Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre

Location: Delhi

Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre (RGCIRC) is one of the very first hospitals to commission robotic surgery equipment- da Vinci. It has completed more than 1,000 robotic surgeries, which is highest in northern India. Said Dr Sanjeev Gupta, medical superintendent, RGCIRC, "Robotic surgery has made several complex head and neck surgeries possible. As a result, the tumours from places near vital organs can now be removed. Otherwise, all such cases would have been dealt with using chemotherapy only." RGCIRC is one of the first in India to have PET-MRI fusion which help pinpoint tumours with a very high degree of accuracy and optimise the scope of surgery and radiation. The institute has designed a digitisation solution to ensure continuity of care between paper-based records and electronic health records. "This has helped in making the records available online as soon as they are generated at a single place, irrespective of whether the record is generated electronically or on paper," says Dr Gupta. It has implemented an integrated IT platform wherein patient demographics, billing, lab and radiology reports, images, EMR with cumulative trends of lab results are available online. The hospital has Tomosynthesis, Rapid Arc, True Beam, DSA (C Arm), Bio-Repository, EBUS- EUS, HIPEC and PET-MRI Fusion (from MIRADA Medical).

In IT, the hospital has HMIS, HER, PACS (from Synapse), daycare management system, smart card interface and appointment system. According to DS Negi, CEO, RGCIRC, "The average budget for new technologies has been Rs25 crore per annum approx each year for the past few years. Last financial year, the hospital spent around Rs20 crore on new technology installation and upgradation. The amount has almost remained constant with small variations."

For technology purchase, it has opted for self-finance. It is planning to experiment on Internet of Things (IoT). "This is an emerging concept that will help us connect with terminally ill patients as well as the patients in remote area who cannot travel. We are also working on tele-radiology and tele-medicine in order to increase the reach of the patients to our consultants and radiologists," says Negi.

Dharamshila Hospital

Location: Delhi

Leading oncology hospital Dharamshila Hospital And Research Centre (DHRC) uses web-enabled HIMS. The hospital has selected browser based Paras (HMS) software modules developed by Srishti Software Applications Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru, using Ruby–on-Rails platform, working with Linux and PostgreSql database with HL-7 and other international healthcare compliances, thus covering all business modules in the hospital.

Said Dr Sandeep Chatrath, CEO, DHRC, "We provide safe, effective and high quality precision treatment by using third generation VMAT (Volumetric Modulated Arc Therapy) technology. Radiation applications offered at DHRC are IMRT, IGRT, SRS/SRT, SBRT, Respiratory Gating, and Brachytherapy (intracavity, intraluminal, interstitial and surface mould)."

DHRC has industry's leading PET resolution(2mm) which helps in early and accurate staging of cancer. Other equipment include 16 slice CT scan with 3D CT, CT angiography and CT endoscopy, Gamma camera for all types of nuclear scans, premium edition ultrasound system, mammography, high frequency X-Ray with digital technology, MRI, Dexascan and uroflowmetry. Dharamshila BMT Centre has IMRT- based, total body and marrow irradiation. It has in-house stem cell processing and a BMT lab with True Beam from Varian is in the pipeline.

According to Dr Chatrath, "Around three to five% of the top line expenditure is allocated for new technology purchase every year. And for technology purchase, we take help of loan and funding."