

Indian Medical Tourism Newsletter

The Meditour (www.themeditour.com)



February, 2012

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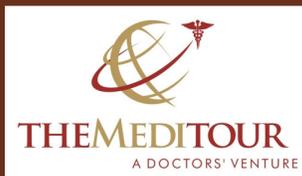
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About The Meditour



The Meditour is 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

Medical Tourism Article by The Meditour

Medical tourism is not something that has begun just recently. Earlier too people used to travel long distances for health. However, its conceptualization is new and so is its wide acceptance and popularity. Patients love the touch of tourism that has been added to health care and are not hesitant to travel across the globe to experience this phenomenon. The medical tourism hot spots in different parts of the world have been gaining immensely too as patients from around the globe flock to these countries to get world class yet affordable medical treatment. The medical tourism industry is expected to cross US\$60 million by the year 2012 and its only going to get better from there. People from United States and other western nations flock to Asian medical tourism hot spots like India, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to get affordable treatments and travel at the same time.

Today, close to 6 million US patients travel abroad for a broad spectrum of health care treatments and surgeries and this number is expected to grow by manifolds in the coming years. Negative factors like lack of post-operative care, infections and negligence, which have been major causes of worry for the patients from western country till now, have been easily done away with. The medical facilities in Asia, Latin America and Middle East are at par with the world, their surgeons are internationally trained and their techniques are up-to-date. The sophisticated research work going on in every field of medicine today is providing a great impetus to the future growth of medical tourism. The latest developments in the fields of treatments and diagnosis has boosted the confidence of patients who are now ready to cross borders and get the best of treatments done at most pocket friendly prices.

Today, medical tourism packages are available in plenty with your traditional travel agent, as well as online travel consolidators. Most hospitals and medical facilities engaged in medical tourism have business associations with local hotels, in insurance agencies and travel agents to help patients get good accommodation, get cheap flights and assist them with legal formalities. Health care centers even take care of all your post-operative needs, infusing a new confidence in them and giving a boost to medical tourism. Patients today need not undergo the hassle of making all arrangements on their own. Today, it's a one-step process where you just need to consult a medical tourism agent who will have a tailor-made package customized just for you! This reduction of burden on the part of the patient is another factor that has

patient safety and exceptional service quality at affordable rates.

For more information; visit www.themeditour.com
Feel free for any clarification.

Our Management

Dr. Sanjeev Mehta

Dr. Sanjeev Mehta, has 25 years of experience in medical practice. He has done his masters degree (MD) while working at Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute. He has been trained and worked at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, India; Memorial Sloan's Catering Cancer Center, New York, USA; Armed Forces Institute of Pathology; Washington DC, USA.

He has founder and director of Medisurge Hospital – a modern Multi Specialty Hospital of Ahmedabad, India.

He has special interest in use of modern technology in medical field and has done pioneering work in the field of telemedicine in India. He has published and presented his studies in various national and international medical magazines and conferences.

He is also a member of many international medical organizations.

Devendra Patel

Mr. Devendra Patel, has more than 13 years of experience in healthcare IT field. He has done pioneering work in healthcare IT, ehealth and telemedicine field. He is also the founder and director of Medisoft Telemedicine Pvt. Ltd.

(www.medisofttelemedicine.com). He has a keen role in development of web based health platforms such as eHealthOpinion and WebTelemedicine.

Devendra is passionate about public health and intends to make a difference working in the healthcare space. His articles on healthcare IT, Telemedicine and eHealth are published in many periodicals.

Devendra has a Master's in Electronics & Communications Engineering from Gujarat University & currently an ongoing Business Management in public works.

Deepak Sharma

Deepak Sharma brings 13 plus years of IT industry experience in senior management positions including IT services delivery, business development and client relationship roles. Deepak is also a member of the Board of Directors in Medisoft Telemedicine Pvt. Ltd.

Deepak brings a wealth of enterprise

sealed a great and successful future for medical tourism.

Since the urge of people to get affordable medical treatment and to travel to distant land cannot die, the field of medical tourism is only set to soar higher. Medical tourism improves the financial status of developing nations who can use the revenue earned to further improve their medical facilities and attract even more medical tourists! The future of medical tourism lies in bringing down the negativities and taking advantage of the available resources to build a much better medical infrastructure that seeks to provide best of medical facilities at much cheaper rates. To help the industry flourish, it's important to have future goals that focus on quality of health care globally, policy relations, safety of patients, global health care policies and collaborative role of global agency. Developing favorable global health care policies in future would also ensure that patients keep traveling abroad for best quality and affordable health care.

Article by : Devendra Patel, Director, The Meditour

Insight Medical Tourism in India

The stuppy cost of medical treatments and first-rate healthcare joined with a vivacious culture and prosperous heritage formulates IndiaThe thunder in the medical tourism business has made noteworthy involvement to the appearance of India as one of the highest increasing economies in the earth. According to a study by commerce experts, **medical tourism in India** is predictable to generate almost \$2.2 billion dollars income annually in the next two years. The furtive behind the accomplishment of medical sightseeing lies in the fact that India has excellence in healthcare system high-tech hospitals, competent and well-trained doctors, latest technology, accomplished medical staffs, cheap medical charges and an incredible place of tourist magnetisms.

The perception of 'medical handling' sells sizzling amongst travelers from developing nations like UK, US, Canada, Germany, Japan and more. The rates of conservative technique of healthcare conduct in these nations are luxurious and jaded and these aspects taken together have led to the achievement of medical sightseeing in mounting countries.

Accessing medical conducts in expanding countries are connected with a thread of long waits, anxious searches for good doctors and strengthening hospital bills. Statistically, the entirety costs of a hip replacement surgical procedure in US costs \$43,000 whereas the similar surgical process under the equivalent superiority healthcare amenities would charge a mere \$9,500 in India. The disparity in these shapes utters all-the main cause behind the elevated produce of medical travelers in Asian nations like Thailand, India and Singapore et al is owing to reasonable medical costs.

Apart from, medical tourism in India advantages two businesses at one time-the sightseeing industry as well as healthcare business. The Indian sightseeing commerce in itself draws high number of foreign travelers annually; it is positioned amongst the top 5 favorite places from the 134 nations surveyed by Lonely Planet. As a consequence, medical sightseeing not only assures a health vault travel but, it also proffer a travel package coupled with a holiday, wellness and renewal.

In the planet of bio-medical knowledge, Indian doctors are prominent in the world for their proficiency in heart surgery, coronary bypass, dental care, traditional alternative care like Ayurveda and cosmetic surgery in India. Renal transplantation or Kidney transplantation is a common surgical process amongst international medical travelers in India. The unruly augment in the occurrence of diabetes amid large section population has led to an elevated rate of kidney failure cases.

Additionally, the Indian medical sightseeing business also observes an escalating number of medicinal tourists in the arena of dentistry. Some of the most widespread medical conducts amid travelers' include-alternative medication, cardiac bypass, bone-marrow transplant, hip replacement and eye surgery.

Developing Medical Tourism

Medical tourism currently is one of the fastest growing businesses across the globe, particularly in the developing countries.

While it may seem to be a new business venture it has been around for quite a while.

According to Wikipedia, the first recorded instance of medical tourism dates back thousands of years to when Greek pilgrims travelled from all over the Mediterranean to the small territory in the Saronic Gulf called Epidauria. This territory was the sanctuary of the healing god Asklepios. Epidauria became the original travel destination for medical tourism. Factors that have led to the increasing popularity of medical travel include the high cost of health care, long wait times for certain procedures, the ease and affordability of international travel, and improvements in

business process consulting expertise across healthcare and life science industry domain. His overall achievements range from evaluating and assessing new business opportunities and negotiating deal terms to managing large scale engagements in the design, development and deployment of enterprise-wide applications for Fortune 500 clients. Deepak holds a Masters Degree in Computer Science from Ferris State University, Michigan, USA.

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both technology and standards of care in many countries. The avoidance of waiting times is the leading factor for medical tourism from the UK, whereas in the US, the main reason is cheaper prices abroad. Many surgery procedures performed in medical tourism destinations cost a fraction of the price they do in the First World. For example, a liver transplant that cost \$300,000 USD in America cost about \$91,000 USD in Taiwan. A large draw to medical travel is convenience and speed. Countries that operate public health-care systems are often so taxed that it can take considerable time to get non-urgent medical care. Using Canada as an example, an estimated 782,936 Canadians spent time on medical waiting lists in 2005, waiting an average of 9.4 weeks. Canada has set waiting-time benchmarks, e. g. 26 weeks for a hip replacement and 16 weeks for cataract surgery, for non-urgent medical procedures. The cost of surgery in India, Thailand or South Africa can be one-tenth of what it is in the United States or Western Europe, and sometimes even less. A heart-valve replacement that would cost \$200,000 or more in the US, for example, goes for \$10,000 in India--and that includes round-trip airfare and a brief vacation package. Similarly, a metal-free dental bridge worth \$5,500 in the US costs \$500 in India; a knee replacement in Thailand with six days of physical therapy cost about one-fifth of what it would in the States; and Lasik eye surgery worth \$3,700 in the US is available in many other countries for only \$730. Cosmetic surgery savings are even greater: a full facelift that would cost \$20,000 in the US runs about \$1,250 in South Africa. Our country is now moving in this direction through an agreement with the Government of India, which will provide for the construction and manning of a specialty hospital to provide tertiary health care at an affordable price for our people and at the same time initiate the medical tourism venture here. During the recent election campaign, President Donald Ramotar emphasised that under a government headed by him the specialty hospital will become a reality. And he has stood to his word as preparatory work for its construction has already begun. Health Minister, Dr. Bheri Ramsaran has given the assurance that every step of the project has been reviewed, and will be undertaken successfully, since it has been recognised that this is a major investment, the first of its kind to serve the people of Guyana effectively and efficiently. This facility will take health-care delivery in Guyana to a higher tier and will result in a smaller number of people having to travel abroad to receive tertiary medical care and treatment, and therefore is another tangible demonstration of this government's commitment to improving our public health-care system on a continuous basis.

Contact : +91 98980 04098 / +91 98252 23244

Email : info@themeditour.com

Website : www.themeditour.com

www.themeditour.com

