

# Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration Foundation: INCTR – Canada

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## Mission and programme objectives

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration Foundation (Two Worlds Cancer), also known as INCTR Canada, is a volunteer-based Canadian not-for-profit society and registered charitable foundation with a mission to improve cancer control by building capacity for leadership, skills development, high-quality cancer care, early detection and research in low- and middle-income countries through provision of leadership and the necessary infrastructure for programme implementation in urban and community settings. Two Worlds Cancer emphasizes long-term collaborations with medical institutions and qualified physicians and investigators in developing countries, including the conduct of clinical trials and research associated with clinical service, training and mentorship. Two Worlds Cancer also promotes alliances between cancer centres, hospitals and organizations, both within and between countries, to ensure that available expertise to support resource-poor countries is maximized.

## Past and current initiatives

Two Worlds Cancer Collaborations' current activities are focused on supporting palliative care development in South Asia:

### India

Through collaboration with the MNJ Institute of Oncology & Regional Cancer Centre (MNJ) and the Pain Relief & Palliative Care Society (PRPCS – a Hyderabad-based NGO), the programme focuses on the establishment of a strong core facility in Hyderabad, with the ability to create increased scope and scale for palliative care locally, nationally and globally. The elements are:

- ➔ Urban Centre (Hyderabad): inpatient, outpatient and hospital-based support for adults, adolescents and children with cancer; 24/7 home care (Life at Your Doorstep): a 28-bed inpatient hospice.
- ➔ Rural & Community (Telangana): a 30-village network of supportive care, with, in addition, four small rural hospices, soon expanding to eight across Telangana, linked and supported by MNJ through mobile outreach and video conferencing. A Government of Telangana Initiative has provided eight district-based palliative care centres in the state in the first phase to provide palliative care by means

of home and hospice care in the rural community. The programme is supported by MNJ and PRPCS.

- ➔ A six-week training programme for health professionals, comprising a core curriculum, conducted every two months.
- ➔ Development of fellowship programmes for future specialists in palliative care.
- ➔ Project ECHO Paediatric Palliative Care Course – an online educational platform – Project ECHO provides an interactive “distance” paediatric palliative care course developed as a collaboration between Hyderabad and Dhaka, Bangladesh, provided to participants from India, regions of South Asia and international locations.
- ➔ LäraNära Programme – A “distance” online training programme for residents in radiation oncology at MNJ.
- ➔ Collaboration and support for the community, home palliative care programme in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- ➔ Establishment of a paediatric palliative care programme at the Niloufer State Children's Hospital, Hyderabad.
- ➔ A preliminary pilot study in oral cavity cancer early detection in a rural community in collaboration with Hyderabad-based, private and public dental institutions, MNJ, PRPCS, and the British Columbia Oral Cancer Prevention Program.
- ➔ Support for palliative care services with CHAI (Catholic Hospital Association of India) and St Mary's Hospital, Bangalore.
- ➔ Opening of the Hyderabad Centre for Palliative Care to coordinate programmes and to be a centre for advocacy.

### Nepal

Through collaboration with NAPCare (Nepal Association for Palliative Care), Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration provides support for palliative care:

- ➔ Establishment of the Nepal Strategy for Palliative Care, approved by Government in April 2017, and now undergoing implementation.
- ➔ Infrastructure and administrative support for NAPCare.
- ➔ Support for health professional training through the Hyderabad Centre educational programmes and locally in Nepal through Two Worlds Cancer team members and our

local partners.

- ➔ Support for the establishment of a new Hospice Nepal.
- ➔ Ongoing collaboration and support with palliative care programmes at a number of sites, including Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital (Partners in Compassion), BPK Memorial Cancer Hospital, Nepal Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Hospice Nepal, and Patan Medical School.
- ➔ Development of a rural palliative care programme, centred around female health workers.
- ➔ Development of children's palliative care programme.

### Sri Lanka

Initial development of palliative care services in Northern Sri Lanka, comprising:

- ➔ Advice to local public health officials.
- ➔ Health professional education through the Hyderabad Centre training course.
- ➔ Conducting on-site training workshops.

### Bangladesh

Through collaboration between Dr Megan Doherty (University of Ottawa, World Child Cancer & Dhaka Children's Hospital, Bangladesh), the Hyderabad Centre for Palliative Care and Two Worlds Cancer: Assisting in the development and delivery of an online, paediatric palliative care course – Project ECHO programme – No Pain Too Small – for participants from India, regions of South Asia and international locations.

### The Programme funders

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration receives 100% of its revenue from philanthropy, comprising individual donors, foundations, gala events and website donations.

Specifically, Two Worlds Cancer receives no direct funding from governments (national or provincial, Canadian or Indian/South Asian), or from registered health charities (NGOs).

Funding received from the private sector and industry is directly related to sponsorships and contributions in support of gala events.

Funding for the Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration programmes over the next five years approximates C\$550,000 per annum.

### The countries/regions where we have been involved

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration is currently present and active in South Asia: in India (MNJ Institute and Pain Relief & Palliative Care Society, Hyderabad), Nepal (NAPCare, Bharatpur Cancer Hospital and BPK Memorial Cancer Hospital, Kathmandu), Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

The activities are conducted through core "hubs" (India and Nepal programmes), with alignment and linkage of palliative

care activities with Sri Lanka (training & education) and Bangladesh (paediatric palliative care/Project ECHO).

South Asian programmes are focused on palliative care (adult, adolescent and paediatric) with modest cancer control activity through radiation residency distance-education and pilot studies in oral cavity early detection.

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration has previously been active in palliative care in Brazil and in Tanzania, and although it has no current initiatives or palliative care activity in these regions, there is the hope that previous efforts continue to benefit programmes and individuals locally.

### The institutions and agencies that have been involved in our work

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration is the Canadian branch of INCTR and is an active member of the network.

In India, Two Worlds Cancer works closely with the MNJ Institute and the Pain Relief & Palliative Care Society (Hyderabad).

NAPCare (Nepal Assn. for Palliative Care) is a programme partner in Nepal. A twinning project is in place between Bharatpur Cancer Hospital and Partners in Compassion, Nanaimo, BC. Formerly, BPK Memorial Hospital, Bhaktapur and the Victoria Hospice, BC, operated a twinning programme.

Collaborations exist with the Northern Province, Sri Lanka, and Dhaka Children's Hospital, Bangladesh.

Online educational initiatives are part of the Project ECHO global education initiative, operated on the ZOOM video conference platform.

Research collaboration exists with the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and an active, funded programme has been initiated with the University of Virginia, the Fogarty Foundation and NAPCare in Nepal.

### How the programmes have been run

The Canadian component comprises 16 volunteers: health professionals (12); fundraisers (1); communications/marketing/photojournalism (3) and three contracted staff – an Executive Director (0.5 p/t), an Admin/Operations Assistant (0.2 FTE); and Accounting, Audit & Payroll (2 p/t FTE).

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration administrates and manages the operations as a virtual enterprise based in BC, Canada, engaging with the host partner by regular ZOOM video conferences, conducting monthly executive meetings of Two Worlds Cancer volunteers and staff by video conference, and being present onsite in South Asia for 2-4 weeks per year.

In India, Two Worlds Cancer pays the compensation for the Executive Director (1 FTE); Executive Assistant (p/t); Pediatric Palliative Care Consultant (1 FTE), Palliative Care Medical Officer (p/t) and PRPCS for programme in regions in Telangana.

## PROGRAMME OUTCOMES AND ACHIEVEMENTS: A BRIEF REPORT (INDIA)

Activity statistics for the Hyderabad Palliative Care Program include:

### MNJIO (2017-18)

#### Adult Palliative Care

New patients	Review patients
3,790	10,647

#### Morphine consumption

Adults	Pediatrics
Kg. 9.592	G. 482

No of 6 Week certificate courses: 7 courses

No of candidates trained:

Doctors: 29

Nurses: 38

Social Workers: 09

Pharma D/ Counsellors'/ ANMs/ Physiotherapists: 16

### PAIN RELIEF AND PALLIATIVE CARE SOCIETY HOME-BASED PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM

Total Number of Registrations	Total New Visits	Total Review Visits	Bereavement Visits	Total Visits
550	495	2,534	91	3,120

### PAIN RELIEF AND PALLIATIVE CARE SOCIETY KUMUDINI DEVI PALLIATIVE CARE CENTRE, HOSPICE

Male	Female	Children	Total
349	318	56	717

### MNJ INSTITUTE PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE

New Patients	Review Patients
418	6,157

### DISTRICT-BASED PC PROGRAM (JUNE-AUGUST 2018)

Total Patients seen in IP- 406

Total patients seen in Home care- 1,893

Patients identified in Survey – 1,891

### MNJ INSTITUTE & PAIN RELIEF AND PALLIATIVE CARE SOCIETY RURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

For the Chevalla community palliative care programme, a sample of the capacity-building support provided by the Hyderabad palliative care programme is as follows (2017):

#### Clinical Services

- Physician consultation and management of pain and other symptoms and end-of-life care.
- Nursing care such as care of the bedridden, wound care, oral care, catheterization, administration of drugs.

- Daily ambulation for bedridden patients.
- Communication and education of patient/family by checking insight, setting up goals of care, eliciting expectations and clarifying concerns.
- Physiotherapy: exercises, training of the family to maintain exercises at home and efforts at rehabilitation.
- Multidisciplinary team activities, such as care plans and decision-making, homecare plan, reviews, referrals, reports, interactions with field support team and mortality meeting.

#### Educational activities in the team

- Visiting experts, Dr Gayatri Palat (PC physician), Mr Swaroop (PC nurse specialist).
- Thrice-weekly online learning sessions via ZOOM with topics including: nursing procedures, nursing care plans and managing oedema of the neck (Ryle's tube insertion and medication).

#### Other activities

- Awareness camp for caregivers of stroke patients in the community.
- Multi-purpose community health workers: house-to-house survey for palliative care patients in 948 houses, one awareness meeting and three focus group discussions on palliative care.
- Area Hospital: to improve the scope of care, there is a constant interaction and engagement of rural hospice team with the area hospital doctors and staff. Some of the efforts had been to facilitate the application of a morphine licence with the drug controller, creation of the essential drug list for palliative care working with the hospital pharmacist, laundry and bio-waste disposal services.

#### Future plans and goals for the period 2019-2023:

##### Programmes:

- Continue to build "core" institution-based strength (Hyderabad), and community "scale-up" and support for continuing development of palliative care programmes in Telangana and other locations in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.
- Develop the Hyderabad Centre for Palliative Care as an independently-governed resource for palliative care development in Telangana, India and South Asia through networked collaboration locally, nationally and internationally.

##### Two Worlds Cancer/INCTR-Canada:

- Strengthen infrastructure: administration, operations and fundraising through appointment of a dedicated fundraising professional, establishment of a Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration Board of Directors and strengthen governance.

Funds are transferred from Canada to those contracted and the PRPCS for periodic disbursement according to defined “milestones” and reported deliverables as set out in annual MoUs.

Two Worlds Cancer funds build capacity for palliative care through direct personnel compensation and programme development support.

The host partner in Hyderabad provides local programme administration, management and operations and submits regular reports on expenditure, activity statistics and relevant care outcomes.

All meetings (local and international in Canada or India) are conducted by internet using Zoom technology (funded by Two Worlds Cancer, including a part-time IT support person in Hyderabad). The ZOOM platform is also used to support the Project ECHO program in palliative care across South Asia.

Two Worlds Cancer employs a donor database, e-Tapestry, for donor management and receipt issuance.

The Two Worlds Cancer website is: [twoworldscancer.ca](http://twoworldscancer.ca) ■