

Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited



(Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals)

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Ref: IMCL/CS/Clarification/2023

5th December, 2023

The Manager **Listing Department BSE Limited Phiroze Jeejeebhoy** Towers Dalal Street, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400001 Scrip Code: 532150

The Manager Listing Department National Stock Exchange of India Limite Exchange Plaza, C-1, Block G, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400051 Symbol: INDRAMEDCO

Re: Clarification / Confirmation on news item appearing in "Media/Publication"

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to certain allegations made in the UK's Telegraph newspaper and subsequent coverage in "Times of India" on 5th December, 2023, and other media outlets on alleged malpractices with regards to the kidney transplant program at Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited (IMCL).

In this connection, it is reiterated that IMCL considers compliance with all laws including the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 as sacrosanct. As part of India's largest integrated healthcare system, we have a commitment towards following the law in letter and in spirit. Our detailed clarification on the aforesaid news item is as per Annexure A.

This is for your information and record.

Thanking You, Yours sincerely,

For Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited

PRIYA Digitally signed by PRIYA RANJAN Date: 2023.12.05 18:17:01 +05'30'

Priya Ranjan

AVP - Corporate Affairs & Legal

(Company Secretary & Compliance Officer)

Encl.: As above

SARITA VIHAR

STATEMENT ON MISLEADING NEWS STORY AND ALLEGATIONS ON ORGAN TRANSPLANTS AT INDRAPRASTHA MEDICAL CORPORATION LIMITED (IMCL), NEW DELHI

This statement pertains to certain allegations made in the UK's *Telegraph* newspaper and subsequent coverage in other media outlets on alleged malpractices with regards to the kidney transplant program at Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited (IMCL).

IMCL is an associate of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited and is listed separately on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE). All allegations pertaining to the transplant program in the said news story are limited to the program in New Delhi.

At the outset, it is reiterated that IMCL considers compliance with all laws including the *Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994* as sacrosanct. As part of India's largest integrated healthcare system, we have a commitment towards following the law in letter and in spirit.

The transplant program at IMCL, which is authorized under the Act to carry out transplants, has in place comprehensive checks, safeguards, and systems to ensure that an organ transplantation is conducted in a legal and ethical manner. A range of measures, as required by the law, and others that outdistance the minimum compliance requirement, are undertaken by IMCL to ensure that no illegal trade of kidneys or any organ takes place. The process includes legal, human, and scientific measures for organ transplantation approval and the procedure. Any suggestion of willful complicity or implicit sanctioning of any illegal activities relating to organ transplants is vehemently denied. As a responsible healthcare provider with over four decades of service to patients, we consider any illegal organ transplantation as repugnant.

With respect to organ transplants of foreign nationals, a stringent set of requirements have been set forth by the law. All documents must be duly **notarized**, thereafter the **authenticity** of the documents need to be certified by the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** in the case of **Myanmar** or relevant authorities of the concerned country and the **relationship** between donor & recipient is **certified** by the **Embassy** of the concerned

country. Transplants are conducted only after approval by an Authorization Committee (which is not controlled by the Hospital and functions independently and has independent members including two government appointed nominees). The Committee interviews the donor and recipient, and peruses various documents, including the documents and certificate issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/relevant authority and the Embassy of the concerned country. Going a step further, IMCL revalidates the veracity of these documents with the concerned Embassy vide email and proceeds to put the case to the Authorization Committee only after it receives confirmation on the validity of the documents (most notably Form 21) and certificates. Form 21 amongst other items, certifies the relationship between patient-donor.

These documents are then finally placed before the Authorization Committee where the donor and recipient and the donors' kin are interviewed with the help of an interpreter which is video recorded. Upon the Committee being satisfied and them granting permission the transplant is carried out. The Committee is an independent entity, firewalled from all other departments of the hospital, and comprises of seven members in total, which typically includes three members from the Hospital, two independent members and two Government appointed members. The constitution of the Committee, in this case, is formally approved and notified by the Delhi Government.

It is reiterated that the process cannot be carried out unless the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Embassy (in this case of Myanmar) certifies the relationship and authenticity of the documents. Only once the documents are authenticated by such authorities, the Hospital takes the process forward. With such process in place, it is surprising that any aspersions can be cast on the Hospital and on the Committee. As a matter of fact, there are cases where transplant requests have been denied. If the allegations made are to be believed, there should not be any cases of rejections. Also, in the spirit of transparency, all cases – approved or rejected; national or foreign – are made available on the hospital's website.

IMCL receives patients from across the world for medical treatment for over four decades. This faith reposed, is due to our superior clinical outcomes and exceptional levels of services on offer across our hospitals. We have also partnered with multiple Governmental agencies, health ministries and body corporates across the world to offer our clinical services for citizens of these countries. Further, to expand our reach and to promote India as a favored destination for superior clinical care, it is a common

practice for reputed hospitals to have representative offices in different countries. This is a global practice and quite a few hospitals globally and most of the top hospitals from India have such offices in other countries including in Myanmar.

As part of robust Corporate Governance policy, IMCL has initiated an inquiry into the matter to delve into all aspects of the transplant process. IMCL will take forward all recommendations of the inquiry and shall update its stakeholders in due course.

It is again highlighted that:

- a. IMCL does not seek unrelated donors nor its representatives are authorized / instructed to find unrelated donors for kidney patients.
- b. IMCL and/or its representatives & officials are not authorized or instructed to fabricate family trees, documents, photos etc. to present donors as relatives of would-be patients.
- c. The Authorization Committee is an independent statutory body, which works independently and as stated earlier has independent and government representatives. A rigorous process, as outlined above, and compliance with the law, guides the hand of the Committee and the hospital.
- d. All cases of foreign nationals seeking transplants can only be taken forward if due validation of relationship and undertaking on prohibition of monetary consideration by the donor & recipient is received from relevant government authorities and concerned embassy.

To conclude, we reiterate that IMCL complies with the applicable laws and rules and neither engages itself nor encourages any illegal activity in relation to organ transplantation. We are committed to delivering high-quality healthcare for all who place their trust in us and will fully and transparently co-operate with any Government inquiry into this matter.

