

**INTERNATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER DAY (ICCD)
ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS : A REPORT**

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International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) which was founded in 2002 by Childhood Cancer International (CCI) is celebrated around the world each year on February 15th to honor the bravery and courage of children with cancer and their families, to create Childhood Cancer Awareness and to fight the stigma in our society. ICCD 2019 campaign focuses on “No More Pain” and “No More Loss” for children with cancer and their families. To achieve this goal, governments, health care providers, industry, parent support groups and society at large must ensure the right to early and proper diagnosis; the right to access life-saving essential medicines; the right to appropriate and quality medical treatments, the right to treatment without pain and suffering and when a cure is not attainable, the right of the child to a pain-free death.

ICCD was observed on 27th February 2019 by the Department of Pediatrics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi at the premises of Jawaharlal Nehru Auditorium.

The programme was inaugurated by the chief guest Prof. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS. In his address he emphasized the need for updating knowledge to provide better care to children suffering from cancer.

As a part of ICCD, various activities were organized which were: Blood donation camp, Quiz competition, Cancer awareness program, Poster Competition, Slogan competition, games for children, yoga sessions, lectures and Seminar on Childhood Cancer.

Art and craft works made by childhood cancer patients were displayed at one of the stalls. Leaflets, pamphlets, factsheets and information booklets regarding childhood cancer awareness were distributed by various participating Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's). One of the NGO's gave advice on nutritional requirements for a child with cancer. A video on childhood cancer awareness was also released on the same day.

The Centre for Dental Education and Research (CDER) set up a booth as a part of the ICCD. The booth had a footfall of 50 childhood cancer patients. Five dentists were posted to assess

the oral health status of the subjects. Oral health awareness and promotion for the subjects and their parents were also carried out. The children were screened for early signs of dental decay and gum disease.

The booth had a television playing the video on significance of oral health. Badges, pamphlets and leaflets with oral health information and oral health game cards were also distributed. The features of the website under construction for public oral health awareness, “eDantSeva” under the National Oral health Programme were also displayed too. Brushing and oral hygiene measures were also demonstrated to all the cancer children and their parents visiting the booth. Feedback regarding the booth was also taken from the parents of the children suffering from cancer.

The booth indicated the need for more such community based initiatives for early detection and prevention of oral diseases.



Demonstration of brushing technique to Childhood cancer patients and their parents



Oral health examination for Childhood cancer patients