



Indian Cancer Society

The Indian Cancer Society was established in 1951 by Dr. D.J. Jussawala and Mr. Naval Tata as India's first voluntary, non-profit, national organization for supporting activities encompassing the entire continuum of cancer care - cancer awareness, screening for early detection, financial help for treatment, support groups, rehabilitation of cancer survivors, medical, education and research (registry).

Indian Cancer Society has been doing sterling work in fighting cancer across India. It has been and continues to be the beacon of hope for thousands of underprivileged cancer patients.

The society is entirely dependent on public support for all its activities.

Vision "To be the Beacon of Hope against Cancer"

Mission Statement

- To create awareness that cancer is preventable and curable
- To facilitate early detection of cancer
- To offer emotional support and medical aid to cancer patients
- To establish and encourage cancer survivorship programmes
- To reintegrate cancer survivors back into society
- To facilitate advocacy and research for cancer



Activities of Indian Cancer Society at a glance

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION –ICS promotes awareness about cancer, its risk factors, preventive measures, need for screening and early detection, treatment options and managing life post treatment. Myths, stigma and fear attached to cancer are removed and people made aware of benefits of regular screening. A mass media awareness campaign is in force since 2019 in various languages through newspapers, social, films, radio and other digital media through which 160 million people have been reached. Awareness is also undertaken through face to face capacity building programs for frontline health care workers. Awareness and sensitisation among medical practitioners through Medical Education Program is a recent initiative to help general practitioners deal with pre-cancerous stages and bring cases to early treatment. A multi-lingual



mobile apps for reliable and relevant information on cancer has been developed and a beta launch was done in Delhi by the ICS Delhi branch in September 2023.

SCREENING – ICS screens for detection of cancer through detection centres and screening camps across India focusing on oral, cervical and breast cancers for under privileged and rural communities. Suspect cases are navigated to ensure that they are given access to care for pre-cancerous conditions or cancer. Close to 5.56 lakh persons have been screened since 1982; this includes work done by the branches.

CANCER CURE FUND – ICS provides financial aid for treatment to underprivileged cancer patients thereby saving lives of persons with treatable cancer. CCF has transformed the lives of such patients, many of whom have completed their treatment and returned to productive lives once again. ICS has implemented this program in 19 hospitals across India. 13000 patients have been supported by the Fund for a total amount of Rs 226 crore. Maximum per patient is Rs 8 lakh for BMT patients while it is Rs 5 lakh for other treatments.

DIAGNOSIS AND INITIAL TREATMENT – ICS through the Dr Arun Kurkure Initiation and Treatment Fund supports patients for their diagnostic tests and also their initial treatment without any loss of time, giving them the access to early diagnostics and treatment and thereby best opportunity for recovery from cancer. More than 7000 persons have been supported by the Fund. Maximum per patient is Rs 25000.

CANCER INSURANCE - An innovative affordable group insurance product for Rs 5 lakh cover for a family of 5, and premium of just Rs 1500 (plus taxes) per annum has been co-created with Niva Bupa , a private insurance company, after inviting bids from leading insurance companies.

SURVIVORSHIP AND REHABILITATION- ICS operates a robust program for childhood cancer survivors which include after cancer treatment clinics at 14 hospitals across India , support for prosthetics, education, treatment of late effects, and vocational training.

POPULATION BASED PATIENT REGISTRY AND RESEARCH- ICS's Patient Registry covers the population of Greater Mumbai, Pune, Aurangabad, and Nagpur. It is the first population based registry in the country. The highly reputed professional Indian Journal of Cancer (IJC) has been published by ICS since 1963 serving the needs of all the specialties of oncology. Research studies are presented in national and international conferences.