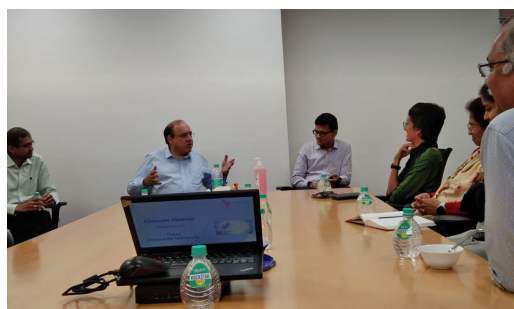


Cytecure Hospital welcomes a delegation from Vidyashilp University



A faculty team from Vidyashilp University was invited to visit the **Cytecure hospital**. The team was met by **Amit Sharma (CIO and Partnerships & CSR)** and **Suresh Ramu (Co-founder and CEO)**, and taken on a tour of the establishment. Suresh Ramu explained the design and uniqueness of the facility, which is curated to enhance the patients' experience and treatment. It was made amply clear that Cytecure is a high-tech state-of-the-art facility with the best doctors and technicians, best equipment and best infrastructure in the region. The team got an all-round perspective of the cancer care ecosystem – from medical-technical as well as human-social perspectives.

The team later met with Dr. Ferzaan Engineer (Co-founder and Chairman), Dr. Prasad Narayanan (Director - Medical Oncology) and Dr. Harish P (Senior Consultant - Medical Oncology), in the board room. The board room is called “Tumour Board Room”, which resonates with a ‘War Room’ where full-stack multi-disciplinary teams meet to assess and decide upon the best course of treatment for tumours. The team comprises of doctors, nurses and psychologists to name a few. Each case is presented before them, to analyze and arrive at a plan that is in the best interest of the patient.



Dr. Ferzaan reiterated that the hospital is their solution to the problems and gaps perceived in cancer care (although they are now expanding into other treatment areas). The commitment to provide the best care while bringing different stakeholders together was unmissable. They work with survivors, volunteers, schools, companies and researchers to provide holistic healthcare. He mentioned that most countries are struggling to come up with a robust healthcare system, which provides affordability and accessibility to every citizen.

Doctors added that there is enough data out there. However, it is not organized to derive meaningful conclusions that can aid policy and research. Both doctors stated the changing epidemiological trends as a major cause for the incidence and prevalence of cancers in the Indian subcontinent. They also added that we might be catching up with the West as cancer does not discriminate between rural and urban population.

Dr. Ferzaan explained the challenges that doctors face on a day-to-day basis in terms of ethics and untested alternate medicines.

Cytecare's collaboration with schools was also mentioned appreciatively, highlighting its relationship with Vidyashilp Academy.

Prof. Vijayan Immanuel introduced the team from VU and mentioned their specializations. Publications and other literature were also handed over during this time. Considering Cytecare's willingness to collaborate and the expertise that VU possesses, we believe that there will be ample opportunities to work together towards the betterment of society.

SOME OF THE ACTIONABLE PLANS INCLUDE:

- Invite the Cytecare team (founders or doctors) to hold workshops at VU
- Invite patient navigators and visually impaired screeners to share their experiences with VU students
- Collaborate on research projects such as data visualization for doctors, software design that encompasses diverse perspectives and experiences of users (patients, doctors, administrators), analysis of social inequalities and repercussions of cancer, research on psychological data captured by the hospital
- Create opportunities for student internships in some of their initiatives (community and design)
- Student course-related projects for designing some solutions to specific challenges - design, data visualization, community engagement and psychology, among others
- Possible design of a minor course in Health Economics
- Possible collaboration with founders for VU's Start-up Management Program
- MDP for different departments of the hospital. E.g. Six Sigma

In essence, the program was a grand success, with an abundance of ideas and opportunities!



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