

The big heart who helped another reach its destiny

How a late night phone call to Abhay Soi, the chief MD of a New Delhi hospital, helped a terminally-ill heart patient get a new lease of life. The gesture came free of charge, despite multiple roadblocks and challenges



Abhay Soi

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For a 56-year-old patient, who was lying at New Delhi's BLK Super Specialty Hospital with a terminally ill heart, a miracle was what he needed. But all that he could do was hope, pray and wait for a donor heart. As he waited to get a new lease of life, his miracle came in the form of the family of a 30-year-old from Jaipur, who had passed away in an accident. The patient had a donor now, but aside from the logistical challenges, the big problem was the cost of the transplant, which the patient couldn't afford.

"On many past occasions, the management, employees and shareholders at BLK have contributed financially towards saving lives. I am glad we were able to make a difference again this time"

A late night call to Abhay Soi, CMD Radiant Lifecare, allowed the transplant to be performed, free of charge.

What followed was a series of overwhelming challenges, one after another. Apart from having to fly down BLK doctors to Jaipur on the first available flight to harvest the heart and get multiple permissions from traffic, local police and airport officials, there were other trials too. They had to create two green corridors in Jaipur and Delhi for the unhindered transport of the heart to and from the airport and get the airlines to allow landing way before the scheduled time of arrival.

Moreover, the team of doctors who performed the long transplant process that went on till the wee hours of the morning, hadn't slept for 24 hours. It was a classic case of a race against time, which ultimately had a happy ending. The patient is now recovering well after a successful transplant.