

Collaboration on cancer technologies fast becoming a priority

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Collaboration on cancer technologies fast becoming a priority



Multimodal Cancer Treatments reached a new high in the four-day Indian Cancer Congress 2013 held for the first time in India, New Delhi. Indian Cancer Congress 2013 boasted of holding discussions of various cancers with experts from various fields on the same platform. This was done with the hope that practices of oncology will adopt the multimodal approach as standard of care. The specially designed round table meetings brought foreign delegates and Indian experts together to help find answers to "India - specific cancers" and their outcomes for example, Gall bladed cancer, cervical cancer and head and neck cancers.

Dr.Harit Chaturvedi, Organizing Secretary, Indian Cancer Congress said "Indian Cancer Congress 2013 will act as a catalyst of true integration of clinical and research innovations. With a large input from world leaders in cancer care, we are certain this is going to inspire the new generation towards taking oncology to an international level".

One of the other achievements of this conference has been judged by the collaboration of the various cancer related technologies that were displayed in the Congress. New companies demonstrated how new technology molecular and immunopathology can potentially change the landscape of cancer diagnosis and strategies for treatment. The conference, for the first time, demonstrated technology on the forefront with molecular imaging that is likely to change oncology imaging in the future. In the field of radiation, a new technology giving radiotherapy which is affordable, faster, convenient and with less radiation dose while improving effectiveness and accuracy, was uncovered.

A very proud achievement for the Indian science community at large was submission of more than 1900 scientific papers and more than 150 awards given to young budding scientists in the field of cancer medicine.

"The pace of change has changed in Medicine and oncology is the perfect example of it. Today such meetings help in exchange of ideas and give new directions for future growth. Every question raised, every poster or a thought shared by a young doctor has the potential to give birth to a new concept and give this super specialty it's future direction", expressed Dr (Prof) G K Rath, Organizing Chairman, INDIAN CANCER CONGRESS 2013.

On the final day of Indian Cancer Congress 2013 a special session, "Patient Advocacy Program" was organized. Ms Shabnam Singh, Mother of Mr Yuvraj Singh presented her case of battling cancer with Yuvi as a mother rather than as a celebrity. She further added, "The World has entered a new era of technology in growth but we still struggle to find cure for cancer. As a mother of a patient, not a celebrity, I whole heartedly give my support to other patients and their family members. I would like to add that we should all keep our hopes alive and leave the rest to the doctors and gods."

The Indian Cancer Congress 2013, being held for the first time, is till date likely to be the largest Asian congregation of Oncologist in Asia. While the congress comprehensively covers all areas of cancer care, it is the field of Psycho-oncology, Onco Pathology and Genomics, i.e. genetic causes and expression of cancers that were given its due platform and for the first time integrated with clinical oncology. The level of contribution and collaboration amongst various fields, from oncologist from different parts of India and the strong faculty of 130 oncologist from abroad, has initiated a new beginning of the state of art tertiary level tumor understanding and patient care in India.

In summary this conference put forward a comprehensive programme of precision radiation, personalized medicine and safer surgery from India to the world.

"To our delight we met with an amazing response, unparallel energy seen in the academic area and oncotech. The level scientific debates and presentations raised the bar for every other player of the field." Commented Dr (Col) R.Ranga Rao, Chairman, Scientific Committee, Indian Cancer Congress 2013.

"Our Vision was to present Indian Oncology to the world as the most rapidly evolving specialty. This will create world leaders in India. We captured the momentum and hope Indian Cancer Congress 2013 will be catalyst for future growth, better care of our patients in all areas- nursing, psycho oncology, rehabilitation. Create platforms for more collaboration at individual and institution level", said Dr Ashok Vaid, Treasurer, Indian Cancer Congress 2013.