

Lilavati Hospital, Spina Bifida Foundation partner with Poland's Medical University of Silesia to inaugurate foetal surgery department

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Mumbai: The demand for foetal intervention and surgery is a pressing concern, with approximately five in 5,000 live births requiring such specialised care. Conditions like spina bifida, large neck masses, lower urinary tract

obstructions (LUTO), and certain tumours can adversely affect foetal development, necessitating timely intervention to prevent further harm. In response to this growing need, Lilavati Hospital, in association with the Spina Bifida Foundation has partnered with Poland's Medical University of Silesia to inaugurate a foetal surgery department, aiming to repair birth defects and foetal conditions in the womb. This collaboration seeks to offer foetal surgery as a primary clinical option for intrauterine correction, significantly enhancing the prospects for affected infants.

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Commenting on the significance of foetal surgery, Dr Santosh Karmarkar, Sr Consultant, Paediatric Surgeon, Lilavati Hospital and Research Centre, Mumbai, emphasised, "Foetal surgery represents a significant advancement in prenatal healthcare, enabling early intervention to prevent long-term complications for unborn infants. Through this collaboration, we aim to pioneer innovative approaches to foetal surgery, ensuring that expectant parents have access to the most advanced and effective treatments for their unborn babies."

Dr. Niraj Uttamani, Chief Operating Officer, Lilavati Hospital & Research Centre, Mumbai, said, "The establishment of the forthcoming foetal surgery department will empower parents to advocate for their child's health and well-being, arming them with the necessary knowledge and resources to provide optimal care even before birth."

Dr Agnieszka Pastuszka, Paediatric Surgeon, Urologist, Foetal Surgeon Head of Chair and Department of Descriptive and Topographic Anatomy, Medical University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland, said, "We are thrilled to partner with Lilavati Hospital to elevate the standard of foetal surgery in India."

Rohit Shelatkar, Director, Meyer Vitabiotics, expressed his commitment to advancing healthcare in India through collaborations with Lilavati Hospital and the Spina Bifida Foundation. He looks forward to contributing to innovative initiatives that will enhance the healthcare sector in the future.