



## NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER , 2024

### "SAVING LIVES, DROP BY DROP: THE BLOOD BANK STORY"

#### Blood Bank Services

The Blood Bank at the Cancer Institute WIA offers vital services such as donor counselling, recruitment, screening, and retention. Blood is collected from voluntary or replacement donors under aseptic conditions, processed into components, and stored at the correct temperatures. It undergoes extensive testing for infectious diseases and compatibility before transfusion. Specialized services include apheresis, therapeutic phlebotomy, and autologous blood collection. Blood components not suitable for therapeutic use are discarded per guidelines.

#### Blood Component Uses

- RBCs: For trauma, surgery, or conditions like anemia, hemorrhage, and cardiovascular disease.
- Platelets: Used to treat or prevent bleeding, especially in cases of liver failure or coagulopathy.
- Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP): For bleeding disorders, urgent surgeries, or massive transfusions.

Transfusions are prescribed based on clinical indications, ensuring that the benefits outweigh the risks.



#### Key Blood Bank Statistics

The Blood Bank collects around 7,000 units annually, with all donations separated into components. Single donor platelet donations via apheresis reach approximately 750, while granulocyte donations are around 75 annually.

#### Importance of Blood Donation for Cancer Patients

Blood donations are vital for cancer patients, especially those undergoing chemotherapy or surgery, as they often require transfusions of red blood cells, platelets, and plasma to manage anemia, bleeding, and low immunity levels during treatment.

"Certain medications may affect donor eligibility for blood donation. While common drugs like vitamins, analgesics, and oral contraceptives are generally accepted, others such as antibiotics or NSAIDs require short deferral periods. Blood thinning agents, insulin, and anti-arrhythmic medications typically result in permanent deferral. Always inform the blood bank about any medications you're taking to ensure safety and eligibility."



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# HONOR CORNER

## BNY MELLON'S STEADFAST SUPPORT: TRANSFORMING CANCER CARE AT THE CANCER INSTITUTE (WIA)



### BNY MELLON

Since 2016, BNY Mellon has played an instrumental role in bolstering the technological and operational capacity of the Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai. Through their consistent support, the institute has been able to enhance patient care, improve data management, and foster research and innovation in cancer treatment.



### 2023-24: Establishing a Comprehensive Cancer Database

The most recent contributions have seen BNY Mellon finance the establishment of a cancer patient database, amenable to data analytic solutions, with INR 10 lakh plus INR 22 lakh for various initiatives. Additionally, they funded INR 25 lakh for biomedical waste management and INR 55 lakh for establishing a data center to support patient information and statewide cancer research surveillance, encompassing over 1,25,000 notifications annually.

### 2024-25: Future Focus on IT Infrastructure

Looking ahead to 2024-25, BNY Mellon has pledged INR 35 lakh to enhance the Cancer Institute's IT infrastructure, ensuring it remains at the forefront of cancer care and research.

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### A Legacy of Sustained Support

BNY Mellon's generous contributions over the years have empowered the Cancer Institute (WIA) to improve its services and expand its research capabilities, ultimately benefiting countless cancer patients across Tamil Nadu. Their commitment to technological innovation, data management, and patient care reflects the institute's mission of compassion and service, ensuring a brighter future for cancer treatment and research.

This collaboration continues to be a testament to the power of sustained support in transforming healthcare systems.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Cancer Institute (WIA) takes global strides at the World Cancer Congress 2024 in Geneva!



**Dr V Surendran, Professor & Head, Department of Psycho-oncology & Resource Centre for Tobacco Control with Former UICC President**

The Cancer Institute (WIA) exhibited a stall at the UICC World Cancer Congress, which took place in Geneva from September 17th to 19th, 2024. The theme of our exhibition was "Tobacco Control Initiatives of FCTC Article 17: Alternative Livelihoods for Beedi Rolling Women." This important project aimed to support beedi rolling women by training them in the craft of wig making, offering them a sustainable alternative to their traditional livelihoods. Through this initiative, the women learned valuable skills that not only provided them with a new source of income but also enabled them to create high-quality wigs for cancer patients suffering from alopecia. This dual impact on empowering women while addressing a critical need among cancer patients has garnered significant attention. The response from the international oncology community was overwhelmingly positive, with many experts expressing admiration for the innovative approach taken by the Cancer Institute.

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## A Step Closer to Prevention: Educating with Fun!

On 15th July, celebrated globally as *World Plastic Surgery Day*, our mission was to educate the community about the wide range of treatment options available through plastic surgery. From correcting birth defects and managing diabetic wounds to restoring form and function in patients post-surgery or trauma, the role of plastic surgery is indispensable.

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# EVENTS

## WORLD PATIENT SAFETY WEEK, 2024



On September 10th, 2024, the Cancer Institute WIA Adyar held a successful Nursing Care Plan Workshop as part of its Patient Safety Day program. A total of 76 dedicated nurses from both the Dr. SK and Dr. VS campuses actively participated in the workshop, showcasing the Institute's commitment to enhancing patient care across all wards.



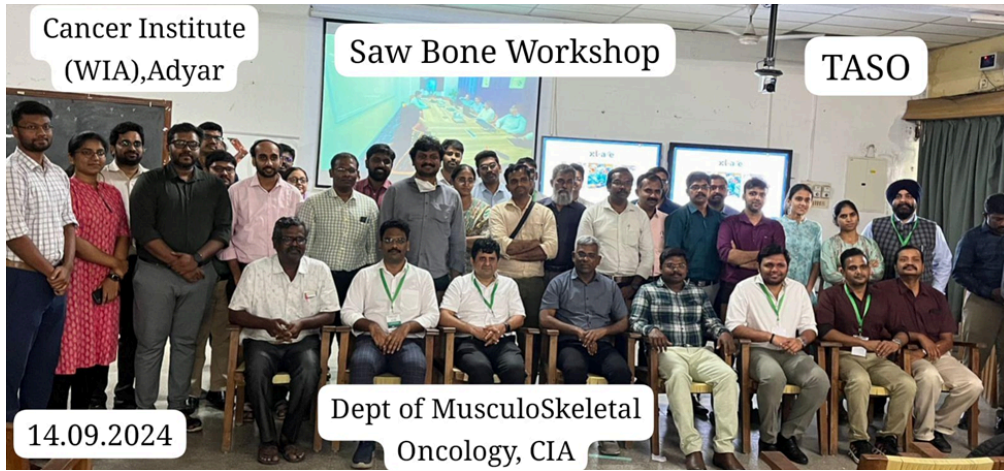
The workshop was led by Ms. Lydia Annie, the Nursing Director and NABH Assessor, alongside Mrs. Abilasha, a Nursing Educator from Kavery Hospital, Chennai. With extensive expertise, they guided the participating nurses through essential patient safety practices. The event was supported by our senior nursing staff, who worked in coordination with the lead faculty to ensure a smooth and enriching experience for all attendees.



Sponsored by Reliance Life Science, Pharma, the workshop included a range of engaging activities designed to improve diagnostic skills and patient safety awareness. Nurses participated in interactive role plays, villu paatu (a traditional storytelling musical form), and mime performances, all aligned with the theme, "Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety." This year's slogan, "Get it Right, Make it Safe," emphasized the critical importance of accurate diagnosis and effective nursing care in fostering a safe healthcare environment.

The sponsors generously provided high tea for everyone in attendance and presented mementos to the lead faculty as tokens of appreciation. This thoughtful gesture added a special touch to a day filled with learning, collaboration, and commitment to excellence in patient care.

# EVENTS



The event was sponsored by XLO-are, healthium sutures and tetramed. The division of musculoskeletal oncology from the department of surgical oncology conducted a one day hands on saw bone model workshop on megaprotheses on September 14th, 2014. Over 65 delegates participated in the workshop. We had 3 eminent national faculty for the workshop. The workshop covered the basics of limb salvage surgery and skeletal reconstruction following it.

There were lectures and video demonstration followed by a hands on session. Participants had hands on training on distal femur and proximal tibia reconstruction using megaprotheses. The workshop had affiliation with IMSOS and TASO.



**Fight For A Cure** - Childhood cancer Awareness Month (September) The Cancer Institute(WIA) has a rich legacy in the field of pediatric cancer treatment. Over the years, we have made significant advancements in the field of pediatric oncology, pioneering and adapting new treatments and protocols that have improved survival rates and quality of life for young cancer patients.

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# AWARENESS IN FOCUS

## Lung Cancer Screening and Awareness Initiatives

The Cancer Institute (WIA) launched India's first lung cancer screening research initiative, targeting tobacco users over 45 who consume more than one pack daily. In Perumbakkam, Chemmanchery, and Kannagi Nagar, 96 tobacco users were screened, with cessation interventions offered.

On 20th August 2024, a cancer awareness program in Kannagi Nagar focused on lung cancer screening for tobacco users aged 40+. This initiative benefited 53 individuals by highlighting the risks of tobacco use and the importance of early detection.

A similar event on 14th August 2024 in Perumbakkam provided information on breast, lung, and general cancer awareness, benefiting 56 people.

Additionally, a school awareness program was conducted across 10 schools, reaching 1,390 students. The program assessed students' knowledge and behavior regarding tobacco use and cancer prevention.

As part of the Young Ambassador for Cancer Control (YACC) Club, the institute, in collaboration with HCL Foundation, organized an "Orientation and Sensitization Program" for NSS Program Officers from four districts on 22nd August 2024. Attended by 120 officers, the event featured expert discussions on cancer prevention, early diagnosis, and the role of education in tobacco cessation.



# THE TEACHER IN ME – SPECIAL EDITION

As I enter my 20th year at the Cancer Institute (WIA), I step back and look at my own professional journey. It is a give in, that our professional lives are primarily shaped by our teachers who constantly help us navigate through the path, previously unknown. I too realize that I am a product of a few prestigious institutions and MANY teachers and mentors who have shaped, moulded and refined my understanding of oncology.

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The COVID -19 pandemic had paved the way for periodic “Virtual Oncology Classes” and further gave me the opportunity to reach out and teach just our Institute students, but also Oncology Residents from across the length and breadth of our county. I will cherish the many greetings and especially a special gift couriered to me by a bunch of enthusiastic oncology residents from Mumbai acknowledging my role as their “Virtual Guru” on Teacher’s Day.



**Professor  
Dr. Arvind Krishnamurthy  
HOD of Surgical Oncology**

I end by stating that If I dare to look further in my professional life, it is only because I am standing on the shoulders of my many teachers and mentors whose invisible force keeps guiding me towards the next right step!

## PREVENTIVE PEARLS – BREAST CANCER

### DR. J.S MALLIGA – HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT



**Access to Screening Programs:** The Cancer Institute offers comprehensive screening programs, including mammography and clinical breast exams, accessible to all. Regular screenings can lead to early detection, which improves treatment outcomes. Visit us to learn more about our breast cancer screening services.



**Education and Outreach:** We are committed to raising awareness about breast cancer risks and prevention. Through our outreach programs, we provide educational sessions and resources to help individuals understand how lifestyle factors, such as diet and exercise, can influence their risk.



**Patient Support and Guidance:** We offer genetic counseling for those with a family history of breast cancer. Our team of experts can guide you through understanding your risk and the preventive steps that best suit you.

***Take action for your health today. Together, we can make strides toward a future free from breast cancer. Visit Cancer Institute (WIA) Adyar to learn more about our services and how we can support you and your family in breast cancer prevention.***



# HALL OF FAME

Research Paper Presentations of Psycho Oncology Department:

1. Ms. K Jayashree, M. Phil Scholar from the Department of Psycho-oncology presented a research paper titled "Mapping of Tobacco Cessation Centres in the Dental colleges of Tamil Nadu ". She has secured the 2nd place with "Mc-Vie Veronesi Award 2024 for oral presentation at the e cancer- Psycho-Oncology Congress 2024 on 7th September, 2024 held at Tata Memorial Centre, Kolkata.



2. Mr. C. Vijay, M. Phil Scholar, from the department of Psycho-oncology, presented a research paper titled "Clinico-Psycho-social Status, Quality of life, and lived experiences of Penile Cancer Survivors: a Mixed Method study" at Oncology Conundrums 2024, at JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi from Friday to Sunday, 17th to 19th May 2024. His oral presentation was awarded with "Best Paper presentation" & free registration and accommodation to attend the ISO MVR CANCCON,2024.



## Faculty from Dept. of Anaesthesia, Pain, and Palliative Care, Cancer Institute Adyar, at R-PPALCON 2024

The Department of Anaesthesia, Pain, and Palliative Care at the Cancer Institute Adyar played a pivotal role at the National Pediatric Palliative Care Conference – R PPAL CON, organized by the Department of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research (SRIHER) in collaboration with the Golden Butterflies- Children's Palliative Care Foundation between August 30th and September 1st which brought together healthcare professionals nationwide.

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The First Real world data from India regarding the molecular subtyping and prediction of risk of recurrence for early-stage receptor positive breast cancer using Nano String nCounter Flex was presented in the recently concluded 5th Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA) conference at New Delhi. The work was also presented earlier this year in American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting 2024, May 31–June 4, in Chicago.

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## Cancer Institute (WIA) Surgical Oncology (SOG) Alumni Meeting at NATCON-IASO 2024

The Department of Surgical Oncology faculty and residents actively participated in NATCON-IASO 2024 in Bengaluru (Sept 28-30), contributing to talks, debates, and moderated sessions. Residents earned awards for their scientific achievements, including Dr. Aditi Deewan (IASO Fellowship Award), Dr. Gurushankari Balakrishnan (Best Paper), and Drs. Khushbu Badami & Anand Murali (Best Poster).



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# HALL OF FAME

**39th Annual state Conference of Association Of Radiation Oncologists Of India \_Tamil Nadu Pondicherry Chapter (AORI\_TNPY) was held at Vellore, September 20-21,2024**



Dr. Karthik D, second year resident ,received the AROI-TNPY fellowship



Dr Godson Titus Samuel,second year resident received the AROI-TNPY Fellowship



Dr Shivani, second year resident, received the AROI-TNPY fellowship



Dr Aravind N,Final Year resident received the AROI -TNPY fellowship



Dr Gayathri K , First year resident Radiation Oncology, Special Mention for Poster



Dr. Padma Priya P, final year resident bagged the Prof Dr G. Selvaluxmi award for oral presentation in Gynaec Oncology



Dr. Sai Pranav ,final year resident, Radiation Oncology, bagged the first place in poster presentation at GeriCare Geriatrics Conclave and First Asian Geriatric Oncology Society conference held in Chennai on September 29th-30th 2024



Dr Swathi M, final year resident MD Radiation Oncology got the third place in poster presentation



Vaishnavi Muktneni from the Department of Cancer Biology and Molecular Diagnostics has won First Place in both the E-Poster Presentation and Slogan Competition at the 13th National AOGIN Conference 2024 held from October 3rd to 5th at JIPMER, Puducherry. Her award-winning e-poster, titled "Development of a Dry Smear (DS) Paper-based Method for HPV Detection: A Feasible Approach for Low-Resource Settings," highlights an innovative approach for HPV screening. Additionally, her impactful slogan, "Just 5 minutes for the next 5 years!", was recognized for its powerful message on preventive care.

## FEEDBACK & MESSAGES TO :

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## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH - OCTOBER



**KNOW THE SIGNS OF BREAST CANCER THIS  
OCTOBER AND HELP SPREAD AWARENESS FOR  
A HEALTHIER TOMORROW.  
#BREASTCANCERAWARENESS**

*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>*

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# EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES



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Since 1954*

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