

One Day Surgery Times

Issue 6

Volume 2

August 2009

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A monthly publication of One Day Surgery India Private Limited

Rs. 10/-

www.one-daysurgeryindia.com

ISO Certified

One Day Surgery Center-Babulnath Hospital

From the Editors Desk:

Progress of Ambulatory Surgery in India:

The 8th International Congress on Ambulatory Surgery, organised by The International Association of Ambulatory Surgery, was held from 3rd to 6th July, 2009, at Brisbane. The International Congress is organised once in two years with members from 27 leading countries. Among these Member countries are included UK, USA, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, The Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark,

Australia, Belgium, Hungary, to name a few. In short, countries performing One Day Surgery and wish to see it establish all over the world, are full members of the organisation.

Like any conference, these meets highlight the progress made in that particular country as well as the problems faced, so that, learning and problem solving suggestion can be exchanged.

We were eight doctors from Mumbai and Nagpur, who participated in this Congress and represented The Indian Association of Day Surgery. We have not yet joined the International organisation as a Member.

I had the privilege of being once again, an Invited Speaker. I was asked to speak on the Progress of Ambulatory Surgery in India. To highlight the problems that we face in our healthcare system was easy. But, to speak on the progress we had made, well, that was difficult.

On hearing what other countries are doing and the progress they have made in One Day Surgery care, firstly, it saddens me to see that we are way behind. But, on the other hand, it gives us renewed assurance, that they too have gone through the same problems and have over come them. So shall we.

All in all, the conference discussion revolved around patient safety and satisfaction. Like ourselves, the emphasis is on proper case selection and preparation. No short cuts. It brought to my mind the famous saying: 'There are no minor surgeries, only minor surgeons'. If this is kept in mind, however small a procedure may seem, you will not be wrong if you are a bit cautious.

The other issues in discussion was the role a general practitioner plays in guiding and taking care of the patient's needs before and after surgery. Again, world over it was agreed that it is very important for the success of One Day Surgery to have the involvement of a family physician, or primary care provider. Then the question asked was: are they aware of the possibilities of One Day Surgery?

Here, the role of this News letter was appreciated, for its effort towards trying to increase awareness among doctors. (Hopefully, One Day Surgery Times is making an impact!)

The other aspect that came up for wide discussion was the role of a nurse. The 'Nurse practitioner' is a qualified nurse with knowledge of a doctor, trained to look after pre-and post-surgical patients, leaving the surgeon free to manage the real critical cases. We, unfortunately, do not have many of these. A lot is desired to fill this gap. Over a period of several years, we do manage to train our nurses, but, they could do much more.

Every country has the support of their respective government, this we could see by the involvement of representatives from Health departments and interaction of leading doctors in policy making, which aims to regularize medical practice all over the country. We, do not have such backing in surgical care. The Indian Association is trying at different levels to see if some progress can be made towards uniform implementation of One Day Surgery across the country, it sure is a long process.

- Dr. T. Naresh Row

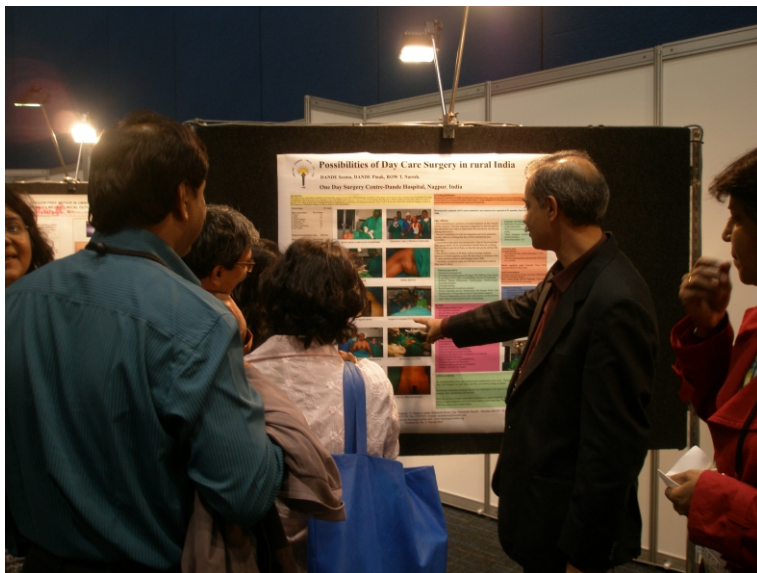


Invited Speaker at The 8th International Congress on Ambulatory Surgery. Dr. Naresh Row, became the first doctor from India to be invited to speak at these prestigious Congresses, thrice, in different countries.



(Left to Right) Dr. Ian Jackson, UK; Dr. Carlo Castro, Italy, President Elect, International Association of Ambulatory Surgery; Dr. G. Mohd., President, Hungarian Association for Ambulatory Surgery; Dr. James Kong, President, Association of Ambulatory Surgery of Hong Kong; Dr. T. Naresh Row, Hon. Secretary, The Indian Association of Day Surgery; Dr. Paulo Limos, President, IAAS; Dr. Randel Sach, President, Australian Council of Ambulatory Surgery:- Participating in a discussion.

The Indian Delegation:- (Left to Right) Dr. Seema & Pinak Dande, Nagpur, Dr. Jatin & Reena Wani, Mumbai, Dr. T. Naresh & Dr. Seema Row, Mumbai, Not in the picture: Dr. M. M. Begani, Mumbai, Dr. Neeta Bondray, Nagpur.



Dr. Naresh Row explaining the scientific poster of One Day Surgery from data of the Mumbai Center. Several posters were presented at the Congress from India.



In a lighter mood:- (Left to Right) Dr. Pinak (sitting) & Seema Dande, Dr. M. M. Begani, (sitting) President, The Indian Association of Day Surgery, Dr. Jatin Wani, Dr. Seema Row (sitting); Dr. Reena Wani, Ms. Shweta Shah, Dr. Naresh Row. At the official Banquet.



At the Welcome Reception:- (Left to Right) Dr. Seema Dande, Dr. Neeta Bondray, Mrs. Helga & Dr. Hugh Bartholomeuz, Chairman Organising Committee, The 8th International Congress on Ambulatory Surgery, Brisbane.



In discussion with Dr. Douglas McWhinnie, President, British Association of Day Surgery.