

Ambala Cantt, Haryana, February 2016, 2017, 2018

Site

Rotary Ambala Cancer and General Hospital – Sneh Sparsh

Rotary Ambala Cancer and General Hospital is managed by Rotary Ambala Cancer Detection and Welfare Society – A Charitable Society by Members of Rotary Club of Ambala. Started in 2003 as an idea to spread awareness on cancer in Ambala matured into a full Cancer and General Hospital by 2010. Now it serves the local population with world class facilities and services at a very affordable price. Being the only Cancer & multi-specialty hospital in Ambala, with 75000 registered patients and superior services/facilities at rates much below the market, it is a lifeline for many. Sneh Sparsh provides free home care services and gifts monthly rations to those in need of it.

Participants from APLI

- Dr David MacKintosh
- Sr Jane MacKintosh

Participants from Rotary Ambala Cancer and General Hospital – Sneh Sparsh

- Dr Kanav

Summary 2016 (taken from the Punjab report)	Summary 2017	Summary 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The APLI team visited the Rotary Ambala Cancer and General Hospital and visited the OPD and IP wards.• The team met a doctor who had completed the theory part of the palliative medicine diploma and was yet to finish the practical		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very insightful visit as it highlighted the problems facing palliative care in resource limited settings which are primarily situated outside the main centers• The APLI team attended 6 OPD clinics

<p>section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The team went on home care visit accompanied with the home care team – a nurse, doctor and driver. The team's skill was very basic particularly in management of malignant wounds • The APLI team members were the main speakers at a seminar (about 90 minutes) which was attended by approx. 15-20 people who were supportive and interested in developing palliative care services in the community. During the seminar, the team fielded questions about the value of palliative care and what APLI may have to offer in the future by way of support. • The center projected a need for educational support particularly in the home care service. 		<p>at Rotary hospital and attended to over 60 patients. The team witnessed some of the major difficulties such as manpower resources, access to medications, particularly morphine, and cultural and financial factors plaguing health care provision in general and palliative care in particular in India.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community involvement was relatively less this year in comparison to the previous year. • The APLI team made two formal presentations at MiriPiri hospital. One for the medical staff and the other to the paramedical staff. • Jane visited SD Vidyaschool to present a lecture to teaching staff and then spent an afternoon with the home care team. • Rotary hospital has very recently appointed a medical oncologist which opens the possibility of collaboration between cancer services and palliative care within the hospital to assist with care of appropriate inpatients.
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		<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of a suitably trained doctor to provide palliative care services in Rotary Hospital and support the home care team. • Provision of the capacity to prescribe morphine and make it available to appropriate patients. • Establish palliative care outpatient clinics. • Establish a collaboration with oncology services to facilitate symptom control and discussions of treatment limitation. • Improve documentation of the clinical care of patients seen by the home care team. • Investigate paper based tools/forms for the purpose of patient assessment.