



Lilavati Hospital and Research Centre

More than Healthcare, Human Care

WEEKLY PREMIUM NEWSPAPER 
SUPREMACY

Spina Bifida Cases A major Public Health Challenge in Maharashtra and India*

By Our News Bureau

Spina bifida cases have become a major public health burden in Maharashtra and across India, with an alarming 4-5 cases reported per 1000 live births. The centre aims to provide critical medical intervention for infants or children diagnosed with spina bifida, offering hope for families who currently face the devastating reality of untreated cases. The Department

of Paediatric Surgery along with the Spina Bifida Foundation, is organizing a free multi-disciplinary counselling and program in Lilavati Hospital on Tuesday 30th January, 2024. Patients will be evaluated free of cost and counselled regarding their further management and rehabilitation.

Spina Bifida is a congenital birth defect that happens when a baby is growing inside the mother. It happens

when the spinal cord, brain, or their covering called meninges don't grow properly.

It can happen anywhere along the spine and is usually seen as a hole in the baby's back when they are born. Sometimes, it can be a sac filled with fluid sticking out from the spine, which may or may not have the spinal cord inside. There are three types of spina bifida: Myelomeningocele is the most common and

serious type, where a sac outside the baby's back has parts of the spinal cord and nerves. This causes big physical problems like not being able to control the bladder and trouble moving or feeling their legs or feet. Meningocele also has a sac filled with fluid outside the baby's back, but it doesn't have any part of the spinal cord, so the problems are not as bad.