



INCTR Canada

Home-Based Palliative Care Program in India

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The "Life at Your Doorstep" is a home-based palliative care program. The program began in 2008 as an initiative of Pain Relief and Palliative Care Society, Hyderabad in collaboration with MNJ Institute of Oncology & Regional Cancer Centre.

INSTITUTIONS

- Pain Relief and Palliative Care Society, Hyderabad
- MNJ Institute of Oncology & Regional Cancer Centre, Hyderabad

OBJECTIVES

- This comprehensive home care program offers extensive, 24 hour a day / 7 day a week support to patients and families struggling with advanced and terminal illness in the city of Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
- The program is the only home based palliative service in the entire city of Hyderabad - a city of 6 million people.

METHODS

The service is provided by a team of well-trained and compassionate nurses and counselors, guided by experienced palliative care physicians. The dedicated home care team not only attends to physical problems such as severe pain, breathlessness, malignant wounds, and confusion, but provides skilled psychosocial and spiritual support. Educating and preparing the family for expected changes at the end of life is another key role of the trained home care team.

PROGRESS

- To date, the program has cared for over 900 patients and more than 3,000 follow up visits.
- In the year 2012 the program has cared over for 154 new patients and 465 follow up visits.
- A hospice with beds for those with needs that cannot be managed on an out-patient basis has been established outside of the city of Hyderabad.
- A similar rural-based program has been established.

FUTURE PLANS

To continue with this program to ensure that its services are available not only in urban areas, but rural areas as well.