

Heading home hale and hearty

Five Indonesian children, with complex congenital heart disease, were treated at a Bangalore hospital

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BANGALORE: Five children from Indonesia, who had suffered from complex congenital heart diseases, are leaving for home on Sunday after undergoing successful surgeries at the Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research.

C.N. Manjunath, director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, at a press meet on Saturday, said the children will lead normal lives and would need medication for just 10 days.

Kimberly Tan (2), Fevlyta Huananglady (1), Murnani Saeta Imamawaty (3), James William Setio (5) and Kaita Agnesia Sitopo (7) are the children who received treatment.

All five are from Medan City, Utara Sumatera province, Indonesia, and belong to families of agricultural labourers in rubber plantations with constrained financial resources.

One more infant, who underwent surgery, returned home early in the week.

While James and Kimberly were blue babies, Fevlyta had a complete AV canal defect with leaking valves. Kaita had a hole in the heart with a



The Indonesian children with C.N. Manjunath, director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, after their successful surgeries in Bangalore on Saturday.

clotting valve and Murnani had a closing valve. He said surgeries on such patients will serve to raise awareness that such treatment is available in India. While the hospital has treated 25 patients from abroad, 15 have come through the Neely Heart Foundation and 10 have paid for treatment.

He said, "Our aim is to promote international health tourism to our hospital."

A team of doctors, headed by P.S. Sathyanarayanan, professor of CT

surgery, Jayaramanath, professor of Pediatric Cardiology, and A.M. Jagadeesh, MD, anaesthesiology, and other doctors conducted the surgeries.

Dr. Manjunath said the children were admitted a fortnight ago after doctors in Indonesia and Malaysia hesitated to operate on them due to the complexity of the problem, the risk involved and the cost of surgery.

The Neely Heart Foundation and Rastogi's sponsored the hospital and the children's parents.