

Controlling hemophilia to save vision

Krishna, 25, from a humble family in Madhya Pradesh has an MBA in Finance. His preparation for a banking career suffered a blow due to eye injury and subsequent vision loss. Krishna has hemophilia, a rare genetic disorder in which the blood does not clot and results in excessive bleeding. At LVPEI, a team effort by his doctors first focused on controlling his hemophilia before treating him - completely free of cost.

From Dr Archana Bhargava's persistent efforts to convince the Delhi Hemophilia Society to provide the expensive Factor VIII injections to Krishna free of cost, to Dr Pavan Karla's diligence in administering these injections twice daily for seven days at 2pm and 2am, and to Dr Bhupesh Bagga's skill in performing the Hyphema drainage surgery early in February, everything went like clockwork. "I came to LVPEI with high expectations and it has lived up to its reputation. The pain has subsided drastically; my vision is still blurred but I have been told further course of treatment will be planned. I am hopeful the doctors save my vision and I can resume my preparation for bank exams," says a grateful Krishna.



For Kishore Babu, sky is the limit



From losing his vision at age 6 due to a health issue, being compelled to quit school, to being the only one from Telangana state to be selected by RBI, Kishore Babu, 24, has indeed come a long way. He is now an Assistant with the Reserve Bank of India, Hyderabad, is a positive and engaging young man enthusiastically preparing for internal promotional tests, and is part of a music band that was privileged to have performed in front of the late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

A year after he had to quit school, someone recommended LVPEI's rehabilitation centre where Kishore recalls learning "a lot - from soft skills to technical training - from the dedicated, professional and caring staff". He even went on to finish his schooling and graduation in B.Com. "We don't need sympathy; we need equal opportunity. At my workplace, I am not treated differently; I am expected to perform on par with my colleagues. Parents of children with vision impairment should not shy from seeking services from centres like LVPEI. Once they visit, they will realize that the sky is the limit for their child," says Kishore.

My baby was preterm, weighed 800 grams and was under ventilation for 3 months. The high ventilation affected her eyes; she was referred to LVPEI for cataract and ROP. Dr Subhadra Jalali at LVPEI Hyderabad treated her with Avastin injections in both eyes, and Dr Virender Sachdeva at LVPEI Visakhapatnam performed cataract surgery. For ROP treatment, Dr Subhadra performed surgery for both the eyes and referred us back to LVPEI Vizag for regular checkup. Our baby is now using contact lenses advised by Optometrist Ramkumar. My baby struggled a lot to regain her vision. Today we are really happy for the services we received from the two LVPEI hospitals in Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad. Our heartfelt thanks to all the doctors, optometrists and patient care staff for their support!

Ajay Choubey

(Father of Baby Shristi Kumari)

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