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Healthcare Environment Made India As World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Global Destination

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I. ABSTRACT:

The healthcare environment in India has evolved into a World-Class, Cost Effective Healthcare destination for Medical Tourism influenced by ancient traditions and modern advancements; India is rich in alternative therapies that are the traditions of India and time tested in Centuries still have their force to reckon in Healthcare in which the West has no answer in certain diseases/ailments. In this regard, the ancient healthcare traditions namely in Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Siddha that have treatments and procedures of their own for certain ailments where the West has no answer in allopathy is gaining importance with establishment of Ayush. To give high standards that are equivalent to JCI India has introduced NABH to give and recognize in healthcare, the National Board of Accreditation of hospitals and healthcare services (NABH) established by the Government of India has designed guidelines for accreditation of wellness centres in collaboration with Ayush. This transformation is underscored by the commitment of the Indian Government to enhance healthcare accessibility and quality, particularly in Post Covid-19 Pandemic.

In the present World Healthcare Scenario, India is emerging as a **"World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination and Global Pharma Leader and preventive healthcare is the national priority for India's vision of 2047."**

In the Post Covid-19 Pandemic the practice of travelling abroad for medical care has witnessed an unprecedented surge and in this regard India stands out as a prominent destination among the countries that have emerged as key players in this Global phenomenon. India the land of vibrant cultures, breath taking landscapes and Ancient traditions has emerged as a Global Leader in Medical Tourism and thus providing cost effective treatments, world class facilities, holistic healing and more.

Our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi emphasized the importance of investing in healthcare advocating for a vision where India becomes a Global Hub for affordable and quality medical services with integrating of traditional practices such as Ayurveda, Yoga and Siddha with modern and latest advanced technologies such as Organ Transplantation, Stem Cell Therapy etc which has positioned India uniquely in the Global healthcare.

With advent of Globalization and Government Encouragement in Healthcare by allowing private participations, International Players in healthcare are coming forward to enter into Indian healthcare by themselves/joint participation/allowing new technologies and techniques and healthcare that are not available in this country because of the new Government Exim Policies, the country is becoming a World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination with Unparallel efficient Healthcare Professionals who are having International Repute.

In the present Global healthcare Environment Cost of Healthcare in developed nations has increased so much that one has to spend the lives entire savings to keep one's health in good condition. However, in India the Healthcare procedures are significantly lower than the so called developed countries in the range of 40-80%, makes it easier for National and International Patients seeking quality healthcare procedures without losing their bank balances. Most of the healthcare professionals who are working in healthcare facilities of working nations are from India or Indian Origin. Now India is in a position to do any kind of procedures such as multi organ transplantation, regenerative therapy, recuperation, rehabilitation, stem cell therapy in addition to

Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Yoga namely Ayush. In these therapies namely Ayush, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh are rapidly growing with International Centres and Standards for the healthcare.

This affordability combined with high standards of care and made India an attractive option for International Patients seeking medical treatment. In addition the Indian Government has implemented various initiatives to promote medical tourism, including streamlined visa processes and the establishment of dedicated medical tourism facilities.

The aim of the article to ensure the patients to receive high-quality healthcare while respecting ancient traditions and practices with affordable costs and high quality treatment for International Patients and accomplice.

The object is to enhance the development of healthcare infrastructure coupled with public-private partnerships which leads India's position as a leader in Global healthcare.

Conclusion: India's healthcare environment is characterized by a unique blend of traditional and modern practices, a commitment to quality and affordability and a strategic vision for the future making it a preferred destination for Medical Tourism Worldwide seeking quality healthcare at affordable costs.

II. KEYWORDS: Cost Effectiveness, Quality Healthcare, Affordability, Ancient practices with latest technology.

III. AIM & OBJECTIVE:

AIM: The aim of the article to ensure the patients to receive high-quality healthcare while respecting ancient traditions and practices with affordable costs and high quality treatment for International Patients and accomplice.

OBJECTIVE: The object is to enhance the development of healthcare infrastructure coupled with public-private partnerships which leads India's position as a leader in Global healthcare.

IV. INTRODUCTION:

Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Nation (India) mentioned that,

"It is health that is person's real wealth but not piece of Gold and Silver"

As mentioned in Vedas,

"Pranayamaat Pustihi Gotrasya Stejo Yashobalam"

It means,

with Pranayama, Body gets strength, vigor and concentration.

If these things are developed by Pranayama, the diseases and ailments are afraid of coming nearer to you,

***Drussena Saradaam Satam
Sunyama Saradaam Satam
Prabhavama Saradaam Satam
Adhinaa Syama Saradaah Satam
Bhuyama Saradaah Satam***

Means,

"One has to live for Hundred Years"

How?

With good habits like See Good, Hear Good, Speak Good and Live with Integrity

"A Healthy body is the dweller of sound mind"

World Health Organization (WHO), the universal body on Health defined Health as,

"State of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity"

The above statement clearly shows that the Ancient Indians have given much prominence even before the Vedic Period that has been followed centuries but unfortunately that knowledge has been dwindled at one point or other.

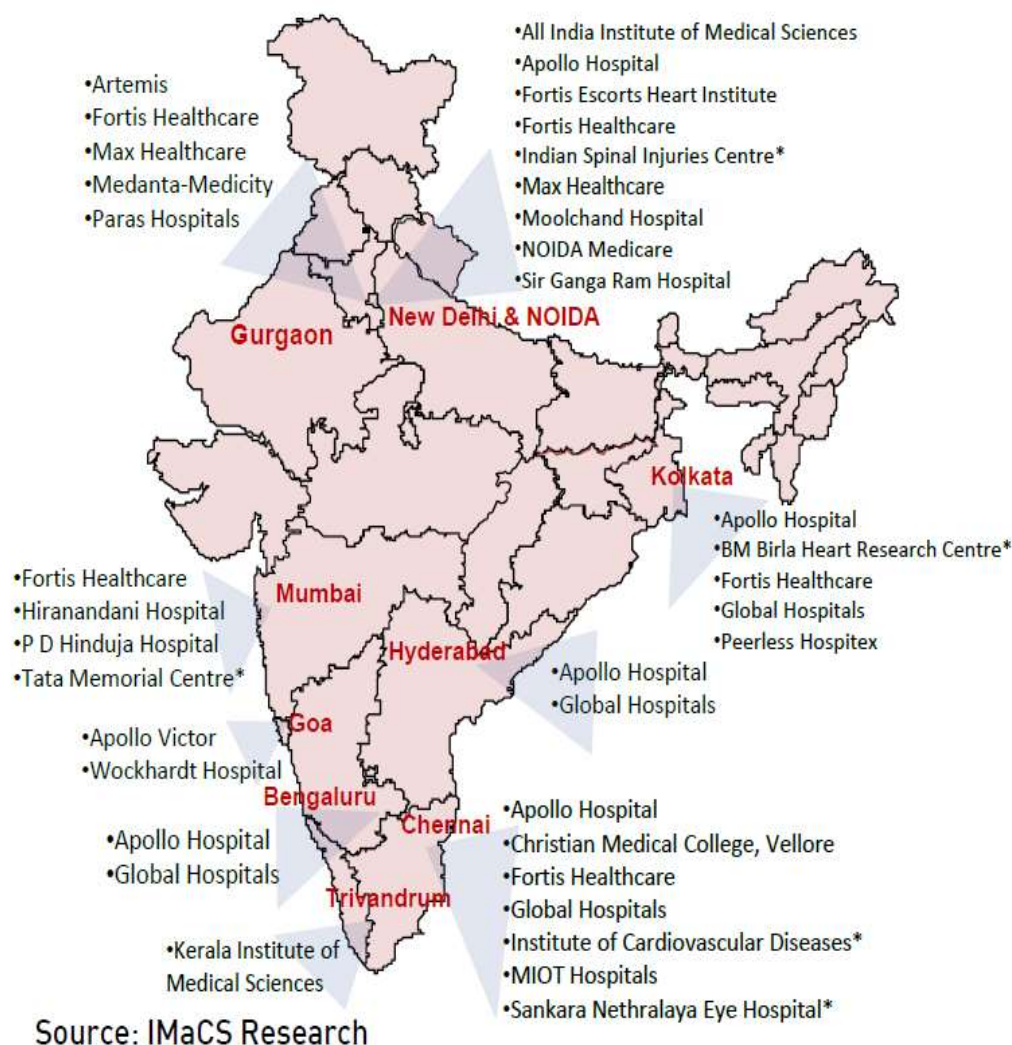
In a recent virtual even in Tamilnadu, Sri. Narendra Modiji, our beloved Prime Minister has said, **"the Covid-19 Pandemic had reiterated the importance of the Medical Sector"**. The Prime Minister also mentioned that,

"The once in a lifetime Covid-19 Pandemic has re-affirmed the importance of the health sector the future will belong to societies which invest in healthcare. Learning from the Pandemic, we keeping working to ensure inclusive and quality healthcare services to all our country men".

The Prime Minister also mentioned that,

"Our healthcare professionals working towards taking Indian Practices such as Yoga, Ayurveda and Siddha to the world". In the same event, the Prime Minister also mentioned that, **"in the coming years I envision India as being Go-to destination and quality and affordable care. India has everything needed to be a hub for medical tourism; and also urged the medical fraternity to take a challenge and put Indian Medical Healthcare in the Universal Healthcare Map"**.

Select Hospitals Offering International Patient Services (MAP – I)



While addressing the Global Medtek Summit 2024, organized by confederation of Indian Industry Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said,

"India's emergence as a World-Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination and at the same time a leader in the Global Pharmaceutical Industry".

The Hon'ble Union Minister also mentioned on the transformation in Healthcare brought about in recent times said,

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government has laid down a vision for a Healthy India with elimination of communicable diseases and prevention of Non-Communicable diseases, developing health indices and making study progress – India

carried out the World's largest vaccination drive in Covid-19 Pandemic and this affirms that the Modi Government firmly believes that accessible healthcare is a right of every citizen. He also pressed on the new burden of metabolic disorders and the challenges it possessed with a wide spectrum of diseases and increasing life span bringing novel diseases."

The Union Health Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is himself a Professor of Medicine & Endocrinology highlighted increasing prevalence of morbidities of later age happening in Younger Age like Type-2 Diabetes Mellitus, Young Heart Attacks, Malignancies etc. are not only a health challenge but also threatened to drain way the vital youth energy and youth potential which would otherwise be contributing to the task of national building and realizing the vision of India 2047.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Health Minister advocated the principle of

"PPP + PPP collaboration, urging the Public and Private sectors within India to partner with their counterparts in other countries and said that, "Such Partnerships not only boost economic resources but also enhance knowledge resources, and pointed to the success in the space and biotechnology sectors as role models for integrated partnerships, noting the rapid growth in private investment and startup numbers in these areas".

The Minister also mentioned that,

"Medical device is considered as one of the sunrise sectors in the country and the country is taking every possible step to make India its manufacturing Hub. A research group is formed to create in disease, draw bench marks and proposed plan of action."

In the present World Healthcare Scenario, India is emerging as a,

"World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination and Global Pharma Leader and preventive healthcare is the national priority for India's vision of 2047."

In the Post Covid-19 Pandemic the practice of travelling abroad for medical care has witnessed an unprecedented surge and in this regard India stands out as a prominent destination among the countries that have emerged as key players in this Global phenomenon. India the land of vibrant cultures, breath taking landscapes and Ancient traditions has emerged as a Global Leader in Medical Tourism and thus providing cost effective treatments, world class facilities, holistic healing and more.

With advent of Globalization and Government Encouragement in Healthcare by allowing private participations, International Players in healthcare are coming forward to enter into Indian healthcare by themselves/joint participation/allowing new technologies and techniques and healthcare that are not available in this country because of the new Government Exim Policies, the country is becoming a World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination with Unparallel efficient Healthcare Professionals who are having International Repute. In addition, to latest healthcare techniques and technology procedures, India is rich in alternative therapies that are the traditions of India and time tested in Centuries still have their force to reckon in Healthcare in which the West has no answer in certain diseases/ailments. In this regard, the ancient healthcare traditions namely in Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Siddha that have treatments and procedures of their own for certain ailments where the West has no answer in allopathy is gaining importance with establishment of Ayush. To give high standards that are equivalent to JCI India has introduced NABH to give and recognize in healthcare, the National Board of Accreditation of hospitals and healthcare services (NABH) established by the Government of India has designed guidelines for accreditation of wellness centres in collaboration with Ayush.

COST EFFECTIVENESS:

In the present Global healthcare Environment Cost of Healthcare in developed nations has increased so much that one has to spend the lives entire savings to keep one's health in good condition. However, in India the Healthcare procedures are significantly lower than the so called developed countries in the range of 40-80%, makes it easier for National and International Patients seeking quality healthcare procedures without losing their bank balances. Most of the healthcare professionals who are working in healthcare facilities of working nations are from India

or Indian Origin. Now India is in a position to do any kind of procedures such as multi organ transplantation, regenerative therapy, recuperation, rehabilitation, stem cell therapy in addition to Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Yoga namely Ayush. In these therapies namely Ayush, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh are rapidly growing with International Centres and Standards for the healthcare.



QUALITY HEALTHCARE:

India can boost a vast network of JCI, NABH accredited Healthcare facilities equipped with cutting-edge technology maintained by highly qualified healthcare professionals and paramedical staff. India is known for the tradition of "***Athididevobhava***" proving its metal in healthcare procedures by treating the patients with grace, patience and intense care. Now presently, there are number of healthcare facilities of International repute have emerged and emerging in Private Healthcare Sector scattered in all the parts of the country but the main crust being Chennai and

Hyderabad, Bangalore followed by Kerala in South to NCRDC (Delhi) and parts of Central India like Raipur, Bhopal, Indore etc.

The advantage of International Patients coming to India is in addition to cost effectiveness our healthcare facilities can boost modern Infra Structure facilities envying the so called western World in the case of "**human touch and human feeling**", skillful dedicated healthcare professionals and the most supporting para medical staff, including highly qualified nurses, technicians and supportive environment as a whole. All these factors make India a must choice for those patients seeking World Class Healthcare procedures with genuine warm and compassion.

ALTERNATIVE HEALTHCARE PROCEDURES:

Added to the latest technology and technical procedures that are being practiced in developed nations, the additional advantage in Indian Healthcare Procedure is its rich tradition in Ayurveda, Siddha, Yoga and Naturopathy in which the ancient Maharishis' and Rushis have developed time tested procedures for chronic diseases that have no answer in modern healthcare procedures adopted by the so called western developed countries.

To develop the traditional Indian Medicines as above where there is every answer to any disease whether it is chronic are not derived from the natural resources that the almighty has given a gift to the mankind to live in without any ailments/sufferings which is a must for economic development of any country.

A Healthy Nation is a Wealthy Nation

The Indian Government has introduced and implemented various policies and initiatives to promote medical tourism, the lifeline of healthcare such as streamlining visa procedures by introducing medical visa, conversion of tourist visa into healthcare visa in certain defined conditions and establishing dedicated medical tourism facilities. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India with the assistance of State Tourism Corporations and such other agencies like healthcare facilitators who are in a position to answer international patients from their home country till they reach the home country fully satisfied with medical procedures are the order of

the day. In addition, the Ministry of Tourism is actively participating in Global Trade Fairs and Healthcare conferences to carve a niche.

The Ministry in collaboration with leading International Healthcare Facilities in India to promote healthcare is focusing on

- a. developing standardized treatment protocols and packages for specific medical conditions, ensuring patients receive consistent high quality care,
- b. implementing International quality standards through NABH accreditation and JCI certification (a universally acclaimed accreditation by America),
- c. Training Healthcare facility staff including healthcare and non healthcare staff in communication skills, to keep high standard morals of religious feelings and cultural sensitivity while attending the International patients to keep their religious emotions and feelings not hurt, finally
- d. competitive procedural pricing, transparent billing, following international monetary laws and finally to ease the patients problems during their sojourn in any healthcare facility in India.
- e. The Ministry of Tourism has recognized the importance and the growing interest of alternative procedures that are only available in India by introducing Ayush Visa.
- f. The department also introduced a condition that is "**extension of visa which limits regular tourism visa in certain cases where procedures and durations extended in the wellness area.**"
- g. The Ministry also collaborates with Ayush practitioners and Ayush healthcare facilities to promote Ayush services and to ensure high standards of care in implementing traditional medicines.

V. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Health Minister, Government of India, while addressing,

"the Global Medtek Summit 2024", organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) held in India recently while addressing the gathering the Minister mentioned that,

"India's emergence has a World Class Cost Effective Healthcare Destination and at the same time, a leader in the Global Pharmaceutical Industry".

Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister mentioned that,

"Transformation in Healthcare brought about in recent times under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi's Government has laid down a vision for a healthy India with the elimination of communicable diseases and prevention of Non-communicable diseases, developing health indices a making study progress. India carried out the World's largest vaccination drive in Covid-19 Pandemic, reaffirms that the Government of India firmly believes that accessible healthcare is a right of every citizen"

Dr. Jitendra Singh who himself a professor of medicine and endocrinology and Union Minister of State for Health, highlighted "the increasing prevalence of morbidities of later age happening. In younger age, like Type-2 Diabetes Mellitus, Young Heart Attacks, Malignancies etc. are not only a health challenge but also threatened to drain away the vital youth energy and youth potential which would otherwise be contributing to the task of nation building"

The Hon'ble Minister also advocated the principle of "PPP+PPP collaboration people urging the public and private sectors within India to partner with their counter parts in other countries. Such partnership not only boost economic resources but also enhances knowledge resource and pointed out success in the space and biotechnology sectors has role models of integrated partnerships, noting the rapid growth in Private Investment and Startup numbers in these areas."

India is among the top six bio manufacturers of the world and one of the most cost effective and efficacy based bio manufacturing as well as cost effective healthcare destinations.

He referred to BIRAC – Bio Technology Industry Research Assistance Council as one platform for Industry linkage and research. The Minister also recalled the efforts of the department of Bio-Technology and their achievements for fastering research and development in translational health sciences.

Medical devices is considered as one of the sunrise sectors in the country and the government is taking every possible step to make India its manufacturing hub. Technology plays a crucial role in ensuring equitable access to healthcare. Technology is revolutionizing the healthcare sector and the integration of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Tools can significantly enhance our capabilities by leveraging technology, we can enhance efficiency, reduce weight time, and improve overall healthcare delivery. Sharing his experience with telemedicine the Minister Shared how it has transformed healthcare and made services accessible even the remotest villages of the country.

In an article title "**Medical Tourism in India: Cost-Effective Treatments, World-Class Facilities, Holistic Healing and more**" published in www.keto.org it was mentioned that,

"with its blend of World Class Healthcare Facilities, affordable treatment costs and diverse medical expertise, India offers a unique proposition to medical tourists seeking quality healthcare alongside and an enriching travel experience. It can become a preferred choice for individuals seeking high quality medical treatments at affordable costs".

The author also pointed out in the article,

"Medical treatments in India are significantly cheaper than in developed countries, often costing 40-80% less. India boasts a vast network of accredited hospitals equipped with Cutting-edge technology and staffed by highly qualified and experienced medical professionals."

Infrastructure, Technology and Technological advancements with highly skilled professionals are vital force in an healthcare industry to reduce the costs and increase the satisfaction of the patients. It is necessary to have an eye on improving the above factors. It is true that private healthcare providers wants their returns of the investments at the earliest but in healthcare it is coupled with human touch and human feeling because the product is coupled with patients namely human beings and the application of the procedures by the humans namely healthcare professionals. Hence, the Government has made several regulations, acts to prevent malpractices, easy money earning at the cost of human life. So that healthcare sector will become not only money earning sphere but at the same time to fulfill the social obligation by the professionals to the patients and society at large.

In this regard in an article published in Research Gate titled "**Health Infrastructure in India: Need for Reallocation and Regulation**" written by Dimpal Vij, AKP (PG) College, Khurja,

"Healthcare means provision of services to improve health status of individuals. Anything that contribute to producing better health such as nutritious food, clean air, exercise, medical intervention etc is considered to be healthcare. Healthcare Infrastructure means an optimum mix of physical structure and human resources as both are required to deliver the desired health services. Health is considered to be a stock of capital that yields return in the form of healthy days just as wealth is a stock of capital that yields a stream of income. Efficiency of any person/worker depends considerably on his/her health. Workers whose health is not good or who fall sick quiet often cannot do their job efficiently and their productivity income declines."

That is why the Mahatma Gandhi, the father of nation (India) mentioned that,

Health is Wealth but not piece of Gold and Silver

In the same article the author also mentioned that Use of Technology can help a lot to reduce the cost as well as improving facilities in health area. Online monitoring of all the health facilities of health centre as well as use of tele-conferencing, tele-medicine and tele-radiology, mobile hospitals and mobile ambulance and remote, rural, and hilly and tribal areas can help a lot to bring down the cost of establishing health centres over there.

In a Government of India, press release through Press Information Bureau by Ministry of Science and Technology under the heading "**India fast emerging as the World's favourite cost effective healthcare destination**"

"India has taken a lead in last 9 years in the areas of preventive healthcare, physical healthcare and integrated healthcare, also being recognized as the Top Medical Tourism destination. The last 9 years have turned India into cost effective Medical Destination, has been possible because of several path breaking healthcare reforms and enabling provisions brought in. The Government is trying its best to end Urban-Rural healthcare dichotomy, Doctors on wheels is the best example. Ayushman Bharat is so far the World's Best Health Insurance team that no other country has introduced".

In another article titled "**Heal in India: Emergence of India as a Hub of Medical Tourism**" written by Rashika Vij published in <https://www.investindia.gov.in> the author mentioned various factors such as,

- a. Treatment for curative purposes that include Cardian Care, Organ Transplantation, Orthopedic, Neurosciences, Oncology and Bariatrics,
- b. Wellness and Rejuvenation: Offerings focused on rejuvenation or for Aesthetic reasons such as Cosmetic Surgery, Stress relief, Spa Treatments etc.,
- c. Alternative Medicine: Treatment to seek Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) services,
- d. Infrastructural facilities and digital enablement, ranging from the problem of the eye, heart, kidney to organ transplantation, orthopedics and cancer,

- e. e-medical Visas and Medical attendant Visas that was launched in 2014 and expanded to include medical visits and medical attendant visits to streamline, ease and expedite the travel procedures and protocols for allowing multiple entries and longterm stay in the country.*
- f. Constitution of the National Medical and Wellness Tourism Board and the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and healthcare providers (NABH),*
- g. Digital enablement: The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in the Services Export Promotion Councils (SEPC) who have developed the healthcare portal for seekers and potential medical tourists,*
- h. Physical support and non-physical initiatives and checking up of Medical Tourism Providers (MTSPS) etc.*

The Indian Healthcare Eco-system is delivering World-Class Care and Treatment at Lower Costs (almost 20% less for major surgical treatments as compared to those of developed equipped with internationally recognized facilities). In addition India is having around 37 Joint Commission International (JCI) Accredited Hospitals and 513 National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) Accredited Hospitals that provide care at par or above global quality standards and bench marks. India is also home to some of the most renowned Super Speciality Hospitals and Services that provide patients with the latest and most advanced treatment options using the latest technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality (VR) and Robotics for greater accuracy and holistic well being.

The above narration by the author in their article clearly shows the resources, professionalism, technology and above all human touch and human feeling of our Healthcare professionals in providing best healthcare procedures with humanity at affordable costs.

In another article titled "**Bharat spearheads global medical tourism owing to its affordable treatment, expertise and professional healthcare**" written by Dnayanashri Kulkarni and Dr. Pushpendra Kaushik in www.organiser.org the voice of the nation, the author has explicitly mentioned that,

"Bharat spearheads local medical tourism owing to its affordable treatment, expertise and professional healthcare and since a decade India has emerged as nation which

has offered the state of the art medical facilities to numerous countries in the Globe and has enhanced its medical tourism industry to such an extent that it now is ranked one of the highest among top 10 nations in the domain due to Plethora factors of like Cost effectiveness, traditional healing, investing into healthcare arena and competent medical experts indicating a brighter future ahead. The above statement exactly visualizes the true nature and fact that India is a cost effective in additional traditional healing providers in many of the chronic diseases globally”.

In an article titled “**Best Hospitals in India at an Affordable Cost**” published in <https://peacemedicaltourism.com> the author while dealing with best hospitals at an affordable cost in India has touched many a points that are worth mentioning here. It is not enough that you have best healthcare professionals, best infrastructure but if the hospital lacks hospitality that healthcare facility cannot thrive better. It is like.

“A hospital with 1000 satisfied patients and no expensive modern facilities will take less time to get expensive modern facilities as compared to the time that a hospital with good modern facilities and no patients will take to get 1000 satisfied patients”

The author while discussing about the best hospitals in India in that article emphasized the need for “**.....healthcare system offers a unique blend of high quality medical services and affordability making it an attractive destination for both domestic and international patients. Whether you are looking for specialized treatments or routine medical cre, these hospitals offer a range of options to meet your healthcare needs with their commitment to excellence and innovation. India’s top hospitals continue to set new standards in medical care, making the country a global leader in healthcare services.**”

That means, the services provided are excellent, infrastructure is good, patient healthcare relationship is good such healthcare facilities will grow rapidly in volume that results in cost reduction. India can boost luxury hospitals that contains all the facilities that are available in a luxury hotel but in such healthcare facilities it is coupled with medicare and patient centric centres will naturally attract people who can afford and with the result the cost will come down as an

example Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital in Hyderabad, Telangana is one example. There are three categories of charging the patients such as low, middle and high but the treatment and the procedures are the same in all the three categories. The principle of the hospital is they can charge extra from the affordable persons and the amount is utilized for the persons who cannot afford it but without any difference in procedures. To reduce the cost of procedures the healthcare facilities interior designing plays an important role because if movement of men and material professionals and patients are reduced the cost will come down because the time saved and the number of functions reduced in a single procedure will save not only the money but also reduce the waste of time and that can be utilized to other needy with the result the business grow and the cost will come down.

In this connection, in an article "**Rise of Luxury Hospitals: Making India a Premier Medical Tourism Destination**", published in <https://www.magazine.medicaltourism.com> written by Ravideep Singh, the author who himself is the Associate Director at Creative Designer Architects mentioned that, "**The rise of Luxury Hospitals in India is not merely about providing exceptional medical care but about creating an immersive and positive experience for patients by prioritizing personalized care, luxurious accommodations, holistic wellness services and cultural enrichment. These hospitals are redefining the standards of medical tourism. As the Healthcare landscape continues to evolve, the emphasis on elevating patient experience is set to play pivotal role in positioning India as a Global Leader in Medical Tourism**".

In an Article titled "**Medical Tourism: Trends, Drivers and growth potential in India**" written by Vishal Priyadarshi @ Out Loud published in www.timesofindia.com.

In another article titled "**Delivering World Class Healthcare Affordably**" written by Vijay Govindarajan and Ravi Rammurthy published in Harvard Business Review in November 2013 issue while dealing the subject matter they have dwelt with many points of which some are mentioned here, which are of interest

".....Despite the pressing demand and constrained supply a few relatively new Indian Hospitals have devised ways of providing World Class Healthcare affordably –

and to scale. These hospitals target well-off patients, which forces them to provide care that meets global quality standards but their purpose is to serve everyone, including patients with very low incomes, which puts pressure on the organizations to lower costs dramatically. Such a business model scales because the low costs of these hospitals attract large volume of patients and allow the overall enterprise to be profitable. For instance Aravind Eye Care systems has paid for all its expansion projects from its profits, even though 2/3^d of its patients receive free or subsidized care.

.....Two years ago we kicked off a project to some understand how some indain hospitals are able to provide World Class Healthcare at ultra low cost. We identified more than 40 hospitals with innovative strategies and select nine of them for an indepth study. 7 of the hospitals are for profit and two not-for-profit. Four focus on a single speciality and other five are multi speciality institutions, 7 are the exemplars operate as academic centres and integrate education and clinical research with healthcare delivery. After our study and examine the results there on we noticed that the Indian hospitals we study treat medical conditions that range from problems of the eye, heart and kidney to maternity care, orthopedics and cancer. Their charges for most procedures are as much as 95% lower than those at US Hospitals. That is not because the Indian Providers offer low-quality services; five of the exemplars are accredited by either Joint Commission International (JCI), the International form of the Joint Commision-an independent Non Profit that certifies the quality of more than 20,000 healthcare organizations in the US or its Indian equivalent, the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Providers (NABH), which uses standards similar to those of JCI'.

In addition the author also observed some of the salient features that are to be reproduced are,

a. "Innovation at Indian Hospitals results not from a grand design but from constant experimentation, adaptation and necessity."

b. "Attracting and retaining doctors seeking to improve their skills rapidly".

c. "Developing and continually updating treatment protocols that reduce errors".

d. "Creating specialists in relatively rare sub specialities of medicine".

e. "Promoting innovations that suits local conditions".

A classic example the author mentioned is, **"Apollo Hospitals asked suppliers to shorten the length of Sutures – and to lower the price – after it found that its doctors routines discarded of each suture".**

An innovative idea which implemented can reduce cost of procedures remarkably.

VI. DISCUSSIONS AND ANALYSIS:

Health is being defined as **"the state of being free from illness or injury"**.

The same is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as **"State of Complete Physical, Mental and Social well being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."**

Now coming to the healthcare it is defined as,

"Health" **"Care"** or **"Healthcare"** is nothing but the maintenance or improvement of health via the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, illness, injury and other physical and mental impairments in human beings. This healthcare is delivered by healthcare professionals in healthcare facilities and such other health fields. With advent of Globalization in the field of health, many corporate houses have entered into healthcare facilities taking advantage of the Government's Exim Policy and ease of doing business started their facilities directly or in collaborations or as joint ventures to bring the best technology and technical advancements in healthcare to the country not only to the citizens of India but also attracting International Patients who are in need of advanced healthcare and healthcare facilities but cannot afford to go to advanced countries because of prohibitive costs of healthcare procedures there, India has become

an alternative destinations for such people to meet their healthcare facilities in a budget that can accommodate them. In this way healthcare travel and the foreign exchange earned by this segment of trade has taken the second position in India in earning the valuable foreign exchange to the country.

This is possible because our healthcare facilities, professionals and providers are able to deliver healthcare procedures that are cost effective but at the same time can be comparable to healthcare procedures that are provided in advanced countries surprisingly many of the healthcare facilities in advanced countries (Russia, America, UK and London). Our healthcare professionals are taking key role in providing healthcare procedures in those facilities in that countries. This is nothing but the dedication, knowledge added to that giving **human touch and human feeling** to the patients that makes the patient to feel that **"the healthcare professional is so personal in attending them to look after their needs"**.

As already mentioned above, Healthcare Value Travel (HVT) has experienced a study growth and at times keeping their position above Thailand, Singapore in Asian Region if not overcoming them. A KPMG & FICCI report in 2017, estimated "a 15% annual growth rate to raise to about \$ 158.2 billion, because of the factors that are favorable to enlarge the Healthcare Services Such As low cost, treatment options, reduced waiting time, world class quality and personalized services combine to make this rich, cultural and leisure destination, an alternative proposition for Healthcare Travel Destination in India.

Realizing the importance of Healthcare Value Travel, the Government of India in 2015 announced the setting up of **"National Healthcare and Wellness Tourism Board (NMWTTB) to help International Patients"**. This decision of Central Government has given ample opportunity to promote India as a destination for healthcare procedures. Healthcare Value Travel also brings several territory benefits that includes **"high sectional employment of healthcare professionals, nurses, healthcare technicians and raising their skills, promoting supporting industry growth such as tourism, airlines, hotels and hospitality service and infrastructure."**

The main thrust of getting boost to healthcare is in addition to affordable cost, the other points namely

- a. Lack of Healthcare facilities (Facilities at home country)
- b. Long Waiting Period
- c. Better, reliable, healthcare with International Accreditation, increased demand for alternative system of healthcare procedures (AYUSH) that are not available in any other advanced country.

The other benefits that includes, a. Access to Information, b. Better connectivity, c. Privacy of the patients, in addition d. Advanced technological procedures such as Robotic Surgery, Minimum Invasive Surgery, Minimal Access Surgery (MAS), Multi Organ Transplantation etc. The other important point is the Patients Post Operative Supervision is the most important because after the procedure till the patient comes to a normalcy it will take one week to number of weeks depending upon the surgery and the ailment and the patient has to be in the healthcare facility or any other such facility where equal attention is being given before reaching the home country.

India can boost to have such facilities already developed such as Rejuvenation, Rejuvenation in Yoga and Ayurveda, Recuperation (after care), Rehabilitation, Regeneration or most prominent in India that are not available in other parts of the globe because these centers will have personalized care. India is traditionally a country with hospitality and there is a saying that "**Athididevobhava**" means any person who comes to the house of anybody will be looked after as if the god has come to their house.

India is gaining importance in healthcare procedures and attracting patients from other parts of the Globe because of

a. Access – means a chosen healthcare facility is very easy to reach

b. Consideration – next to access the other important aspect is consideration that includes i. hospitality, ii. Doctor-patient relationship, iii. Stay in India with all comforts are to be looked into, iv. Spokes person on behalf of patients, v. homely environment, vi. Language, vii. Food and finally viii. Transportation.

In this regard, a recent facility that has been created in transporting organs from Donor to Recipient is "**Green Field Corridor**" that allows the organ that is removed from the Donor to reach the patient in time, from any part of the country to other place irrespective of the distance in time, in which number of departments both government and private are equally coordinated to complete the task. This procedure has gained International acclaim because the act of service that is embaded to save a person.

In many of the advanced countries, waiting time by the patient for consultation or healthcare procedure is much more than in India. The healthcare procedural information system that is predominant in India can have access for consultation, for procedures, immediate interventions is remarkable and no other country can come nearer to our country.

AFFORDABLE COST:

As already mentioned above, the main important factor that always disturbs the patients and their family is the "**cost of procedures**" which is prohibitive in many advanced countries and developing countries due to various reasons. Compared to that situation in India, the cost of healthcare procedure for any ailment is much more less and in certain cases it is 1/3rd that of the cost of healthcare procedures in advanced countries (a comparative statement is herewith attached)

Table 1:

Med Access offers highly affordable, packages which are lower than the market rate, committed and all inclusive

Advanced Treatment Procedure Cost India.	No. of Days in Hospital	Procedure Cost (USD)
Robotic Prostate Cancer Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	9000
Robotic Heart Surgery cost in India	4-7 days	12000
HIFU Treatment for Prostate Cancer surgery in India	7 days	9500
Advanced Intra Operative MRI Assisted Brain Tumor Surgery cost in India	4-7 days	8000
Cyberknife Radiosurgery Treatment PET Scan, MRI and other required tests	2	800

Cyberknife Radiosurgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	10000
Gammaknife Radiosurgery cost in India	5 days	7500
Brain Tumor Treatment cost in India	5 days	7000
Bone Marrow Transplant cost in India	Depend on the type of bone marrow transplant	40000
Cancer Treatments Cost India.		
Advanced Oral Cancer Treatment – Surgery, Radiation and / or Chemotherapy cost in India	7 days	4500-7500
Whipple Procedure for Pancreatic Cancer cost in India	14-21 days	8000
Total Pancreatectomy for Pancreatic Cancer cost in India	14-21 days	8000 to 12000
Radical Hysterectomy for Pancreatic Cancer cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	5000
Advanced Esophageal Cancer Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	6500 to 8500
Ovarian Cancer: Radiation Therapy cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	3,000
Ovarian Cancer: Chemotherapy cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	4,000
Ovarian Cancer: Radical Hysterectomy cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	5,000
Brain Cancer Surgery- Craniotomy cost in India	5-7 days	9,000
Brain Cancer Surgery – Micro Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	12,000
Brain Cancer Surgery – Gamma Knife Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	6,500
Laparoscopic Minimally Invasive Thyroid Surgery cost in India	2	6000
Breast Cancer Treatment – Complete Medical Evaluation	2	1800
Breast Cancer Treatment – Conservative or Modified Radical Mastectomy in India	Depends upon the treatment	4500
Colon Cancer Treatment – Complete Medical Evaluation	2 days	1500
Laprosopic Radical Prostatectomy Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	7000
HIFU Treatment for Prostate Cancer Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	9500
Colon Cancer Treatment – Cryosurgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	7,500

Colon Cancer Treatment – Polypectomy cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	3,000
Colon Cancer Treatment – Bowel Diversion Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	6,000
Bone cancer treatment cost in India	7-14 days	6500- 9500
Cervical cancer treatment cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	6000 to 7000
Gallbladder cancer treatment cost in India	7 days	5500 to 7000
Head and neck cancer treatment cost in India	7 days	5500 -7000
Leukemia cancer Treatment cost in India	14-21 days	6000-9000
Liver cancer treatment cost in India	14-21 days	8000-12000
Lung cancer treatment cost in India	14-21 days	8000-12000
Lymphedema treatment cost in India	14-21 days	6000-9000
Lymphoma Cancer Treatment cost in India	14-21 days	7000-9000
Prostate cancer treatment cost in India	14-21 days	4000 -6000
Stomach cancer treatment cost in India	14-21 days	8000-12000
Uterine cancer treatment cost in India	7 days	6000 -7000
Radio Frequency Ablation for Liver Cancer treatment cost in India	8-12 days	14000-21000
Organ Transplant Cost India.		
Kidney Transplant cost in India for Unrelated Donor and Recipient	Donor-10 days in multiple bed;	10000
Kidney Transplant in India for Related Donor and Recipient	Recipient- 14 days in Single Room	7000
Bone Marrow Transplant cost in India	Depend on the type of bone marrow transplant	40000
Liver Transplant Surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	50,000
Unilateral With Digisync Implant	3	16000
Bilateral With Digisync Implant	3	30000
Cardiac Surgery Cost India.		
Angiography (Including Non-Ionic Contrast)	1	500
Angioplasty (Including Non-Ionic Contrast)	2	4000
Angioplasty with one medicated stent (Cypher)	2	6500
Coronary Angioplasty (Including Two Stent)	Depends upon the treatment	\$11000 US Dollars
Open Heart Surgery in India(CABG)	9	5500
Single Valve Replacement (with St. Jude Valve)	9	8500
Double Valve Replacement (with 2 St. Jude Valves)	9	10500
Pediatric Cardiac Surgery – Conduit Repair / ASO/AV Canal Repair / TCPC/Fontan/ASO/AV	9	4500

Canal Repair /TCPC/Fontan		
Pediatric Cardiac Surgery – ASD/VSD/AV Repair, MV Repair/Paediatric TOF	9	4500
EPS	1	800
EPS & RFA	2	2000
Pacemaker Implant Single Chamber	3	4500
Pacemaker Implant Double Chamber	3	6500
ICD Combo Device Implant cost in India	3	17000
Aortic Valve Replacement AVR or Mitral Valve Replacement MVR (including one valve)	Depends upon the treatment	\$10000 US Dollars
AVR and MVR with two valves replacement cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	\$12000 US Dollars
Pacemaker Installation cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	\$3,000
Cost of the Pacemaker device in India(depends upon patients condition)	Depends upon the treatment	8000 to 20000
Valvuloplasty treatment in India	Depends upon the treatment	\$2300 US Dollars
RadioFrequency Catheter Ablation Treatment in India	Depends upon the treatment	3000
Robotic Heart Surgery in India	4-7 days	12000
Spine Surgery Cost India. Neurosurgery cost India.		
Spinal Fusion- 1 level surgery cost in India	7	7000
Spinal Fusion – 2 Level surgery cost in India	7	8000
Disc Replacement – 1 Level surgery cost in India	3	7500
Disc Replacement- 2 Level surgery cost in India	3	9500
Kyphoplasty surgery cost in India	2	8000
Laminectomy surgery cost in India	5	4500
Discectomy surgery cost in India	3	4500
Deep Brain Stimulation surgery cost in India	7	20000
Anterior cervical discectomy and fusion surgery cost in India	4-7 days	starts from 6000 depending upon approach used
Spinal fusion surgery cost in India	4-7 days	starts from 6000 depending upon approach used
Cervical spine surgery cost in India	4-7 days	starts from 6500 depending upon approach used
Lumbar Spine surgery cost in India	4-7 days	starts from 6500 depending upon approach used

Spinal Decompression surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	6,000 to 26,500
Cervical Disc Replacment surgery cost in India	7	12000
Disc Nucleoplasty surgery cost in India	4	5200
Laminoplasty surgery cost in India	4	8000
Percutaneous Endoscopic lumbar Discectomysurgery cost in India	5	6000
Posterior Lumbar Interbody Spinal Fusion surgery cost in India	5	7500
Brain Tumor Treatment surgery cost in India	2- 5 days	7000
Brain Cancer Surgery- Craniotomy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	9,000
Brain Cancer Surgery – Micro surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	12,000
Interventional Neuro Radiology		
Liberation Treatment (no stent) surgery cost in India	6	5000
Liberation Treatment (with 1 Stent) surgery cost in India	6	5900
Liberation Treatment (with 2 Stents) surgery cost in India	6	6800
Liberation Treatment (with 3 Stents) surgery cost in India	6	7700
Orthopedic Joint Replacement Cost India.		
Total Knee Replacement cost in India.		
TKR (Unilateral) – PFC Sigma Implant cost in India	7	5500
TKR (Unilateral) – Hi Flex Implant cost in India	7	5500
TKR (Unilateral) – Uni Knee cost in India	5	5200
TKR (Bilateral) – PFC Sigma Implant cost in India	9	9300
TKR (Bilateral) – RPF cost in India	9	9500
Total Hip Replacement / Resurfacing cost in India.		
THR (Unilateral) – Routine 1	7	4700
THR (Unilateral) – Routine 2	7	5400
THR (Unilateral) – ASR	7	6600
THR (Unilateral) – Unipolar ASR	7	6700
THR (Unilateral) – Proxima	7	7200
THR (Bilateral) – Routine 1	9	7800
THR (Bilateral) – Routine 2	9	9200
THR (Bilateral) – ASR	9	11500
THR (Bilateral) – Unipolar ASR	9	12000
THR (Bilateral) – Proxima	9	12500

Ankle Replacement Surgery cost in India	5	7000
Elbow Replacement Surgery cost in India	5	7000
Total Hand Surgery cost in India	5	3500
Ankle Replacement surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	30000
Shoulder Replacement cost in India.		
Single (Including Implant)	7	8000
Double (Including Implant)	14	15,000
Knee Replacement Cost India.		
Knee Replacement (Single)	Yes, up to 7 Days	4900
Knee Replacement (Double)	Yes, up to 10 Days	9500
Arthroscopic surgery cost in India.		
Menisectomy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	7500
Shaving of cartilage surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8000
Ligament Reconstruction – ACL, PCL surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	17000
Ankle Arthroscopy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8000
Knee Arthroscopy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8000
Elbow Arthroscopy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8500
Shoulder Arthroscopy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8000
Hip Arthroscopy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	8000
Tendon Repair surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	9000
Gastroenterology Surgery Cost India.		
Sleeve Gastrectomy including stapling surgery cost in India	4	6500
Gastric Bypass including stapling surgery cost in India	4	8500
BL Inguinal Hernia (With Prolene mesh) surgery cost in India	2	2000
Lap Cholecystectomy(Gall Bladder Removal) surgery cost in India	2	1500
Umbilical Hernia (With High Generation Mesh) surgery cost in India	2	2500
Hiatus repair (With High Generation Mesh) surgery cost in India	2	2800

Laparoscopic Fundoplication Surgery for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) Hiatal Hernia surgery cost in India	2	4000
Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy and Appendectomy surgery cost in India	2	3000
Laparoscopic Hernia surgery cost in India	2	3500
Laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy (LAVH) surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	4500
Stapled Hemorrhoidectomy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	3000
Urology Surgery Cost India.		
Trans Urethral Resection of Prostate (TURP) surgery cost in India	4	2500
Green Light Laser Prostatectomy surgery cost in India	3	4000
Bladder Neck Incision	3	2000
Optical Urethrotomy (Cold Knife) surgery cost in India	2	1500
Optical Urethrotomy (Laser) surgery cost in India	2	2500
Cystolithotripsy (Laser) surgery cost in India	2	2500
Trans Urethral Resection of Bladder Tumor (TURBT) surgery cost in India	4	3000
Laparoscopic Radical Cystectomy surgery cost in India	7	4900
Uretroscopic Removal of Stone (Bladder) treatment cost in India	2	2500
Uretric Reimplantation surgery cost in India	5	2800
PCNL (Kidney)	3	2900
Laser Prostate Surgery cost in India	4	5000
Non-Surgical Treatment for Urinary Stones surgery cost in India	4	2500
Percutaneous Nephrolithotomy (PCNL) surgery cost in India	4	2500
Radical Prostatectomy surgery cost in India	4	5000
Robotic Prostate Cancer surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	9000
Laprosopic Radical Prostatectomy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	7000
Vasectomy surgery cost in India	1	1600
Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	1500
Pre IVF Consultations and Investigations		
Consultation with IVF Specialist	20	

Pre Fertility Investigations (Wife – Haemogram, Blood group, urine routine, RBS, VDRL, HBs Ag, HIV, HCV, FSH, LH, E2, Prolactine, Thyroid, AMH, Torch IgM, USG – TVS) (Husband – Blood group, VDRL, Hbs Ag, HIV, HCV, Semen analysis)	150	
IVF – Includes 5 consultations, monitoring ultrasounds (stimulation to pick up), medicines and injections (stimulation to pick up), hormone tests (E2 and LH),short stay room rent, OT, anesthesia, embryologist and surgeon charges and OT consumables	3500	
IVF-ICSI	4000	
Egg Donor IVF-ICSI**	5600	
IVF-ICSI with PESA/TESA	4500	
IUI (Intra uterine insemination) husband	200	
T.D.I. (donor)	250	
Laser Assisted Hatching	450	
Donor Sperm	100	
Embryo Freezing	300	
Cryopreservation for Embryo – per year or part thereof	400	
Sperm Freezing	100	
Sperm Freezing for IVF cycle	50	
Cryopreservation for Sperm – per year or part thereof	150	
Embryo (self) Thaw and Transfer	1000	
Donor Embryo Transfer	2000	
Semen Analysis	20	
Quality Semen Analysis	30	
Endometrial Biopsy (Lab extra)	100	
Sonosalpingography	150	
Cyst Aspiration	150	
Dilatation	150	
PESA/TESA	500	
Eye surgery cost India.		
Cornea Transplant surgery cost in India	Day care	700
Lasik – standard	Day care	500
Lasik – custom	Day care	800
Cataract surgery cost in India	Day care	1500
Glaucoma surgery cost in India	Day Care	1500
Cataract + Glaucoma	Day Care	2500
Squint	Day Care/1 day	800
Retinal Detachment	Day care / 1 day	800
Vitrectomy	Day care / 1day	800

Vitrectomy + Retinal Detachment	Day care/ 1day	1500
Ptois	Day Care	900
Ear Nose Throat Surgery Cost India.		
Stapedectomy surgery cost in India	1	2000
Tympanoplasty surgery cost in India	1	1500
Ossiculoplasty surgery cost in India	1	1900
Micro Laryngeal surgery cost in India	1	1500
Laryngectomy surgery cost in India	7	6000
Block dissections of the neck, Endolymphatic Sac	7	6000
Functional Endoscopic Sinus surgery cost in India	2	3500
Unilateral With Digisynic Implant	3	18000
Bilateral With Digisynic Implant	3	32000
Cosmetic Surgery Cost India.		
Brow / Blepheroplasty treatment in India	2	2700
Facelift surgery in India	2	3600
Breast Lift with Augmentation treatment cost in India	1	4200
Breast Reduction treatment cost in India	1	4200
Tummy Tuck treatment cost in India	1	4800
Hymenoplasty treatment cost in India	1	950
Vaginoplasty treatment cost in India	1	1250
Labioplasty treatment in India	1	1550
Calf Augmentation treatment in India	1	3100
Arm Lift treatment in India	1	2500
Male Breast Reduction in India	1	1700
Hair Transplantation treatment in India	Depends upon the treatment	1n \$ per follicle
Ear Reshaping/ Otoplsty treatment in India	1	1600
Cheek Augmentation treatment in India	1	2350
Chin Implant surgery in India	1	1700
VaserLipo – Major	1	2711
VaserLipo – Medium	1	2380
VaserLipo – Minor	1	1815
Obesity Surgery Cost India		
Laparoscopic Gastric Bandingsurgery cost in India	3	8200
Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass surgery cost in India	4	7800
Gastric Bypass including stapling surgery cost in India	4	8600
Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy surgery cost in India	4	6600
Sleeve Gastrectomy including stapling surgery cost in India	4	6600

Roux-en-Y surgery cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	7970
Intra Gastric Ballooning treatment cost in India	Depends upon the treatment	2750

The American Medical Association has made a Cost Comparison study of Healthcare Procedures in different Countries.

(Table - II)

Procedures	US (\$)	Singapore (\$)	India (\$)	Britain (\$)	Thailand (\$)
Knee Replacement	40,000	13,000	8,500	N/A	10,000
Heart Valve Replacement	2,00,000	12,500	8,000	90,000	10,000
Bone Marrow Transplant	2.5 – 4 Lakhs	N/A	30,000	1,50,000	3,500
Cosmetic Surgery	20,000	N/A	2,000	10,000	N/A

Procedures	US (\$)	Costa Rica (\$)	India (\$)	Korea (\$)	Mexico (\$)	Thailand (\$)	Malaysia (\$)
Heart Bypass	\$144,000	\$25,000	\$5,200	\$28,900	\$27,000	\$15,121	\$11,430
Angioplasty	\$57,000	\$13,000	\$3,300	\$15,200	\$12,500	\$3,788	\$5,430
Heart Valve Replacement	\$170,000	\$30,000	\$5,500	\$43,500	\$18,000	\$21,212	\$10,580
Hip Replacement	\$50,000	\$12,500	\$7,000	\$14,120	\$13,000	\$7,879	\$7,500
Hip Resurfacing	\$50,000	\$12,500	\$7,000	\$15,600	\$15,000	\$15,152	\$12,350
Knee Replacement	\$50,000	\$11,500	\$6,200	\$19,800	\$12,000	\$12,297	\$7,000
Spinal Fusion	\$100,000	\$11,500	\$6,500	\$15,400	\$12,000	\$9,091	\$6,000
Dental Implant	\$2,800	\$900	\$1,000	\$4,200	\$1,800	\$3,636	\$345
Lap Band	\$30,000	\$8,500	\$3,000	N/A	\$6,500	\$11,515	N/A
Breast Implants	\$10,000	\$3,800	\$3,500	\$12,500	\$3,500	\$2,727	N/A
Rhinoplasty	\$8,000	\$4,500	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$3,901	\$1,293
Face Lift	\$15,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$15,300	\$4,900	\$3,697	\$3,440
Hysterectomy	\$15,000	\$5,700	\$2,500	\$11,000	\$5,800	\$2,727	\$5,250
Gastric Sleeve	\$28,700	\$10,500	\$5,000	N/A	\$9,995	\$13,636	N/A
Gastric Bypass	\$32,972	\$12,500	\$5,000	N/A	\$10,950	\$16,667	\$9,450
Liposuction	\$9,000	\$3,900	\$2,800	N/A	\$2,800	\$2,303	\$2,299
Tummy Tuck	\$9,750	\$5,300	\$3,000	N/A	\$4,025	\$5,000	N/A
Lasik (both eyes)	\$4,400	\$1,800	\$500	\$6,000	\$1,995	\$1,818	\$477
Cornea (both eyes)	N/A	\$4,200	N/A	\$7,000	N/A	\$1,800	N/A
Retina	N/A	\$4,500	\$850	\$10,200	\$3,500	\$4,242	\$3,000
IVF Treatment	N/A	\$2,800	\$3,250	\$2,180	\$3,950	\$9,091	\$3,819

COMPARITIVE STATEMENT OF PRICES OF PROCEDURES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

(Table -III)

Medical procedure	USA	Costa Rica	Colombia	India	Jordan	S. Korea	Mexico	Israel	Thailand	Vietnam	Malaysia	Poland	Singapore	Turkey
Heart Bypass	\$123,000	\$27,000	\$14,800	\$7,900	\$14,400	\$26,000	\$27,000	\$28,000	\$15,000		\$12,100	\$14,000	\$17,200	\$13,900
Angioplasty	\$28,200	\$13,800	\$7,100	\$5,700	\$5,000	\$17,700	\$10,400	\$7,500	\$4,200		\$8,000	\$5,300	\$13,400	\$4,800
Heart Valve Replacement	\$170,000	\$30,000	\$10,450	\$9,500	\$14,400	\$39,900	\$28,200	\$28,500	\$17,200		\$13,500	\$19,000	\$16,900	\$17,200
Hip Replacement	\$40,364	\$13,600	\$8,400	\$7,200	\$8,000	\$21,000	\$13,500	\$36,000	\$17,000	\$9,250	\$8,000	\$5,500	\$13,900	\$13,900
Hip Resurfacing	\$28,000	\$13,200	\$10,500	\$9,700	\$9,000	\$19,500	\$12,500	\$20,100	\$13,500		\$12,500	\$9,200	\$16,350	\$10,100
Knee Replacement	\$35,000	\$12,500	\$7,200	\$6,600	\$9,500	\$17,500	\$12,900	\$25,000	\$14,000	\$8,000	\$7,700	\$8,200	\$16,000	\$10,400
Spinal Fusion	\$110,000	\$15,700	\$14,500	\$10,300	\$10,000	\$16,900	\$15,400	\$33,500	\$9,500	\$6,150	\$6,000	\$6,200	\$12,800	\$16,800
Dental Implant	\$2,500	\$800	\$1,200	\$900	\$900	\$1,350	\$900	\$1,200	\$1,720		\$1,500	\$925	\$2,700	\$1,100
Lap Band	\$14,000	\$9,450	\$8,500	\$7,300	\$7,000	\$10,200	\$6,500	\$17,300	\$11,500		\$8,150	\$6,700	\$9,200	\$8,600
Gastric Sleeve	\$16,500	\$11,500	\$11,200	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,950	\$8,900	\$20,000	\$9,900		\$8,400	\$9,400	\$11,500	\$12,900
Gastric Bypass	\$25,000	\$12,900	\$12,200	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$10,900	\$11,500	\$24,000	\$16,800		\$9,900	\$9,750	\$13,700	\$13,800
Hysterectomy	\$15,400	\$6,900	\$2,900	\$3,200	\$6,600	\$10,400	\$4,500	\$14,500	\$3,650		\$4,200	\$2,200	\$10,400	\$7,000
Breast Implants	\$6,400	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$3,800	\$3,900	\$8,400	\$4,500
Rhinoplasty	\$6,500	\$3,800	\$4,500	\$2,400	\$2,900	\$3,980	\$3,800	\$4,600	\$3,300	\$2,100	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$3,100
Face Lift	\$11,000	\$4,500	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$3,950	\$6,000	\$4,900	\$6,800	\$3,950	\$4,150	\$3,550	\$4,000	\$440	\$6,700
Liposuction	\$5,500	\$2,800	\$2,500	\$2,800	\$1,400	\$2,900	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$1,800	\$2,900	\$3,000
Tummy Tuck	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,200	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$10,900	\$5,300	\$3,000	\$3,900	\$3,550	\$4,650	\$4,000
Lasik	\$4,00	\$2,4	\$2,400	\$1,00	\$4,90	\$1,70	\$1,90	\$3,80	\$2,31	\$1,72	\$3,45	\$1,85	\$3,800	\$1,70

(both eyes)	0	00		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Cornea (per eye)	\$17,500	\$9,800	N/A	\$2,800	\$5,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$3,600		N/A	N/A	\$9,000	\$7,000
Cataract surgery (per eye)	\$3,500	\$1,700	\$1,600	\$1,500	\$2,400		\$2,100	\$3,700	\$1,800		\$3,000	\$750	\$3,250	\$1,600
IVF Treatment	\$12,400	N/A	\$5,450	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$7,900	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$4,100		\$6,900	\$4,900	\$14,900	\$5,200

<https://medicaltourism.com/Forms/price-comparison.aspx>

(Table - IV)

Medical procedure	USA	Cost a Rica	Colom bia	India	Jord an	S. Kore a	Mexi co	Israel	Thaila nd	Vietn am	Malay sia	Pola nd	Singa pore	Tur y
Heart Bypass	\$123,000	\$27,000	\$14,800	\$7,900	\$14,400	\$26,000	\$27,000	\$28,000	\$15,000		\$12,100	\$14,000	\$17,200	\$13,000
Angioplasty	\$28,200	\$13,800	\$7,100	\$5,700	\$5,000	\$17,700	\$10,400	\$7,500	\$4,200		\$8,000	\$5,300	\$13,400	\$4,800
Heart Valve Replacement	\$170,000	\$30,000	\$10,450	\$9,500	\$14,400	\$39,900	\$28,200	\$28,500	\$17,200		\$13,500	\$19,000	\$16,900	\$17,000
Hip Replacement	\$40,364	\$13,600	\$8,400	\$7,200	\$8,000	\$21,000	\$13,500	\$36,000	\$17,000	\$9,250	\$8,000	\$5,500	\$13,900	\$13,000
Hip Resurfacing	\$28,000	\$13,200	\$10,500	\$9,700	\$9,000	\$19,500	\$12,500	\$20,100	\$13,500		\$12,500	\$9,200	\$16,350	\$10,000
Knee Replacement	\$35,000	\$12,500	\$7,200	\$6,600	\$9,500	\$17,500	\$12,900	\$25,000	\$14,000	\$8,000	\$7,700	\$8,200	\$16,000	\$10,000
Spinal Fusion	\$110,000	\$15,700	\$14,500	\$10,300	\$10,000	\$16,900	\$15,400	\$33,500	\$9,500	\$6,150	\$6,000	\$6,200	\$12,800	\$16,000
Dental Implant	\$2,500	\$800	\$1,200	\$900	\$900	\$1,350	\$900	\$1,200	\$1,720		\$1,500	\$925	\$2,700	\$1,100
Lap Band	\$14,000	\$9,450	\$8,500	\$7,300	\$7,000	\$10,200	\$6,500	\$17,300	\$11,500		\$8,150	\$6,700	\$9,200	\$8,600
Gastric Sleeve	\$16,500	\$11,500	\$11,200	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,950	\$8,900	\$20,000	\$9,900		\$8,400	\$9,400	\$11,500	\$12,000
Gastric Bypass	\$25,000	\$12,900	\$12,200	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$10,900	\$11,500	\$24,000	\$16,800		\$9,900	\$9,750	\$13,700	\$13,000
Hysterect	\$15,400	\$6,900	\$2,900	\$3,200	\$6,600	\$10,400	\$4,500	\$14,500	\$3,650		\$4,200	\$2,200	\$10,400	\$7,000

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Breast Implants	\$6,400	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$3,800	\$3,900	\$8,400	\$4,500
Rhinoplasty	\$6,500	\$3,800	\$4,500	\$2,400	\$2,900	\$3,980	\$3,800	\$4,600	\$3,300	\$2,100	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$3,100
Face Lift	\$11,000	\$4,500	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$3,950	\$6,000	\$4,900	\$6,800	\$3,950	\$4,150	\$3,550	\$4,000	\$440	\$6,700
Liposuction	\$5,500	\$2,800	\$2,500	\$2,800	\$1,400	\$2,900	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$1,800	\$2,900	\$3,000
Tummy Tuck	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,200	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$10,900	\$5,300	\$3,000	\$3,900	\$3,550	\$4,650	\$4,000
Lasik (both eyes)	\$4,000	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$1,000	\$4,900	\$1,700	\$1,900	\$3,800	\$2,310	\$1,720	\$3,450	\$1,850	\$3,800	\$1,700
Cornea (per eye)	\$17,500	\$9,800	N/A	\$2,800	\$5,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$3,600		N/A	N/A	\$9,000	\$7,000
Cataract surgery (per eye)	\$3,500	\$1,700	\$1,600	\$1,500	\$2,400		\$2,100	\$3,700	\$1,800		\$3,000	\$750	\$3,250	\$1,600
IVF Treatment	\$12,400	N/A	\$5,450	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$7,900	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$4,100		\$6,900	\$4,900	\$14,900	\$5,200

NOTE: Prices are approximate and not actual prices and do not include Airfare Travel or lodging costs for patient and companion. Prices will vary based upon many factors including Healthcare Facility, Healthcare Professionals experience, Accreditation, Currency Exchange Rates etc.,

Affordable Cost does not mean that compromising in quality of procedures. Majority of the Indian Healthcare Providers (Facilities) are presently equipped with latest technologies and techniques that are available in advanced countries such as Robotics, 3D image, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Multi Organ Transplantation, Regenerative Therapy, Stem Cell Therapy are some of the major procedures that are available in an affordable cost. India is famous for its cost effective at high quality healthcare procedures in "**Cardiology, Orthopedics, Nephrology, Oncology and Neurosurgery, that makes even the International Patients to choose India as a preferred destinations for healthcare procedures**".

Compared to United States the Cost in European Countries such as Germany and Belgium etc. may be less but more expensive when compared to India. In this regard, the AMA shows that "**India is the least expensive when compared to European as well as other Asian**".

Countries. Not only the cost benefit, but the patient will have same sophistication in healthcare procedures in India that are available in any Western Country at a fraction of their cost."

Indian healthcare professionals are renowned all over the world for their prowess and skills in attending critical and complicated healthcare procedures at ease. Irrespective of the healthcare procedure that is available in India one can say upto 75% and even 90% in some procedures compared to Western Countries which is an hindrance for any patient and their family if they are not having Insurance coverage and have to burn their pockets.

As already mentioned there are certain ailments/diseases where the allopathy ahs no answer except minimizing the intensity of the problem, India can boost with alternative therapies such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Naturopathy and Yoga to eradicate or to cure completely such chronic ailments/diseases. India having a very rich healthcare procedures even before the advent of Allopathy has come into play. In this regard, it is important to mention briefly the alternative system of medicine/procedures other than allopathy are relevant.

a. Ayurveda: Ayurveda means "**Science of Long Life that helps in enhancing natural beauty, positive health and the longevity of life. It is the time tested and trusted methods of Indian System of Medicines which helps in improving the mental and physical health of a person. Accepted globally through out the World, it is the only system that helps in revitalizing the whole body. Various natural therapies that help in successfully drainage if all the toxins from the body and re-establishment of bio chemical balance in the body include Yoga, Steam Bath, Oil Application, Special Diets and lot more."**

b. Siddha: Siddha medicine (Tamil Sitra-ROR Tamil Maruttvam) is "**a system of Traditional medicine originating in Ancient Tamilakkam in South India. A Siddha Science is a traditional treatment system generated from Dravidian Culture. Palm Leaf majuscript say, that the Siddha System was first described by Lord Siva his Parvati. Parvati explained all this knowledge to her son Lord Muruga and he taught all these**

knowledge to his disciples Sage Agastya, Agastya taught 18 Siddhas and they spread this knowledge in human beings."

c. Naturopathy: It means "**Naturopathy is also a way of life with drug less treatment of diseases. The system is based on the ancient practice of application of simple laws of nature. The advocates of Naturopathy focus on eating and living habits, adoption of purification measures, use of Hydrotherapy, baths, massages etc. Naturopathic medicine is the system of primary healthcare which works with the individual efforts towards the optimal expression of physiological, physical and mental/emotional health"**.

A Naturopathy is,

"A person who applies treatment modalities on the principles of Naturopathic medicine".

This kind of healthcare procedure aims to promote, restore and maintain health. The main principle that is embaded in the Naturopathy is "**the healing power of nature or Vis Medicatrix (Organism left alone can often heal themselves/the healing power of nature) Matrix Naturae, there is a vital force or life force which drives self healing or self correcting mechanism of the body."**

d. Yoga - It means the "**Union of the self with cosmic sole"** and also known as "**Science of the Spirits"**, helps one in re-vitalization process and helps in releasing the hidden energies by liberating the mind.

Yoga therapy or Yoga medicine is "**the selective use of various Yoga tools such as posses (a way of standing and sitting), breathing techniques, relaxation, exercise and meditation, as well as dietary and life style advice to help people with virtually health condition, physical or physiological. Peoples health and fitness vary in Yoga Therapy, the posses are often modified are use props to make the practices safe and effective. In Yoga as medicine people will perform detailed holistic assessment of each client by**

evaluating body of the patient, mind, spirit and environment and after assessing the same the Acharya craft a personalized Yoga Program."

e. Unani: When one can look into the history the Unani System of Medicine can be traced back to ancient Egypt and Bibylon. Egyptians made use of medicinal plants as remedy for many ailments, and they also initiated surgery as a method of treatments. The studies of Papyril clearly shows the ability of Egyptians in the field of medicine ***"Imhotep (2800 B.C) and Amen Hotep (1550 B.C) were some noted physicians of Ancient Egypt. Babylonians also played an iprotant role in the history of Uani Medicine. During Asclepian period (1200 B.C) the Greeks developed this art of medicine drawing upon the medical knowledge of Egyptians and Babylonians."***

Medicines which are a symbol of life and the name is derived from the work Ionian which originated in Greece. Tibb means the knowledge of the states of the human body in health and decline of health or in otherwords medicine "**Tib-E-Unani**" is hence an age old time tested system of medicine dating back 5000 years to Greece.

Unani medicine like any form of medical science tries to find the best possible way a person can lead a healthy life with the least or zero sickness. It prescribes drugs, diet, drinks and other agents, code of conduct which are conducive to the maintenance and promotion of positive health as well as the prevention and cure of disease. The ultimate aim is creation of healthy society.

VII.OBSERVATIONS:

A study of this subject matter reveals that cost of procedures has many manifestations; such as pre procedural, procedural and non-procedural. In pre procedural it includes admission charges, consultation fees of the healthcare professionals, hospital stay expenses (boarding, lodging) etc to the patient and accomplice. Expenses towards diagnosis of the ailment/discomfort such as Blood Tests, X-Ray, MRI, Urine Test, Blood Tests and such other diagnostic tests required to diagnose the ailments, its costs, remedial measures (procedures) then comes procedure costs that includes procedural expenses (surgery) if needed, medication expenses, expenses towards healthcare professionals and para medical staff who are attending the patients and finally expenses that

incurred in certain cases where emergency procedures are required services of additional experts, and in emergency cases keeping the patient in ICU etc. In addition, medicinal and ancillaries related to procedures that are required for the patient during and after surgery etc. In all these things the Healthcare facility/providers should think and analyze it where they can reduce the cost without compromising on quality either in the materials or procedures including expenditure on professionals and experts. Keeping all these things in mind the healthcare providers will come to a conclusion in keeping the cost of procedures affordable when compared to procedures that are available in other countries including advanced countries.

VIII. SUGGESTIONS:

Today's healthcare facilities are divided into three categories namely Specialty Hospitals, Super Speciality Hospitals, Multi Speciality Hospitals and Nursing Homes. The recent phenomena in healthcare facility is rise of luxury hospitals especially for those who can afford and International Patients who are acclimatized in such facilities.

a. To reduce the cost of the healthcare procedures the design of the hospital, movement of the material, equipment, professionals plays an important role. This has come to the light with the recent covid-19 pandemic. Hence, when healthcare facility is designed the architecture should keep in mind where the departments will come depending upon their importance, how close they can be and if it is a Multi Speciality/Super Speciality Hospitals. The movement can be restricted when the patient is moved from one place to other. This will decrease the waste of time at the same time will increase the volume of work that can be turned out.

b. Presently every healthcare facility is attached with a pharmacy and the purchases are being done in bulk. The healthcare providers should pass on the benefits to the patient by reducing the costs of the material and medicines and keeping them at the lowest ebb.

c. Utilizing the services of paramedical staff to the maximum extent without hurting their feelings and putting more stress on them by equally distributing the work among them.

d. Now it has become a practice in healthcare facilities to put targets on the healthcare professionals which will cost the efficiency of the professionals. These rules are relaxed (putting targets) the professionals can work with ease and efficiently when the patients can be discharged earlier than anticipated, that results in more turn out more volume of work.

e. Each hospital can have a three tier system that was mentioned earlier. So that the hospital can have three categories of charges. So that the amount charged more on the affordable class can be substantiated to the people who cannot afford it as is in the case presently observed in Sarojini Hospital. Hyderabad, Telangana State.

f. Automation in non-procedural aspects like enquiries, admission, billing, discharge can be done by reducing the man power and adopting automation.

g. Even in healthcare procedures, the healthcare providers can introduce instead of manual procedures with robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, 3D pictures etc that will reduce the man power and increase the volume of work without compromising on efficiency.

h. While introducing automation and technology the healthcare providers should keep in mind that they are not going to compromise on efficiency/outcome else at no time the name earned by the healthcare facility will come down and instead of increasing the volume it will reduce.

The above are the main suggestion that an healthcare provider/facility will think of to keep the costs of the procedures at a reasonable way.

IX. FUTURE STUDY:

The spread of technology has started entering into the healthcare field it will go a long way in putting the healthcare facilities on par with other industries who are enjoying the fruits of automation. However lot of thinking is going on. Hence, it is time for the healthcare professionals and technology people and machine designers sit together to formulate such procedures that can save time, money without compromising on efficiency. However, one lacuna in automation is the patient is losing a human feeling and human touch that is more important to attend a patient.

X. CONCLUSION:

It is a well known fact that compared to other sectors in organizations, healthcare is attended by humans to humans to reduce their discomfort. Hence, healthcare is the fundamental need of humanity. As already observed above, India is having a better edge compared to Globally in healthcare procedures and facility because in India healthcare facilities are more prone to get peace of atmosphere, peace of mind that are more necessary for the patients. India proved its Metal in healthcare facilities especially in the areas of Cosmetic Surgery, Dental Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Coronary Bypasses, Valve replacements, Knee replacements, Eye surgeries, Providing artificial limbs and in addition Indian traditional medicines can answer to some of the chronic diseases for which there is no answer in Allopathy. In addition, some of the healthcare facilities have done remarkable progress and gained expertise in the field of regenerative therapy, foreign faces made in India, Bariatric Surgery, Multi Organ Transplantation are some of the few in which our healthcare professionals better than others. The country also gained expertise in stem cell therapy, chord banks (latest technology), the cord of the baby just born when it is separated from the mother it is kept in a bank and that can be utilized to the baby grown when found any discomforts.

Tata Cancer Institute, Kolkata has gone a step further in identifying the stage of a cancer patient by connecting globally with all the experts so that while conducting the procedures the other experts who are involved can give suggestions instantly. This kind of procedure which is unknown hitherto is gaining importance without any loss of time the professionals who are doing the procedure can be given advice without any loss of time so that the life of a patient can be saved.

In Organ transplantations, especially heart and lungs India has developed a unique program to transport the organ from Donor to Recipient though the distance is far away by 1000 of kilometers by making the entire route green field so that the organ can be transported from Donor to recipient well within the stipulated time. This procedure has gained importance in India and is being adopted whenever the distance is more in transporting the organ within the stipulated time. A remarkable achievement which very few countries are following.

In addition, Government of India has brought more teeth to the healthcare laws so that to punish the guilt in cases such as medical negligence, medical malpractice, diagnostic errors etc. So that the guilt can be punished both criminal and civil and give compensation to the effected party in deserving cases. Recent judgment a few years back by the Supreme Court brought the patient under consumer laws so that heavy compensation can be provided if the negligence costs the life of a patient. To conclude as mentioned and discussed earlier the cost of healthcare procedures in India has brought down considerably (that is reflected in the tables attached herewith), wherein some of the procedures and their costs in India and other Asian countries like Singapore, Malaysia and advanced countries like USA, UK and Germany etc. Still much is to be done in this regard if the right thinking people in the government and healthcare sit together so that the costs of the procedures can be still brought down. It is heartening to learn that healthcare is one of the major foreign exchange earner in India and stands second.

Care for Health, Health will care for you

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