

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



*With Humanity and in wisdom
Since 1954*

Cancer Institute (WIA)



Inauguration of “**POPULATION-BASED CANCER REGISTRY SURVEILLANCE DATA CENTER**” sponsored by BNY Mellon was inaugurated by Shri. Naveen Aggarwal, Senior Director, BNY Mellon & Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan, Director, Cancer Institute (WIA) on January 31, 2024. This Data Center enables collection and process of statewide cancer data of more than 1,25,000 notifications annually which will benefit the Tamil Nadu State Cancer Registry process. The benefits of this data center include statewide cancer surveillance with public health focus on services, state cancer policy implications and multi-sectoral research.

WHAT'S NEW IN OUR INSTITUTE

- Inauguration of Population-Based Cancer Registry Surveillance Data Center
- Endoscopic Ultrasound-Guided Gastrojejunostomy (EUS-GJ)
- Speech and Swallowing Therapy
- cutting-edge *In vivo* non-invasive imaging equipment - Molecular Oncology Animal Facility



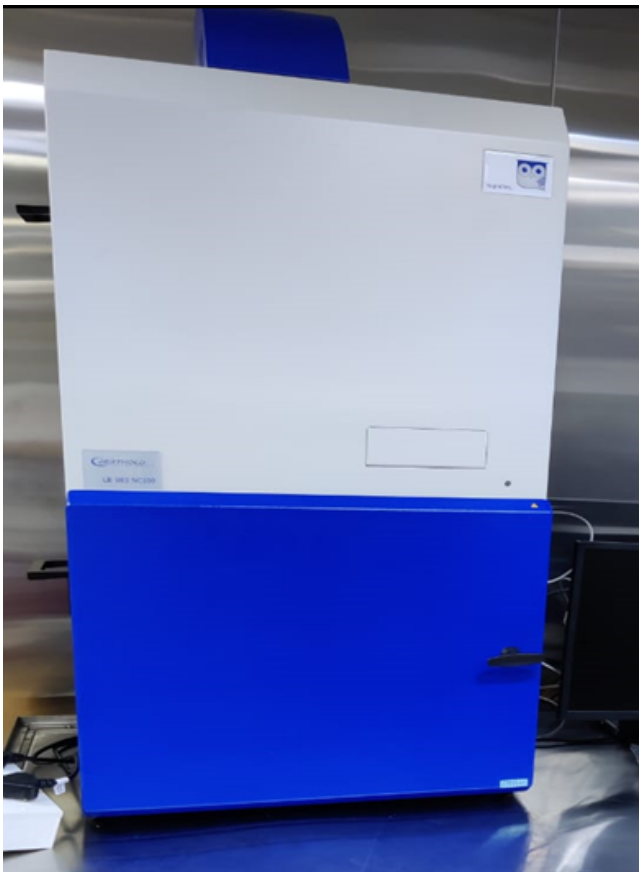
WHAT'S NEW IN OUR INSTITUTE

EMPOWERING REHABILITATION

Ms. Vilasini Raman, the Speech and Swallowing Therapist at our Institute, plays a crucial role in the rehabilitation of patients, particularly those who have undergone surgeries for cancer in the head and neck region. Her expertise in speech and swallowing disorders, backed by her qualifications and experience, enables her to provide comprehensive care to patients with various needs.

One of the key aspects of her work is assisting cancer patients in regaining their voice and swallowing abilities post-surgery. She employs various techniques such as training patients to use electro larynx or esophageal speech, as well as utilizing voice prosthetic devices like the tracheoesophageal prosthesis. Through structured training sessions and follow-up appointments, patients are supported in their journey towards independence in daily activities, minimizing disruptions caused by the surgery. Furthermore, Ms. Vilasini's involvement isn't limited to adult patients; she also works with children in the pediatric ward, addressing developmental delays, speech problems, and swallowing abnormalities.

The testimonial from Parasakthi, a cancer survivor who benefited from Ms. Vilasini's therapy, highlights the transformative impact of her interventions. Through education, support, and tailored exercises, Parasakthi regained her ability to eat and speak comfortably within a year of treatment.

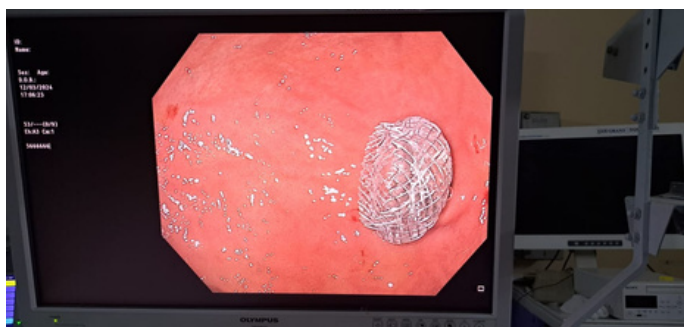


THE MOLECULAR ONCOLOGY ANIMAL FACILITY (AF)

This department has been at the forefront of facilitating groundbreaking research in both basic and translational oncology. Its recent acquisition of cutting-edge *In vivo* non-invasive imaging equipment signifies a significant advancement, allowing researchers to monitor cancer progression and treatment response with unprecedented precision.

It is functioning with a team of three people, Dr. Balaji Ramachandran as the Scientist In-charge of Animal Facility, Mr. M. Vijayavel, Animal house technician and Dr. Catherine Rebecca Barnabas. Dr. Balaji Ramachandran is associated with the AF since 2010 and has formulated and carried out several *in vivo* pre-clinical studies, which were in-turn published in various reputed international peer-reviewed journals. Indeed, the AF has catered to the needs of various Ph.D students and Scientists/ PI's within and outside the department in terms of learning and research experience.

WHAT'S NEW IN OUR INSTITUTE



EUS-GUIDED GASTROJEJUNOSTOMY: Revolutionizing Digestive Health care

The latest innovation in gastrointestinal care: Endoscopic Ultrasound-Guided Gastrojejunostomy (EUS-GJ). This cutting-edge technique is reshaping the management of gastrointestinal disorders with its minimally invasive approach and impressive clinical outcomes. EUS-GJ involves creating a connection between the stomach and the jejunum using endoscopic ultrasound guidance. This procedure offers a promising alternative for patients with gastric outlet obstruction (GOO) who are not surgical candidates, as well as those who prefer to avoid long-term Nasojejunal (NJ) tube feeds.

Key Benefits:

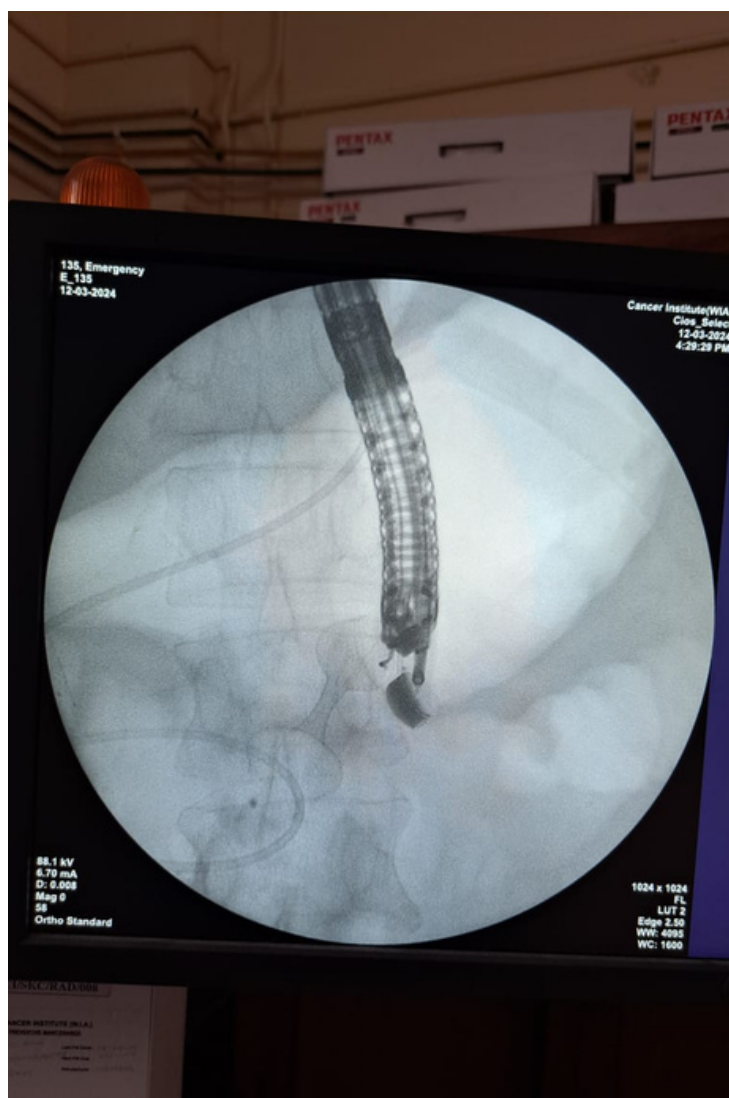
Minimally Invasive: EUS-GJ is performed entirely endoscopically, reducing the need for open surgery and associated risks.

Precision and Safety: Real-time visualization provided by endoscopic ultrasound enhances the safety and accuracy of the procedure, particularly in complex cases.

Improved Patient Outcomes: By restoring gastrointestinal continuity and relieving obstruction, EUS-GJ improves symptom control, nutritional status, and overall quality of life for patients.

EUS-Guided Gastrojejunostomy represents a significant advancement in digestive healthcare. With its effectiveness, safety, and minimally invasive nature, EUS-GJ is poised to transform the management of gastrointestinal disorders, offering hope and improved outcomes for patients.

we continue to explore the potential of EUS-GJ in our ongoing efforts to provide cutting-edge care at our institute.



DR. V. SHANTA (1927 - 2021)- 3RD ORATION MEET A TRIP DOWN THE MEMORY LANE!



Orator - Dr. G. Natchiar Oration Title - Dr. V. Shanta - A Compassionate Healer

As a Compassionate Healer Dr. Shanta never lost an opportunity to fix what is broken and alleviate pain & suffering. She saw the patient as a whole rather than the diseases alone! She remembered every patient she treated and their families. She hailed from a family of Nobel Laureates and she drew her inspiration from Dr. Muthulashmi Reddy & Dr. S. Krishnamurthi



Her relationship with the institute's staff - There was no retirement for the cleaners & securities! Even at 80s there were dedicated people working for the institute with a heart full of compassion!

Big buildings, up-to-date Technology, and modern equipment alone can not treat a patient. You need a healer! And that's what Dr. Shanta was! A healer!

Dr. V. Shanta did not think of a life beyond the institution! Service was of primary concern, and working for a cause seemed to be the "be-all" and "end-all" for for our dear madam!

Her entire medical life, spanning over six decades was dedicated to the mission of organizing the care of cancer patients, the study of the disease, its prevention, and its control.

She didn't change the purpose of her life for any reason!!!

The future of Cancer Institute (WIA) through the eyes of Dr. V. Shanta!

There should be a network of early detection centers. (Awareness camps in both urban and rural areas)

Accelerate research practices to keep up with the latest advances, as these are tomorrow's treatments. We must ensure that the benefits of research reach everyone, irrespective of social and economic status!

More insurance for cancer is needed. We must make healthcare affordable, and must help palliative care

**Finally, the most important dream of
Dr. Shanta is to approach every patient
with humanity!**



THE TREASURE TROVE OF KNOWLEDGE!

OUR LIBRARY!

Nestled within the bustling corridors of the Cancer Institute lies a sanctuary of knowledge and discovery – CI WIA Library. It serves as a haven of learning and information dissemination, catering not only to the needs of the medical fraternity but also to patients, caregivers, and the wider community. Established in 1975 within the premises of Dr. V Shanta campus, the library at CI WIA has been an integral part of our institution's academic landscape. Over the years, it has evolved into a substantial repository of knowledge, now housed in the Bhagwan Adinath Jain Block on Sardar Patel Road since 1985. With a collection of 8629 books and counting, our library remains committed to staying updated. In the past four years alone, we've added 249 new books, with an additional 50 acquisitions just in the last year.

Beyond books, our library also caters to essential administrative needs with facilities such as a printer and a Xerox machine. Whether it's for academic research, leisure reading, or official tasks, CI WIA Library remains a hub of knowledge and convenience for all.

Stay connected, stay informed, and let the journey of exploration continue at CI WIA Library!



A HAVEN FOR RESEARCH AND LEARNING

Our dedicated team of fully qualified staff, led by Mr. Ravichandran as the librarian and Mr. Ponmudi as the assistant librarian, ensures smooth operations and excellent service. Operating 365 days a year from 9 am to 7 pm, CI WIA Library is not just a physical space but a digital oasis. Leveraging the cutting-edge Koha software, we've digitized our entire collection, allowing for seamless online access and record-keeping. Access to medical journals has never been easier, thanks to the Myloft application, providing free access to 58 international medical journals on various devices and desktops within the hospital premises. Moreover, our library boasts modern amenities for readers, including Wi-Fi connectivity and three desktop computers. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) simplifies book and journal searches, ensuring efficient navigation through our extensive resources. Utilizing RFID tagging, we've streamlined the borrowing process, enabling automated reminders for book returns and ensuring security through an integrated alarm system.



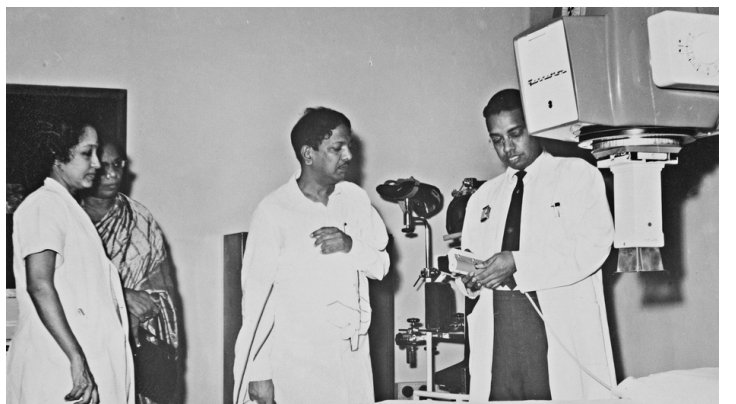
A Legacy of Pioneering Medical Physics Programs

By Dr. A.V. Lakshmanan Retd. Advisor I I and Director (Admn)

Dr. S. Krishnamurthi's Vision:

Building Excellence in Training and Research

Dr. S. Krishnamurthi, our esteemed late Advisor, was a visionary leader who emphasized the importance of training, teaching, and research in every department of our institute. Since my joining in August 1958, he instilled in us the significance of these additional responsibilities. Pioneering Initiatives: Setting the Standard Under Dr. Krishnamurthi's guidance, our department embarked on groundbreaking initiatives. In 1960, I was sent to the Royal Marsden Hospital, U.K., under the Colombo Plan for a certificate course, marking a significant step in introducing medical physics to India. Subsequently, our department was recognized by universities for doctoral programs, with the support of the Commonwealth Scholarship program.



Expanding Horizons: M.Sc. Degree and Beyond

Recognizing the need for qualified professionals, we sought to establish M.Sc. degree courses in Medical Physics. Despite limited offerings, our collaboration with Perarignar Anna University of Technology in 1980 paved the way for the country's first M.Sc. in Medical Physics program. This joint endeavor with an engineering university and a medical center has since flourished, training over 700 graduates who serve institutions worldwide.

A Lasting Tribute

The success of these programs stands as a testament to the dedication of our late Advisor, Dr. S. Krishnamurthi, and our Chairman, Dr. V. Shanta. Their unwavering commitment laid the foundation for excellence in medical physics education and research, shaping the future of healthcare in India and beyond.

Dr. A.V. Lakshmanan Retd. Advisor I I and Director (Admn)

YOUTH HEALTH MELA - 2024



Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases, are on the rise and are responsible for 70% of deaths, worldwide. These NCDs share key modifiable behavioral risk factors like tobacco use, alcohol use, drug use, unhealthy diet, lack of physical activity, and poor personal and environmental hygiene; which in turn lead to overweight & obesity, high blood pressure & cholesterol, and cancer & heart diseases. Without appropriate intervention to curtail this, these factors may cause a major loss of about 6 crore people in the next 10 years. Considering this, Cancer Institute (WIA) Adyar, with HCL Foundation organized the Youth Health Mela 2024, which is an initiative focused on promoting healthy lifestyle among the public. It works at different levels such as setting up stalls, workshops, symposiums, programs, and competitions targeted towards the youth, thereby achieving the motto. This program circled around five themes namely Substance abuse, Hygiene, Diet, Physical inactivity and Environment.

This year the program was organized from 15th February - 17th February 2024 at the Anna Centenary Library, Kotturpuram. Though it is a 3-day program, the pre-events commenced in December 2023, inviting participation from school and college students.

In the program, a total of 45 awareness stalls on the key theme areas were displayed by various organizations and institutions. Moreover, a model food court was set up with over 8 stalls displaying traditional and organic food for the public. In addition to the stalls, workshops, and expert talks were also a culmination of the event. Workshops on Early detection and cancer prevention, healthy youth, and healthy nation, and so on were highly appreciable. A total of 8 workshops and symposiums on the key areas were conducted targeting the young minds. In addition to these sessions, various events and competitions were conducted to strike enthusiasm among the students. All these events were organized in line with the five themes.

YOUTH HEALTH MELA - 2024

This year, the YHM 2024 remains a successful program for the collaboration and participation from the official from various departments of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The program was inaugurated by Thiru Ma. Subramaniyan, Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of Tamil Nadu, and Thiru. Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, Hon'ble Minister of School Education, Govt of Tamil Nadu along with Dr. Selvavinayagam, Director of public health and Preventive medicine, Govt of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan, Director, Cancer Institute (WIA), Dr. Chethana, Lead Health, HCL Foundation, Dr. V. Surendran, Professor and Head of Psycho oncology & RCTC, Cancer Institute (WIA)

Overall, nearly 10,400 students and public visited the program and benefited from the sessions. A total of 49 institutions (25 schools and 24 colleges) with over 4100 students participated in the events and competitions. In addition to competitions, nearly 800 participants attended the workshops and symposiums and around 5500 visitors were registered for exhibition stalls. The prize winners were awarded in the valedictory ceremony which was felicitated by Dr. Jerald M Selvam, Additional Director-National Health Mission, Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan, Director- Cancer Institute, Mr. Balamurugan, Executive Vice President- HCL Tech, Dr. Sandeep Bhalla, Vice President- ECHO India and Mr. Prijoe Tharuk, Group Manager- HCL Foundation.



REWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

The Department of Cancer Biology & Molecular Diagnostics - Honoring Contributions Beyond Timelines!

1. Outstanding Performances at the 3rd Indian Cancer Congress (ISO) 2023:

Our department showcased exemplary research contributions, with several team members being recognized for their exceptional oral presentations:

- **Professor R. Vijayalakshmi:** Presented groundbreaking research on "Identification of a Biomarker Compendium for Cancer of the Gingivobuccal Complex" utilizing advanced techniques such as 2D gel electrophoresis followed by mass spectrometry winning the prestigious Best Oral Presentation Award
- **Miss Soundarya Ravindran, Scientific Assistant:** Presented pioneering work on "Molecular Profiling and Copy Number Variation Analysis on AML Patients," marking a significant milestone in cancer research in India earning her the distinction of Best Oral Paper Presentation
- **Mr. Aravinda Lochan, Scientific Assistant:** Presented research on "Demographic Molecular Profiling of Breast Cancer Patients at Cancer Institute (W.I.A)," shedding light on crucial aspects of breast cancer epidemiology and was recognized with the Best Oral Paper Presentation Award

2. Representation at ESMO Asia:

Our department continued to shine on the international stage, with Mr. Yasasve Madhavan, Ph.D. student, receiving accolades at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Asia conference held in Singapore.

- He presented pioneering research on "Distinct Gene Expression Profiling Explored Using Nanostring Tumour Signaling 360 Panels" in oral submucous fibrosis patients, marking a significant milestone in understanding this complex disease. His presentation was honored with the Best Poster Award

3. Participation at ICC 2023:

Additionally, Mr. Mehanathan K participated in the ICC 2023, presenting innovative research on "Identification of miRNA Panel for OSCC using the Nanostring nCounter Platform."

We at Cancer Institute extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees and participants for their outstanding contributions.

As we continue our journey towards combating cancer, we remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence and innovation in research.

University Examination - Toppers

DM Medical Oncology -
Dr. Kritthivasan V
M Ch Surgical Oncology -
Dr. Pushkala S
MD Radiation Oncology -
Dr. Meeradevi K
M. Phil Psycho Oncology -
Ms. Swetha. G
M.Sc Radiotherapy technology - Ms.
Mahalakshmi E
B.Sc Radiotherapy Technology - Ms.
Durga K
B.Sc Radiography & Imaging
technology - Ms. Sameera
B.Sc Operation theatre & anaesthesia
technology -
Mr. Arun kumar A S
B.Sc Nuclear Medicine technology -
Ms. Deijee Baruah

CELEBRATING OUR PHILANTHROPIC CHAMPIONS: HONORING TOP DONORS FOR THE QUARTER

- MOBIS INDIA FOUNDATION
- VEDA PATCH WORKS
- SANMAR GROUP CS TRUST
- SUNDARAM FASTENERS LTD
- SIVASAILAM FOUNDATION
- KOTAK SECURITIES LTD

"Recognizing our remarkable key donors of the quarter: Those who generously contributed to support our esteemed Institute. Their profound impact fuels hope and progress in the fight against cancer."

CANCER INSTITUTE (WIA) LAUNCHES GROUNDBREAKING HPV VACCINATION PROGRAM

TThiru. M. K. Stalin, Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, inaugurated the HPV Vaccination Program at the Cancer Institute (WIA) Screening Centre in Government Hospital, Viluppuram through online connectivity at the Press Room in the Secretariat on March 8 at 10.45 AM in the presence of Thiru. Maa. Subramanian, Honourable Minister for Medical and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu; Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu and dignitaries from the institute and Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu.

The vaccination program at Viluppuram was graced by the district collector, state health and education department authorities. The vaccination was carried out under the supervision of medical officers and other health personnel from the Cancer Institute (WIA), Adyar, Chennai. This program is being planned free of cost and is intended to cover girls aged 9-14 years in Viluppuram district. This is the first of its kind in Tamil Nadu state. The information, education and communication (IEC) activities on HPV vaccination have already been carried out in selected schools in Viluppuram town to sensitize the school authorities and the parents of the eligible girls towards the benefits of vaccinating. Continuous engagement and interactions with medical professionals from the district, both in public and private sectors, have been very positive. The plan is to deliver two doses of HPV vaccine to every girl: first on day 0 and the next on day 180.



மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர் திரு. மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் அவர்கள் இன்று (8.3.2024) தலைமை செயலகத்திலிருந்து காணொலிக் காட்சி வழியாக, விழுப்புரம் அரசு மருத்துவமனை வளாகத்தில் உள்ள அடைபாறு (புற்றுநோய் தடுப்பு) பரிசோதனை வளத்தில் எச்.பி.வி தடுப்பூசி திட்டத்தை தொடங்கி வைத்தார். இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில், மாண்புமிகு மருத்துவம் மற்றும் மக்கள் நலத்துறை அமைச்சர் திரு.பா. சுப்பிரமணியன், மருத்துவம் மற்றும் மக்கள் நலத்துறை துறை கூடுதல் தலைமை செயலகம் திரு. கனகதீப சிங் மே, திரு.ப.ப. அடைபாறு (புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை) தலைவர் திரு.ஆர். சேஷாணி, செயல் துணைத் தலைவர் டாக்டர் E. நேருமதி எனும் இவர்களும் டாக்டர் சுக்மாணா பாலகிருஷ்ணன் ஆகியோர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

Initially, the first dose of HPV vaccination will be administered to about 2,000 eligible girls on prior appointment in the Cancer Institute (WIA) screening centre in the government hospital campus in Viluppuram town. Later on, with the cooperation of the state health department, national health mission and the rotary service organizations, the vaccination will be carried out in every school in Viluppuram town in a phased manner as feasible. This will then be extended to cover the eligible girls in other areas in the district.



CANCER INSTITUTE (WIA)
புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை
அடையார், சென்னை-20

**எச்.பி.வி. தடுப்பூசி திட்டத்தின்
துவக்க விழா**



காணொலி காட்சி வாயிலாக துவக்கி வைப்பவர்
திரு.மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் அவர்கள்,
மாண்புமிகு தமிழக முதலமைச்சர்

இடம்: புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை பரிசோதனை மையம்,
அரசு மருத்துவமனை, விழுப்புரம்

நாள்: மார்ச் 8, 2024 நேரம்: காலை 10.45

FEEDBACK & MESSAGES TO :

CANCER INSTITUTE (WIA)
ADYAR, CHENNAI - 600 020, INDIA
PH: 044 - 22209150

Website: <https://cancerinstitutewia.in>
E-MAIL: contact@cancerinstitutewia.org



They trust in humanity through the pain!

They hope for a better tomorrow!

They believe in the cure!

You can be the reason

for their Trust, hope & cure!

<https://cancerinstitutewia.in/donation>

EDITORIAL BOARD

MS. MANJU DEBORAH
MRS. VARALAKSHMI VIJAYAKUMAR
DR. KALPANA BALAKRISHNAN
DR. R. SWAMINATHAN
MS. S. AJITHA

CORRESPONDENTS

1. Dr. Y. Swapna
2. Dr. J.S. Mallika
3. Dr. S. Gangothi
4. Dr. S. Nivedhya
5. Dr. R. Sabitha
6. Dr. Sridevi Duggirala
7. Mrs. R. Harini
8. Mrs. M.S. Kalyani
9. Mrs. .D. Anitha
10. Mr. N.C. Vikram Babu
11. Dr. Venktesh

**Early Detection
Saves Lives!**



*With Humanity and in wisdom
Since 1954*

Cancer Institute (WIA)