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Awardee of:

Padma Shri & Padma Bhushan /Ramon Magsaysay Award
IARC Award- Work for Development of Registries in India.
D.Sc. Shri Venkateswara University /D.Sc Tamil Nadu
Dr.M.G.R.Medical University
Nazli-Gad-El-Mawla Award /Avvaiyar Award by
Government of Tamilnadu
D.Sc. Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences &
D.Sc. Sathyabama University & Many Life Time

To

30.10.2019

Mr. A. Mahalingam,

TwinTech Healthcare Academy, Chennai.

***Greetings from Dr V.Shanta,
Cancer Institute (WIA) Chennai !***

Thank you for requesting a message on the occasion of Conclave on Pain Management & Palliative Care advances, to be held under the hospice's TwinTech Healthcare Academy. I append below a few thoughts on the subject.

PALLIATIVE CARE AND PAIN MANAGEMENT

Thank you for the opportunity to share some of my thoughts on pain relief and advances in palliative care. Congratulations on your organizing a conclave on the subject. There is no doubt that there is increasing awareness about the need for palliative care and related issues.

PALLIATIVE CARE IS A SPECIALTY TODAY

It is time to ponder on what has been achieved. I am sorry that we do not have reliable data on the subject. Successful palliative care is determined by the family satisfaction which can be documented. A major deficiency that I noticed is the lack of humanity, social justice and medical ethics in the graduate and post-graduate curricula. This seems to be a major component of a good doctor-patient relationship but is lacking in today's practice.

The success of palliative care is measured not only by the degree of pain relief or symptom control but the satisfaction of the family. To watch the agony of pain can be most distressing. It is this distress, caused by agonizing pain due to lack of adequate pain control in her young sister in 1923, that evoked the dream of a cancer hospital in the mind of Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy. She was a legend in her lifetime and founder of the Cancer Institute (WIA) at Chennai, the second in the country. We have to satisfy the patient and the near and dear.

Medical professionals especially a palliative care professional must be an embodiment of patience, compassion, and empathy – the human touch, which alone can bring a smile and hope. Hope never dies.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. V. Shanta, M.B.B.S, D.G.O, M.D

Chairman - Cancer Institute (WIA) Chennai, Tamilnadu, India