

Vizag, Andhra Pradesh, November / December 2018

Site:

Sneha Sandyha Age Care Foundation

- The only organization people providing aged and palliative care to the community.
- It is governed by a generous Board of Trustees.
- The Foundation is largely managed and staffed by very dedicated and long-serving volunteers, both clinical and non-clinical.

Year of Visit 2018	Year of Visit 2019
Participants from Australian Palliative Link International <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maite Uribe• Chris Drummond Pallium India <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Sreedevi Warriar• Satish Pulibanti	Australian Palliative Link International Pallium India
Participants from Sneha Sandyha Age Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uma (Volunteer and Trustee)• Dr Raju NS (Volunteer and Managing Director)• Dr Vidya Visvanath (Volunteer Palliative Care Doctor)• Satya (Medical Social Worker)• Supraja (Volunteer and Trustee)	Participants from GCRI

Objectives of the visit:	Objectives of the visit:
Potential threats to achieving objectives:	Potential threats to achieving aims:
<p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The team attended a rural, Sunday medical camp, organised by Supraja, through her Rotary Club. Hundreds of village people arrived to receive basic preventative medical care, including blood pressure and blood glucose checks. A team of volunteer doctors from various specialities provided free consultations. • The APLI team had an action-packed week with well-attended education sessions on palliative care, pain assessment and the interface between palliative care and ICU. Venues and participants (several hundred) included the nursing college, medical college, dental college, Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists, physiotherapy students and various clinicians at a private hospital. • The team also met many dignitaries, in support of the Foundation and the promotion of palliative care. • The team felt that having Satish Pulibanti, a project officer from Pallium India accompany them all week, left him with many contacts and much work to do organising follow up education programmes and a public film night screening of 'Hippocratic'. The team also felt fortunate to have Dr Sreedevi Warriar, from Pallium India accompany them and share the activity of providing education. • The team also participated in an ECHO teaching session with several 	<p>Summary:</p>

doctors across the country, including Dr Raju NS, Dr Vidya Viswanath and Dr Anasuya from the Foundation, discussing a geriatric case, and it was clear that everyone shared a similar approach and concerns with our elderly patients.

- A visit to Homi Bhabha Cancer Centre, run out of shipping containers for the last 3 years whilst waiting for new buildings to be completed, was inspirational to the team. There was a real focus on and understanding of palliative care, and an amazing 'can do' attitude from everyone, from the Medical Director to the allied health clinicians, laboratory technicians and cleaners. The APLI team felt that they had a lot to learn! It was noted that Dr Vidya Viswanath works tirelessly, in a small clinic room, catering to patients from all over the state of Andhra Pradesh and that all patients who presented to the cancer centre were referred to her as a matter of routine, such is their belief in the value of palliative care.
- The team also visited a free community geriatric clinic, held by the Aged Care Foundation in a wing of a home for the destitute, which also included an orphanage. What an amazing community; no-one is turned away. Those who can contribute to the work of the place do so, and those who are bed-ridden and cannot, are cared for, albeit with the bare necessities.
- It was observed that the 6-bed St Joseph's Hospice, was a small wing of a local private hospital, and provides excellent care for patients and welcomes their families. The facilities are small but the care factor is huge!! We were fortunate to have delivered 2 syringe drivers to them and educated the nurses on their use. Apparently, they are being used

frequently.	
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Positive observations	
Recommendations	