

INDIAN CANCER SOCIETY, DELHI BRANCH



AAINA

May 2026 Issue – 171



FORTIS CANCER SUMMIT 2026



On the 2nd of May 2026, the Indian Cancer Society was invited to convene a high-level meeting on the sidelines of the Fortis Cancer Summit in New Delhi, supported by the Fortis Cancer Summit organizing committee. Bringing together clinicians, researchers, public health specialists, industry representatives, and survivors, the discussion centred on the challenge of contemporary cancer care in India: the



widening gap between the pace of global innovation in therapeutics and diagnostics and the ability of Indian patients to access and benefit from these advances. The lively discussion saw points presented by Indian and international stakeholders as the groups collectively pondered what all the Indian landscape needs to improve access. The main issues discussed revolved around systemic, geographic and economic challenges to patient access, the need for more domestic clinical trials,



significant increases in investments in the Indian R&D ecosystem and in fostering interest and capacity of young researchers. Financial access continues to be a problem with people relying on out-of-pocket expenditure to cover a large number of their bills.

Public insurance schemes while providing some relief, don't always offer adequate coverage for the gamut of cancer care costs, and don't always rationalize 'costs' accurately especially in the private sector; for this to be closer to the mark, experts also suggested analyses on the 'prices' stated by health systems versus the actual 'costs' to the system to provide a service/commodity. In the absence of standard treatment guidelines for Indian patients, private insurers also face challenges in reconciling payments



reimbursements based on what they sometimes perceive to be 'discretionary' treatments by doctors. A basic need, for all of this to move forward, is better cancer data, which at this point is lacking since case notification for cancer (and its patient related data) is not mandatory. Experts suggested that mechanisms like pooled



procurement and changes in financing mechanisms could help access, while others highlighted the benefit of data which will help India shift toward 'predictive' and 'preventive' medicine if it is able to unleash the potential of big data using AI-driven analytics. There was unanimous agreement that India is at a pivotal moment, and that stakeholders must collaborate effectively to progress. A major next step emerging from this discussion, is that ICS-

Delhi will actively work toward convening an informal coalition or alliance of patients/survivors and other relevant stakeholders, to bolster its efforts to advocate for systemic changes that can turn the tide for cancer in India. The prominent speakers included Prof. M.C. Misra, Dr. Urvashi Prasad, Dr. Vivek Tomar, Mr. Jatin Goyal, Dr. Geeta Kadayaprath, Dr. Bhuvnesh Shrivastava, Dr. Henna Dhawan, Dr. Harsh Mahajan, Dr. D.S. Gangwar, Dr. Christian Grohe, and Dr. Indira Behara.

On 2nd–3rd May 2026, Mrs. Jyotsna Govil was invited to join a discussion on Palliative Care, highlighting the importance of



compassionate support, quality of life, holistic care for cancer patients and their families. After the discussions, Mrs. Jyotsna Govil was felicitated by the organisers of Fortis Cancer Summit 2026.



AWARENESS TALK

On the occasion of World Health Day on 11 April, Mrs Sangita Malhotra delivered a lecture on Cancer Awareness at an Army establishment, for around 100 ladies of serving soldiers. The session delivered by Mrs Malhotra was highly informative, insightful and impactful. She effectively highlighted the importance of early warning signs, timely diagnosis, preventive measures and the adoption of a healthy lifestyle. Her efforts dispelled common myths associated with cancer. She connected with the audience in a compassionate and motivating manner, encouraging families to remain vigilant and proactive in combating cancer. She was felicitated by Mrs Neha Payal, the first lady of the Establishment.



Cancer Awareness Talk in Nirvana Country

On Sunday, 4th May, Mrs. Aruna Ummat delivered a talk on General Cancer Awareness to a group of residents of Nirvana Country, Sector 50 Gurgaon. The group called 'Young Boys', though all between 65+ to 80+, assemble every day in the park to exercise after their morning walk. Her talk highlighted symptoms to be recognized that are abnormal to the body, risks of developing cancers, both modifiable & non-modifiable and prevention through regular screening. 35 males and 15 females attended the talk. ICS literature was also distributed to them.



WEBINAR'S

WHO guidelines for screening and treatment of cervical pre-cancer lesions

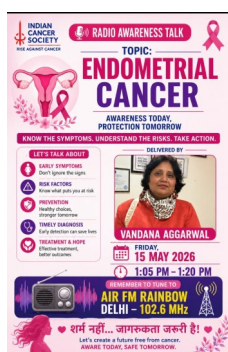
On 11th May 2026, the Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative (CCEI) and WHO HQ Department of Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health (NMH) organized a webinar to launch the WHO guidelines for screening and treatment of cervical pre-cancer lesions using Human Papillomavirus (HPV) DNA genotyping. Dr. Nalini Vemuri, Dr. Neerja Batla and Mrs. Aruna Ummat attended the webinar, which highlighted updated recommendations, screening and treatment algorithms, and global efforts to expand HPV screening coverage and treatment of precancerous lesions.

"Basics of Genomics and Genetics in Cancer Care"

On 14th May 2026, virtual training session on "Basics of Genomics and Genetics in Cancer Care" was conducted by Dr. Aruna Korlimarla to help ICS Volunteers understand the role of genetics in cancer prevention and treatment. It was widely attended amongst others by ICS Secretary, Mrs Usha Thorat and all the heads of ICS Branches along with their reps.



Dr Korlimarla explained how cancer develops through DNA changes, the difference between sporadic and hereditary cancers, and key warning signs that may indicate inherited cancer risk. Participants were also introduced to genetic testing methods, interpretation of test results, the importance of genetic counseling, and the role of Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) in precision medicine for diagnosis, targeted therapy, and improved patient care. The session emphasised the importance of community awareness, early identification, and guiding patients and families through informed prevention and treatment decisions.



Endometrial Cancer Awareness Talk on AIR FM Rainbow

On 15 May 2026, Mrs. Vandana Aggarwal delivered an awareness talk on behalf of the Indian Cancer Society on AIR FM Rainbow, highlighting **Endometrial Cancer** and its common symptoms, including abnormal bleeding and lower abdominal pain. The session emphasized the importance of early detection and timely medical consultation for improved treatment outcomes and cure rates.

CHILDREN AT PRASHANTI



On 5th May the day began with prayers and milk for every child. An introduction session with fun actions set a joyful mood. The children played Simon Says, enjoyed a lively dance session, and shared heartfelt thoughts about their mothers for Mother's Day. The day care session ended happily with refreshments. At the end of the day, children enjoyed a nutritious meal sponsored by Mrs. Ritu Mehta.

On 12th May the children started their day with prayers. Next, they enjoyed playing Passing the Parcel with our new intern Joseph, and then they danced happily with the intern. Meanwhile, Ms. Anju and Ms. Afsal distributed chach to all the children. At the end of the day, they enjoyed a nutritious meal sponsored by Ms. Vanni Chakrabarty



On 19th May, we had a good gathering of children. After prayers, they were served mango shake, which they loved. Then it was fun time as Joseph played games and the children danced to music. Later, they were served their favourite sambhar-chawal, sponsored by Dr. Sunita Wadhwa.

On 26th May, Mrs. Meenakshi Dhingra, along with 2-3 members from her foundation, sponsored food at Prashanti and spent time with the children. They played games, danced to music, and engaged warmly with all the kids. After prayers, the children enjoyed mango shake followed by their favourite kadhi-chawal with vegetables. The day ended with each child receiving a tiffin box as a small gift. We thank Meenakshi Dhingra and her team for their generosity and for bringing so much joy to the children.



ICS KARNATAKA VISIT

On 12th May, our Chairperson, Mrs. Jyotsna Govil, visited the ICS Karnataka Branch, where she interacted with the entire team. The visit reflected a shared commitment towards exchanging ideas, and continuing the collective mission of cancer awareness, care, and community support.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Nalini Vemuri's titled "HPV vaccination in India: A realistic and balanced perspective on adolescent immunization" and Mrs. Meenakshi Dhingra abstract titled "Rise Against Cancer App: Leveraging India's Digital Ecosystem to Simplify Cancer Awareness and Care Navigation" has been accepted to be exhibited as an ePoster in the abstract eLibrary at the World Cancer Congress 2026

PGIMS ROHTAK

PGI Rohtak Support Group Activities

On 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th May 2026, Dr. Priya Parmar and Ms. Rajvinder visited the Pulmonary OPD at Pt. B.D. Sharma PGIMS, Rohtak, to establish a support group for lung cancer patients and caregivers. During these visits, the team engaged with patients and caregivers, explaining the benefits of peer support, information sharing, and access to resources.



They also provided guidance on nutrition during treatment and recovery and assisted eligible patients with welfare schemes, including the Haryana Cancer Pension Scheme, PMNRF, and CMRF. These efforts helped strengthen patient engagement and laid the foundation for a sustainable lung cancer support group at PGIMS Rohtak.

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING – PGI ROHTAK

Nutrition Awareness Session for Lung Cancer Patients at PGIMS Rohtak

On 30 May 2026, Ms. Vandana Aggarwal, along with the ICS team comprising Dr. Priya Parmar, Ms. Rajvinder, and Mr. Deepak, conducted a nutrition awareness session at the Pulmonary OPD, Pt. B.D. Sharma PGIMS, Rohtak. Attended by over 60 lung cancer patients and caregivers, the session



focused on dispelling common dietary myths and promoting evidence-based nutrition during cancer treatment. Key topics included balanced nutrition, protein intake, hydration, whole grains, fibre, and healthy lifestyle practices. The role of caregivers in supporting patients throughout treatment and recovery was also highlighted.

The interactive session was well received, with participants actively engaging in discussions and seeking guidance on nutrition and cancer care. The initiative helped improve awareness and encouraged informed dietary and lifestyle choices among patients and caregivers.



“BEYOND THE VOICE” INTERACTIVE

Participation in “Beyond the Voice” Interactive Session

On 31 May 2026, Mrs. Renuka Prasad was invited as the Chief Guest at the interactive session “*Beyond the Voice*”, organized by Cancer24x7 at Max Smart Super Speciality Hospital, Saket, at the initiative of



Dr. S.V.S. Deo, Chairman Oncology, Max Healthcare. Along with ICS volunteers, she participated in the event and addressed the gathering, sharing valuable insights and words of encouragement for patients, survivors, and caregivers. The session provided a meaningful platform for learning, interaction, and community support.



CANCER SCREENING CAMPS

- **30-May** - Friends Colony Club, New Delhi | Male 62 - Female 22, Total 86 people, Mammography 10, HPV/DNA 6.
- **30-May** - Gyan public School, Sheetla colony, Ashok Vihar, Ph-2, sector-5, Gurgaon | Male 36 - Female 76, Total 110 people, Mammography 8, HPV/DNA 8.
- **31-May** - Arya Samaj Mandir, Surajmal Vihar, Delhi | Male 39 - Female 33, Total 72 people, Mammography 9, HPV/DNA 7.



CANCER DETECTION CENTRE

Screening at Cancer Detection Centre: 30 people were screened.
(19 Male - 21 female) , Total 40 people, Mammography : 16 | HPV/DNA : 12.

CANCER SAHYOG

- Adopted Patients - 10 People.
- Medical Assistance - New - 10 and Old - 23.

May Edition 2026

15 minutes

RADIO TALKS

Every Friday, 01:05 pm to 01:20 pm only on
AIR FM Rainbow Delhi - 102.6 MHz.



8th May 2026

Topic: "Ovarian Cancer"

Speaker: Mrs. Sneh Kapur

15th May 2026

Topic: "Endometrial cancer"

Speaker: Ms. Vandana Aggarwal

22nd May 2026

Topic: "Silent struggles— breaking the taboo around women's health issues"

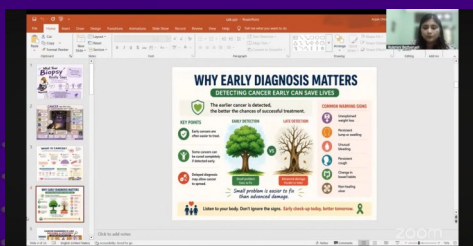
Speaker: Mrs. Ranjit Kaur

29th May 2026

Topic: "Strong women healthy lives- prevention and screening as life savers"

Speaker: Mrs. Asha Aggarwal

FRIDAYS WITH SHRENIK



On 15th May 2026, Webinar #53 on "What Your Biopsy Really Says: Understanding Cancer Diagnosis Without Fear" was conducted with Dr. Rukmini Bezbaruah and moderated by Mr. Shrenik Shah. The session was insightful, informative, and well appreciated by the participants.

On 29th May 2026, Webinar #54 on "Throat Cancer Uncovered: Answers You Can Understand" was conducted with Dr. Anuj and moderated by Mr. Shrenik Shah. The session was informative, interactive, and helped participants better understand throat cancer awareness and care.

Main Treatment Tools (Part 1)

- **Surgery:**
 - Open Surgery
 - For advanced stage cancer
 - Trans-Oral Robotic surgery
 - For Tonsil, Tongue base selected lesions
 - Trans-Oral Laser Microsurgery
 - For small vocal cord lesions



SOCIAL MEDIA INSIGHTS

INSTAGRAM

Account insights

Views ⓘ

19,722

Views

Followers 27.3%

Non-followers 72.7%

Accounts reached **1,977**

By content type

All

Followers

Non-followers

Reels 84.9%

Posts 8.4%

Stories 6.6%

Followers Non-followers

FACEBOOK

Last 28 days: 5 May-1 Jun ▼

6,362 Views ⓘ

+203.1% from previous 28 days



YOUTUBE

Views

4.6K ✓

About the same as usual

Watch time (hours)

74.4 ✓

About the same as usual

Subscribers

+14 ⬇️

1 less than usual

