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# City hospital performs free cardiac surgery on six kids

**dna correspondent @dna**

Aditya Birla Memorial Hospital (ABMH), through its Helping Hands initiative, sponsored free cardiac surgery for six children from the poorer economic strata. The surgeries were jointly performed by UK-based renowned cardiologist Dr Simone Speggorin, congenital cardiothoracic surgeon from UK's Glenfield Hospital along with Dr Sameer Chauta, consultant cardiothoracic surgeon at ABMH.

To identify children that can avail of this benefit, the hospital had organised camps between June 20 and June 28 at the hospital, wherein initial heart checkups were conducted and registrations were accepted. All the five surgeries were successful and the kids are now discharged from the hospital.

"We received more than 65 registrations and free investigations were provided to all patients. Six kids were chosen from amongst the registered entries on the basis of their

economic background and clinical emergency, complete post-operative care along with free surgeries were provided to these patients for which we incurred around a total of Rs. 20 lakh," said Rekha Dubey, COO, Aditya Birla Memorial Hospital.

The six kids were suffering from heart murmur, severe chest pain, fever and abnormal heart rhythm and needed immediate attention and advance treatment, added Dr Chauta.

Father of a three and half year old daughter, Manoj Shirdhar Bhalerao said expressed his gratitude to the doctors. "She was suffering from high fever from a long span of time and was advised a cardiac surgery which I couldn't afford. She used to cry in pain for long hours and I worked extra hours to save money so that we could get her operated. This opportunity was a blessing and my entire family is indebted to them for what they have done for us".

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