

Newsletter on Indian Medical Tourism.....The Meditour (www.themeditour.com)

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THE MEDITOUR
A DOCTORS' VENTURE

The Meditour is a leading Medical Tourism Company in India; it is managed by experienced medical doctor and IT professionals with vast experience in healthcare services. Our mission is to deliver medical tourism services based on a commitment to patient safety and exceptional service quality at affordable rates. We have network of hospitals in India to provide service to patient worldwide.

NRG doc prescribed Ahmedabad treatment to Zambian president

Gujaratis in Zambia and other African countries are proving to be the unofficial PR agents for medical tourism in the state. Take the case of Zambian president Michael Sata who has been admitted to Samved Hospital for treatment. Sources in the know said that it was an NRG doctor who had helped the medical team attending on the president zero in on the doctor and the particular hospital in Gujarat where he could be. Sata was in the city for a urology procedure. "The president's team had considered hospitals in the UK and the US apart from those in the big cities of India like Mumbai and Delhi. But eventually they zeroed in on a doctor and a hospital in Ahmedabad," said a source.

The source further said that a Gujarati physician had helped the president's team zero in on Dr Janak Desai. The good word that Gujaratis in Zambia put in about the private healthcare system in Gujarat also helped. The source further said that, in this particular case, Gujarat was not chosen for its affordability. The cost of treatment was never a consideration as the president could have afforded to get himself treated anywhere in the world, the source said. "It was the favourable reports from Gujaratis in Zambia about the doctor and the private health care system in Gujarat that helped the president's team take the decision. The Gujarati physician's input also helped," said the source. When contacted, Dr Janak Desai, chief urologist at Samved Hospital, refused to comment on either Sata's ailments or why the president had chosen to come to Gujarat.

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According to the Business World report, a heart bypass surgery costs \$144,000 in the US, \$25,000 in Costa Rica, \$24,000 in Thailand, \$20,000 in Mexico, \$13,500 in Singapore, and \$8,500 in India. India has quality edge over others, which

in India- Travel Safe

Traveling abroad for surgery is a serious decision and requires a lot of deliberation before one considers going abroad for a surgery procedure. People who have travelled abroad always recommend travelling with a medical tourism company as you generally would require a helping hand abroad, especially if you getting surgery overseas. The other advantage is you get discounted prices as these companies have often negotiated rates with the service providers. Before looking for a medical tourism company, one needs to do an in-depth research into the services offered by a medical tourism company and the other necessary requirements.

Steps one should follow before considering surgery abroad

1. Cost Comparison - One must carefully find out the prices of surgery procedure in his/her own country and should compare the prices of surgery procedures abroad.

2. Choosing a country for your Surgery - After one has done cost comparison and a thorough market survey, decide which country you plan to get your surgery done. Besides looking at cheap surgery option abroad, quality is another aspect one must not ignore while choosing a surgery destination abroad.

3. Research for a good medical tourism company – The next step is to find a good medical tourism company which can help you avail treatment in the country of your choice. One must take into account all the aspects while choosing a medical tourism company. Look for reviews about that company. Search if there are any negative reviews so that you do not fall in a trap.

4. Choosing surgeon and surgery center - The most important of all is the choice of surgeon and facility where you want to get your surgery with. One must check the qualifications, experience of the surgeon as well as all the important credentials of the surgeon available with the company as well as through the data available on internet. Also one must look into various other factors such as the hospital facility, the geographic location of the medical center, climate of the city, banking and internet facility, inland services etc.

5. Plan out logistics – The very important aspect is to chalk out logistics for your surgery abroad. One must carefully budget for the surgery as per his/her own convenience. One must get an itinerary made by the medical tourism company for the stay, consultation with the surgeon, pre and post surgery consultations and further follow-ups with the surgeon. The medical tourism companies offer lucrative cosmetic surgery holidays which should be properly researched before banking upon such holiday options.

Why consider India your surgery destination?

Medical Tourism in India has taken a giant leap and India has emerged as one of the favorite destinations for cosmetic surgery holidays among medical tourists throughout the world. The

time and personalised services. The other reasons why patients from the US, travel to India is for plastic surgery and other beautification procedures as the cost of such treatment is extremely high in US. Technology plays a yet bigger role as seen by most developed countries. A few nations might have good healthcare provision and affordable cost but might not have the best technology available.

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International Society of Aesthetic Surgery (ISAPS) Biennial Global Survey™ 2009 reports reveal India to be among top 5 countries for offering 75% of all surgery procedures in the world. The reasons for people traveling to India for surgery galore – excellent health care facilities, best healthcare providers, availability of treatment at world class hospitals and most importantly surgery in India is available at very affordable prices. Unlike countries such as USA, UK, Canada, Australia and other European countries where it costs a fortune spending on surgery procedures, the same procedures are available at very affordable prices in India. Be it simple or complex or multiple cosmetic surgery procedures, the prices are one third or even lesser than the prices of cosmetic surgery procedures in western countries such as UK or USA. Besides the cheap prices of surgery, the other reasons that make India a favorite destination for surgery are: English speaking hospital staff and personnel at the world class hospitals and hotels in metros such as Ahmedabad, Delhi, Mumbai in India. With medical tourism companies emerging as leaders at providing world class facilities in India, many a people find it easy for surgery procedures at affordable cost in India. IndiCure is the leading medical tourism company that provides best cosmetic surgery holidays at best cosmetic surgery centers in India. IndiCure associates with best cosmetic surgeons in India who have been consistently delivering great results.

PM Douglas aims to boost medical tourism during visit to India

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, APRIL 9TH 2012 (CUOPM) - As part of the government policy to promote medical tourism and diversify the islands tourism product, St. Kitts and Nevis' Prime Minister the Right Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas met with the owners and operators of a major hospital facility in India. The hospital is already engaged in providing tertiary specialist medical services. Prime Minister Douglas discussed investment in a similar facility on St. Kitts and Nevis to provide high quality medical care, exchange of specialists, increased hotel capacity and improved occupancy rates and opportunities to generate new local employment in both the hospitality and medical health sectors.

Prime Minister Douglas is accompanied by His Excellency Mr. Kevin Isaac, St. Kitts and Nevis' High Commissioner in London and Senior Assistant Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ms. Beverly Knight. The St. Kitts and Nevis leader is the second Caribbean Prime Minister to visit India this year. In January, the Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago visited the Asian nation.

Medical tourism in India: A boost to the economy

According to a report by RNCOS, India's share in the global medical tourism industry will reach around 3 per cent by the end of 2013. The December 2010 report – titled 'Booming Medical Tourism in India', says that the industry should generate revenues of around \$3 billion by 2013. This is indicative of the fact that the Indian medical tourism industry is currently in its early growth

stage and holds immense potential.

According to industry stakeholders, India has been ranked among the top five destinations for medical tourism. In 2004, India treated and cared for 1.8 lakh patients, which approximately grew by 25-30 per cent in 2005 as Indian corporate hospitals are at par, if not better than the best hospitals in Thailand, Singapore, etc.

According to Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), India has the potential to promote medical tourism by attracting one million tourists per annum, as it offers holistic medical services with meditation, ayurveda, allopathy and other systems of medicine. Considering the fast-paced life of people, many are being diagnosed with lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disorders, asthma, obesity, among others. Also, the ageing population continues to fight a wide gamut of disorders. To get treated for the same, patients from all walks of life and from small and big nations have been travelling to different parts of the world to ensure they are treated by the best doctors and receive the best treatment possible, and that too at an affordable cost.

According to a news report from the Press Trust of India, from 50,000 patients in 2002 the numbers of patients visiting India from other nations for medical treatment has increased to nearly 5,00,000 patients in 2008-09. It is also estimated that the rapid growth of the medical tourism industry in India could bring in as much as \$2.2 billion per year by 2012. Though the trend of medical tourism has gained momentum only in the past five years, India does manage to give a tough competition to the other leading medical tourism destinations such as Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia.

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