conference received support from the SBI Foundation.

With close to 150 participants from 10 countries, including the UK, Canada, Singapore, Australia, South Africa, Bangladesh, Nepal, Malaysia, UAE, and Zambia, along with a significant representation from India, the conference truly served as a beacon of knowledge exchange. It provided a platform for experts, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates to share insights, research findings, and strategies to address challenges and seize opportunities in the field of organ donation and transplantation among Commonwealth nations.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by:

Shri Sanjay Prakash, Managing Director, SBI Foundation

Dr Anil Kumar, Director National Organ and Tissue Organization

Dr RVAsokan, National President, Indian Medical Association

Shri Sunil Arora, Retd Chief Election Commissioner of India

Dr Satya Sharma, Chairperson, Commonwealth Tribute to Life

Dr Dale Gardiner, Regional Coordinator, Europe, CTtL

Dr Avnish Seth, Organizing Chairman, CTtL Conference

Mr C. P. Gurnani, Ex-CEO, Tech Mahindra, CEO Club Mahindra

The conference featured a mixture of panel discussions, plenary talks, role-plays, and workshops, providing ample opportunities for networking and information exchange. Sessions in the conference covered topics such as:

- Sharing of best practices
- Supporting emerging programs to start deceased donation
- Showcasing community engagement
- Approaches to normalize DCD
- Roles in counselling for donation
- Brain Death Project and Challenges
- Setting up audit systems for transplant outcomes
- Pioneering hand transplantation in India
- Skin banking systems
- Creating organ transport systems using drones
- Using cell-free DNA for early detection of organ rejection
- Crowd-funding to support transplant costs

Additionally, there were three workshops to discuss:

- Best practices in transplantation from across the commonwealth
- Education, training and accreditation
- Opportunities for communication and promotion within the commonwealth



This conference was organized in association with National Organ and Tissue Organization (NOTTO), Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT), Society for Heart Failure and Transplantation, Liver Transplant Society of India (LTSI), International Federation of Kidney Foundations - World Kidney Alliance (IFKF-WKA), and NATCO. The conference also received support from Trunome, TANKER Foundation, Mankind, Intas, Lal Path Labs, Sanofi and Sandor.

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Inauguration of the workshop



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Dr Dale Gardiner, Consultant Adult Intensive Care Medicine, Nottingham University Hospitals, NHS Trust & Associate Medical Director - Deceased Organ Donation, NHS Blood & Transplant



Diversity and Donation in UAE - Opportunity & Alliances - **Dr Ali Obaidli**, Chairman, UAE National Transplant Committee

Augmenting Kidney Transplants - Lessons Learnt



Dr Vijayan Manogran, Consultant - Urologist and Renal Transplant Surgeon, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Dr Harun Ur-rashid, Senior Prof. Nephrology, Kidney Foundation Hospital & Research Institute, Bangladesh



Dr Job Kasweshi, Kidney Transplant Coordinator, Ministry of Health, Zambia felicitated by **Ms Jaya Jairam**, Project Director, MOHAN Foundation



Commonwealth Tribute to Life - Setting up for success

- (L-R) **Dr Satya Sharma** (Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life)
Prof Gurch Randhawa (Professor of Diversity in Public Health, Director Institute for Health Research, University of Bedfordshire)
Sterling Lynch (Strategic Lead, Planning, Performance & Integration Canadian Blood Services, Canada)
Dr Sunil Shroff (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation)
Lucinda Barry (CEO, Australian Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority)
Dr David Thomson (Consultant Surgeon, Transplant Unit & Critical Care Sub-specialist, University of Cape Town, South Africa)



Shri Sanjay Prakash, Managing Director and CEO, SBI Foundation at the inaugural ceremony

Showcasing community engagement across the Commonwealth



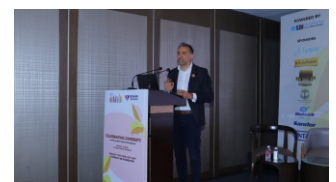
Australia - Brianna Elms
National Manager, Communication & Engagement, Australian Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority



Malaysia - Dr Zaimi Wahab
Transplant Nephrologist, Hospital Kuala Lumpur



India - Dr Hemal Kanvinde
Quality & Assurance Officer
MOHAN Foundation



UK - Prof. Gurch Randhawa
Professor of Diversity in Public Health, Director Institute for Health Research, University of Bedfordshire

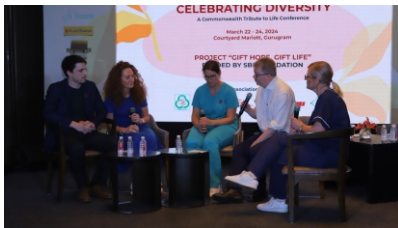


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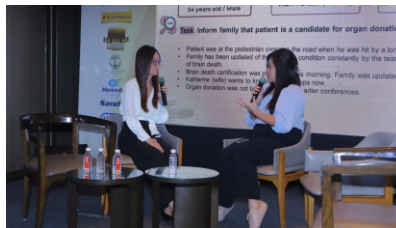
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International approaches: Roleplay of a family approach presented from different Commonwealth Countries



UK



Singapore



India



Consent for Donation - A ‘No’ is not always a ‘No’ - Ms Pallavi Kumar (Executive Director - MOHAN Foundation, President - NATCO)



Dr Shubnum Singh, Principal Advisor Healthcare, CII, Advisor & Governing Board Member, Health Sector Skill Council felicitated by Dr Satya Sharma, Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life (L) and Dr Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation (R)



Predicting tools in organ transplantation - Prof Nithya Krishnan (Consultant Transplant Nephrologist, Transplant Medical Lead & Professor Center of Health, Community Care, Coventry University), Dr B Subbarao (Consultant Nephrologist, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai) & Dr Sunil Shroff (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation)



DCD mobile app launch (L-R) Dr Sunil Shroff (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation), Dr Satya Sharma (Chairman, Commonwealth Tribute to Life) & Dr Anil Kumar (Director, NOTTO)



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It was a wonderful meeting that was organized. The conference was thoroughly enjoyed, with participants finding the day full of joy, learning, and great hospitality. They expressed a desire to prolong their stay, indicating the high level of engagement throughout. The collaboration between the MOHAN Foundation team and Dr Sunil Shroff (Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation) was particularly noteworthy, reflecting years of remarkable partnership. The impact of the deceased organ donation and transplant or (discussed topic) transcends borders, making a significant contribution worldwide. The gesture of sharing photos was appreciated, as they will serve as cherished memories in the future.



Prof. Harun Ur Rashid
Senior Professor of Nephrology
Kidney Foundation Hospital
and Research Institute,
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Founder & President, Kidney
Foundation, Bangladesh

The conference was fantastic, educational, inspiring, and impeccably organized. The hospitality extended was commendable, with each team member being warm and welcoming. It sparked numerous ideas, now needing only to find the time to share them.



Fatim Kevsani
Head of Organ Donation Marketing
NHS Blood & Transplant

Thank you for your exceptional hospitality and for orchestrating such a remarkable event. The attendees were highly engaged, and the atmosphere was vibrant. The conference was a delight, offering valuable networking opportunities. It was a pleasure collaborating with such a remarkable group of individuals. Anticipating the next conference eagerly.



Azim Gangji
Associate Professor in the
Department of Nephrology
McMaster University
Canada

It was indeed a wonderful event, flawlessly crafted and executed by the organizing team. Thank you immensely for granting us the opportunity to engage with some of the most passionate experts in the field of organ donation. Our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes go out to Commonwealth Tribute to Life, MOHAN Foundation, and NATCO for their invaluable contributions and support throughout the event.



Cmrdr V. M. Swamy
President
Bengal Organ Donation
Society

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