

Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences

Raebareli Road, Lucknow www.sgpgims.org.in

Institutional Distinctiveness

"Superspeciality Teaching Institute is the most distinctive feature of the Institute that needs to be mentioned. In the 1980s, despite having multiple medical colleges in Uttar Pradesh, patients had to move to other states for advanced care for complex diseases. The Government of Uttar Pradesh came out with a vision to establish an Institute only for superspeciality care, and foundation of this tertiary care Institute was laid down by the President of India, Sri Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, on December 14, 1980. The Institute has fulfilled its primary objective which was to develop each speciality of Medicine and Surgery to such an extent that each Speciality department becomes an "Institute within the Institute". The Institute emerged as a tertiary care super speciality teaching Institute (View Link) for medical students from all corners of India.

Super-specialised care was not possible without superspeciality education. It is well said that teaching lifts the standards of service, and service opens new avenues of investigation. Hospitals with a long tradition of excellence have demonstrated abundantly that research enhances the vitality of teaching. " (View Link). This Institute was the first and only super-speciality teaching **Institute** in India, which was conceptualised and started with patient care only in super-speciality departments, along with super-speciality teaching and training courses focusing on research and innovation, simultaneously. This Institute began teaching and training in super-speciality departments, Doctorate in Medicine (DM) and Master of Chirurgiae (MCh) in surgical super-speciality rather than bachelor courses. It was the first Institute in the country to offer three-year DM/MCh Courses, unlike two-year courses in other top institutions like AIIMS, New Delhi and PGIMER, Chandigarh. Eventually, all institutions subsequently adopted the same courses across India. This Institute was the first Institute in the country to initiate super-speciality DM/MCH courses in Medical Genetics, Clinical Immunology, Endocrine Surgery, and MD in Transfusion Medicine. The vision of super specialised care at the lowest possible cost within the state prevented patient migration for specialised care to other states and countries and instead attracted patients from different parts of the state, neighbouring states, and neighbouring countries.

The super-speciality care led to the setting of specialised laboratories with rare tests like immunogenetics testing, stem cell research laboratory etc, within the Institute, which was not available in contemporary corporate and public sector hospitals. A set of basic scientists were employed in each department to support patient care through innovation and research. The concept was unique to this super-speciality Institute, where the basic scientists and clinicians shared common platforms to discuss patient outcomes with research and innovations that were not existing in any other contemporary Institute in India. Innovations and novelty were in the Institute's epicentre, and moving ahead of time, the Telemedicine Program of the Institute was conceptualised as early as 1999 to promote the concept of tele-education using interactive video conferencing technology. A full-fledged School of



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Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics was established in 2006, the country's only centre of its kind. (<u>View Link</u>). To make the environment compatible with super specialised training and research, the Institute provided **24X7 library facilities with e-books**, e-journals, and physical books for all specialities, round the clock.

The Institute developed a Hospital Revolving Fund (HRF), a unique hospital pharmacy, the first of its kind in India, on a self-sustainable system to provide the best quality of medicine at the patient's bedside at the lowest cost. Many public and private sectors adopted the HRF model of the Institute subsequently. Super Specialised treatment that was costly and beyond the reach of the poor needed special investigation. The Institute developed an **Investigation Revolving Fund**, which was formed in 2002 to procure diagnostic kits, reagents, chemicals and consumables at low cost directly from the manufacturer, avoiding retailer's margins, that improved patient care, besides research and innovation. The Institute came out with a novel strategy, **Kamdhenu Atinirdhan Chikitsa Sahayata Society** (popularly known as Kamdhenu Society), to support the poor in emergency care without delay. Kamdhenu Society was formed with charity donations from our hospital pharmacy HRF, which helped treat patients below the poverty line for immediate care, and saved many lives.

This super-speciality Institute is also a Centre for State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation. The Institute was the first to start an organ transplantation program in the state, which requires specialised care, in the state. The Institute's renal transplant program provided **mentorship for many top-notch Institutes like** AIIMS Jodhpur, Raipur, and Rishikesh; Command Hospitals, RMLIMS and KGMU, Lucknow etc, in setting up renal replacement therapies. The Institute is a regional **training centre for International students** in many departments. The Department of Nephrology is recognised for the International Society of Nephrology and International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis fellowship. (View link)

The super specialised patient care and teaching resulted in outstanding research papers widely quoted in most of the reputed journals of the world. The Institute promoted a high standard of research with **intramural funding to junior faculty members**. It assisted senior faculty members and scientists in fetching extramural grants from ICMR, DHR, DBT, DST, etc., to make research a self-sustainable program.

Over the years, SGPGIMS produced a large number of PhDs and super-specialised clinicians, not only for the state but for the country and the world. Students from the institutions are visibly distinct globally and in all corners of India.

The Institute has positioned itself as a premier tertiary care medical and research Institute. NIRF has consistently ranked the Institute between 4 and 7 top medical Institutes of the country for many consecutive years. (View Link), and among top 3 super-speciality hospitals. At present, fifteen faculty members are ranked among the world's top 2% of scientists (View Link). Medical graduates who have passed out from this Institute stimulated the growth of super-speciality medical and surgical care in India, both in the private and public sectors. It

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is safe to say that this Institute is a medical Institute of national importance which has catalysed the super-speciality medical care in this state and country.

