



## **AMRI Hospitals, Mukundapur observes “World Disability Day” through a Symposium on Cochlear Implantation**

- *Creates awareness on early diagnosis of congenital deafness in neonates and its proper management*
- *Conducts the First Simultaneous Bilateral Cochlear Implant Surgery in Eastern India*

**Kolkata, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2016:** **AMRI Group of Hospitals**, Eastern India’s largest chain of Super Speciality Tertiary care hospitals has organized a symposium on Cochlear Implantation on today in Kolkata.

Cochlear Implantation is a surgically implanted electronic device that provides a sense of sound to a person who is profoundly deaf or severely hard of hearing in both ears. Cochlear Implantation for children has to be performed within the age group of 3-5years. Unlike hearing aids, which simply amplify sound, a cochlear implant system bypasses the parts of your ear that no longer works properly and delivers sound in the form of electrical signals to the hearing nerve.

The symposium was addressed by eminent doctors like **Dr. Amitabha Roy Chowdhury** ENT, Head and Neck Surgeon, AMRI Mukundapur; **Dr. Arnab Ganguly**, Medical Superintendent, AMRI Mukundapur and many others, who shared the latest world trends and innovations in cochlear implantation.

According to **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, around 360 million people – 5% of the world’s population suffer from disabling hearing loss - moderate, severe or profound. Hearing loss is the most widespread sensory deficit globally in humans today. The consequences of a child born with hearing loss are manifold. It is proven that a child with hearing loss cannot develop speech and language abilities. This hampers the child’s learning at school, college and limits future professional opportunities.

Cases of pediatric hearing problems are on rise in India. The quicker the children are diagnosed and treated, better are their chances of developing normal speech. Diagnosis at the right age and affordability of treatment are the most important criteria for implantation. Cochlear implants are no longer new to Eastern India anymore. They have helped countless children overcome their hearing loss and become achievers in different walks of life. Every year out of 350-400 cases in Eastern India, only 100 to 150 patients go for the transplantation.

**AMRI Hospitals, Mukundapur** recently conducted the **first bilateral cochlear implantation in Eastern India** on a 4 year old Bangladeshi boy who was suffering from permanent deafness on both the ears. With correct diagnosis and prompt medical attention by **Dr. Amitabha Roy Chowdhury, ENT, Head and**



**Neck Surgeon, AMRI Mukundapur** conducted this critical surgery, aptly supported by high-end, technologically advanced, medical equipment of AMRI Hospitals.

Speaking on the occasion, **Dr. Amitabha Roychowdhury , ENT, Head and Neck Surgeon**, AMRI Mukundapur said “A child with bilateral cochlear implants can identify the source of sound more accurately in a noisy environment than a child with unilateral (one ear) cochlear implant. This is very beneficial, for example, if the child is crossing the road on her way to school. The child’s ability to hear the teacher at a classroom and learn faster is also another beneficial impact of this bilateral implantation in comparison to its unilateral option. Early identification and intervention for hearing loss by 6 months of age provides better prognosis in language development, academic success, social integration and successful participation in the society”

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Rupak Barua, Group CEO, AMRI Hospitals Ltd**, said “AMRI Hospitals has always endeavoured to serve the economically challenged sections with quality and affordable healthcare. The recent cochlear implantation demanded state-of-the-art infrastructure as well as clinical precision of the doctors. AMRI Hospital Mukundapur with its world class infrastructure for paediatric treatment, diagnosed and successfully carried out the surgery setting a benchmark in this part of the country”.

Cochlear Implantation procedure involves rigorous speech therapy to achieve fine tuning of hearing and development of normal speech. The external parts of the implant require maintenance due to wear and tear of various mechanical parts like replaceable batteries.

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#### **About AMRI Hospitals Ltd**

AMRI Hospitals, a multi-specialty healthcare facility in Eastern India with specialization in Oncology, Neuro Sciences, Cardiac Sciences, Orthopedics, Emergency & Trauma care, Gynecology & Childcare is the largest player in private sector with its existing strength of around 1000 beds. With its state-of-the-art equipment and modern facilities, AMRI is ensuring that people from Eastern India are provided affordable high quality medical care in the region, so that patients need not travel to other parts of the country for medical treatment. Capacity expansion is also underway at AMRI for additional beds in its existing facilities in Kolkata. A 400 bedded state-of-the-art super-specialty hospital has recently become operational in Bhubaneswar. AMRI Hospitals will soon be setting up a new 400 bedded facility in West Bengal with an investment of Rs.500 crs. The Group is committed to serve the people of Eastern India and has plans to add another 600-700 beds in the next 3-4 years.

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