Bengaluru is where the heart is

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TIMES OF INDIA

A poor Indonesian family was brought to the city for the treatment of their child, who had a severe cardiac ailment.

A cardiothoracic hospital in the city has saved the life of an Indonesian infant after its parents flew to with the child facing a critical stage. The child aged just over one year had a hereditary heart ailment that needed to be operated upon within one and a half years from birth and was operated just in the nick of time.

There are almost 40 different ailments that a heart can have out of which fallout, the Indonesian child, had two hereditary ones that are a leaking valve and a hole in the heart. With the help of the Rotary Club of Mumbai (Mid) its Indonesia, which is a sister club of Rotary Club of Bangalore, Srinivasapuri, Mount's father flew to Bangalore with his son to get him operated.

The child was brought to Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research and placed in ICU weeks back when he was in a critical condition.

"Due to problems caused to the heart and poor blood circulation, the body of the child was turning blue and was breathless and was unable to walk. But the body is now getting oxygenated," said Dr Khanna, vice president of Rotary Club of Bangalore, Indiranagar.

After three days of clearing the infections in the blood of the child, the doctors decided to go for surgery once the body was stable. "When the child came to the city, he had high temperature, which, according to the doctors, was due to change in weather conditions," Khanna said.

The surgery took place after three days of antibiotics and observations and it went on for about three hours. According to Khanna, the cost of the operation that normally costs around Rs 3 lakh in other hospitals in the city was done free of cost by the hospital.

The child from Indonesia with his father and doctors

After slowly started coming back to normal since the surgery was over and the child took 12 days to recover completely instead of seven that is the normal recovery time a human body usually takes.

Meanwhile, according to the doctors, fallout was discharged from hospital on February 9 and has gone back to Indonesia with a stable heart. "The ailment that the child had is called Ventricular Septal Defect, which apparently is genetic. A similar type of an ailment which, if there were none, is not accurate for the prediction of the child having a normal life, like other children, is high. The hole was between the left and right ventricle which if not operated upon no one can save their babies, but the child will be fine," said Dr Manjunath.

The child, however, was not from a well-to-do family and hence the Rotary Club of Malad (Mid) in Indonesia took the travelling expense where as H P Khanna raised around Rs 1,00,000 for the surgery that the child underwent. The Rotary Club of Bangalore Indiranagar, however, had given Rs 70,000 for the treatment of the child.