ADULT CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE (ACHD): A NEED FOR LIFE LONG CARE

Congenital heart disease (CHD) is a common birth defect occurring in nearly 1% of the general population. With new technologies and life saving surgeries currently available, 85% of these patients survive to adulthood and will require life-long cardiac care. Therefore an increasing need for dedicated services for these adults surviving with CHD has been felt. ACHD Clinic is a novel initiative by Dr. K.M. Cherian Heart Foundation to provide high quality care to this special group of patients.

EASING THE TRANSITION

Moving to adult care from the paediatric setting can be a complex dynamic process for these young patients. Our team of expert cardiologists and nurses in the ACHD Clinic are committed to making this transition a comfortable and unified process that will lead to optimal care and comfort for the rest of the patient's life.

Frontier Lifeline Hospital is a 120 bedded superspeciality hospital for cardiovascular disease serving as a tertiary referral center for adult, pediatric and neonatal cardiac diseases. We have 4 well equipped operating suites, one flat panel spin catheterization laboratory (GE), 20 bedded adult postoperative intensive care unit, 9 bedded pediatric intensive care unit and 15 bedded coronary care unit.
We perform a wide spectrum of cardiac surgeries which include CABGs, valve surgeries, heart transplantation, aneurysm repair, repair of complex congenital heart diseases in neonates and pediatric patients as well as redo surgeries in grown-up patients with CHD. We perform 1200 - 1300 surgeries per year which includes 800 / 900 adult and 400 / 450 neonatal and pediatric cardiac surgeries. We perform 300 - 400 pediatric catheterizations per year including interventional procedures, device closure of ASD / VSD / PDA and balloon valvuloplasty/stenting.

The ACHD program at our centre has a team of experts representing several disciplines. This includes adult and paediatric cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, anesthesiologists, intensivists and nursing staff, thus encompassing many sub-speciality fields including heart failure / transplant, electrophysiology and interventional cardiac catheterization.

OUT-PATIENT, IN-PATIENT AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

Our facility has excellent in-patient and outpatient services providing these adult patients with a sense of familiarity, continuity and security.

Our noninvasive and catheterization laboratories are designed for adults but with the same standards achieved by the paediatric cardiac laboratories.
Additional consultations and counselling services include:

a. Adult cardiology
b. Electrophysiology
c. Heart Failure clinic
d. Respiratory care services
e. Neurology services
f. Obstetric and Gynecology services
g. Physiotherapy services
h. Occupational therapy centres
i. Psychological counseling services
j. Genetic counseling clinics
k. Nutritional and dietary department
l. Anticoagulation monitoring facilities
m. Insurance issues services
n. Marriage counseling services
o. Support Groups

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Our ACHD facility is committed to train and educate fellows, residents, paediatric nurses and physician assistants in care specific to adult patients with CHD.

Our commitment also extends to education of community physicians, visiting cardiologists patients and their immediate relatives.
We welcome requests from cardiologists who wish to continue their medical education by attending outpatient clinics and inpatient activities. We undertake every effort to make community physicians aware that adults with CHD require special expertise seldom available in local hospitals. This awareness is important in guiding these adult patients to appropriate tertiary care facilities.

RESEARCH

Our ACHD program is committed to research prompted by a desire to resolve questions posed by this patient population.

ACHD patient registry is maintained for research purpose. A research base is provided for fellows with career interests in ACHD.

Investigations are generally done in collaboration with colleagues in a number of other disciplines thus stimulating valuable interdisciplinary exchange.

WHO SHOULD CONTACT THE ADULT CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE PROGRAM FOR CARE?.

- Patients above 18 years of age with CHD who have previously undergone Palliative / Corrective surgery or are under medical follow up.
- Patients above 18 years of age who are newly diagnosed to have CHD with or without any other pre-existing medical illness.

- Adult patients with
  1. Marfan's syndrome
  2. Pulmonary arterial hypertension
  3. Cyanosis
  4. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

FRONTIER LIFELINE HOSPITAL
R-30-C, Ambattur Industrial Estate Road,
Mogappair, Chennai - 600 101. INDIA.
Tel.: +91 44 42017575, 2656 7200 / 7242 / 5772
Fax : +91 44 2656 5150
E-mail : drkmc@frontierlifeline.com / drkmc@md3.vsnl.net.in
Web : www.frontierlifeline.com

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT
Contact No. 42017575, Extn. 245, 246
For emergency:
critical care unit Extn: 237
For emergency Ambulance:
105727, 42017575 Ext. 250/260