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Indian doctor performs first successful two heart valve replacement

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A 55-year-old Canadian patient, originally from Chandigarh has recently undergone a successful two heart valve replacement with TAVI and TMVR, without open-heart surgery by a team of doctors led by Interventional Cardiologist and structural Heart Disease specialist, Dr Ravinder Singh Rao.

The patient was suffering from severe aortic stenosis, severe mitral stenosis, and severe mitral annular calcification. Dr Rao replaced both mitral and aortic valves by performing TAVI and TMVR, non-surgically. This transcatheter native double valve replacement in the same sitting is rarely performed worldwide and is the first case in Asia and in India.

Aortic stenosis refers to the narrowing of the aortic valve. The patient was admitted to the hospital with the condition of heart failure, a history of shortness-of-breath, difficulty in walking, and carrying out daily activities. However, due to his calcification in the aorta and chest wall, he was deemed high risk for open-heart surgery by more than three surgeons from all across the country.

Dr Rao has experience of doing maximum TAVI procedures in India. He is also a Co-principal investigator for the National TAVI studies and has presented and shown live TAVI procedures for national and international meetings. He has also proctored TAVI in India, Asia, and in Europe.

TAVI is a minimally invasive heart procedure conducted to replace a narrowed aortic valve that fails to open correctly and can be an option for people who are in immediate or high risk of complications from the traditional surgery.