

# A first in Delhi: AIIMS offers lung transplant

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**New Delhi:** AIIMS, which pioneered heart transplants in India, has now decided to conduct lung transplants too — making it the first hospital in the capital and the second public institution in the country to offer the procedure after PGIMER, Chandigarh.

AIIMS had recently applied for a licence to conduct the life-saving surgery, which the health ministry granted. The institute is now screening potential candidates — patients with chronic, end-stage lung disease for whom no effective medical therapy exists — to prepare a waiting list.

Dr Anant Mohan, professor and head of pulmonary medicine at AIIMS, said one patient had been selected for the surgery a few weeks ago but he died before the transplant could be carried out. "We are preparing a list of two to three other potential candidates," he added.

Lung transplant, like a heart transplant, can only be



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carried out with organ donated by a deceased donor. Till date, only about 4,000 such transplants have been done globally, including about 200 in India.

All lung transplants in India, except for one, have been performed at private hospitals where the procedure can cost Rs 20-30 lakh or more. Follow-up medications, which have to be taken lifelong, cost several lakhs a year.

AIIMS director Dr Ran-deep Guleria said the institute will not only conduct the transplant free of cost, but will also provide the patient follow-up medicines at no cost. A lung transplant is a surgical procedure to remove one or both diseased lungs from a patient and replace it

with a healthy one from a cadaver donor. The world's first lung transplant was conducted in human in 1963 in the US.

But due to high rejection rate and healing issues, fewer transplants could be conducted in the decades to come. Some doctors in the US have also attempted living donor lung transplants, where a part of the lung from the donor is transplanted, but the results haven't been encouraging yet.

Between 1999 and 2011, records show, five foreigners underwent lung transplants in various hospitals in south India. In 2012, a 41-year-old woman from Mumbai became the first Indian to undergo the life-saving surgery. She was suffering from pulmonary fibrosis, in which lung tissue gets scarred, a condition in which breathing becomes difficult.

Dr A G K Gokhale, chief cardio-thoracic and transplant surgeon at Apollo Chennai said the demand for lung transplant has gone up.

Full report: [www.toi.in](http://www.toi.in)

# ದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ 10 ಸಾವಿರ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಪಿಜಿ ಸೀಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

**ದೆಹಲಿ:** ಮುಂದಿನ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ 10 ಸಾವಿರ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿ ಸೀಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಲು ಭಾರತೀಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ ಜನತೆಗೆ ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯರ ಸೇವೆ ಒದಗಲಿದೆ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ ಜೋಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಿಗೆ ವೈದ್ಯರ ಕೊರತೆಯಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆತಂಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರತಿ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ನೀತಿ ಆಯೋಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯ ವಿ.ಕೆ.ಪಾಲ್ ನೇತೃತ್ವದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಿವಾಸ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ



ಹಸಿರು ನಿಶಾನೆ ತೋರಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಮತ್ತೊಬ್ಬ ಹಿರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ದೃಢಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ ಸರಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಖಾಸಗಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 23 ಸಾವಿರ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಹಾಗೂ 68,500 ವೈದ್ಯ ಪದವಿ ಸೀಟುಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿದೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಿವಾಸ ಯೋಜನೆ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೂ, ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯು 2020-21ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸೀಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಿದೆ.