

Arya Vaidya Sala started palliative care Unit at Charitable Hospital



Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala made a bold move in palliative care by launching a special clinic named Sanjeevanam at the Charitable Hospital, Kottakkal, on Tuesday. The occasion marked the 100th anniversary celebrations of the Charitable Hospital.

“Palliative care is not one to be given after all means of treatment are tried out. Rather it is the collective responsibility of a civilised society in the changing times,” said Dr. E. Divakaran, director of Thrissur-based Institute of Palliative Care, while inaugurating the clinic.

Dr. Divakaran pointed out that palliative care could play a significant role in treating chronic diseases. “People should change the attitude that palliative care is a part of cancer treatment,” he said.

He added that the beginning of palliative care clinics at all hospitals would help improve patients' quality of life. Kottakkal municipal chairperson Dr. K. Haneesha presided over the function.

Arya Vaidya Sala managing trustee and chief physician Dr. P.M. Varier said the century-old Charitable Hospital was the result of Arya Vaidya Sala founder Vaidyaratnam P.S. Varier's humanistic outlook.

"Illnesses mark the sad part of one's life. Sanjeevanam underscores the care to mitigate the sufferings of a patient. This clinic is the continuity of the 100 years of humanitarian care that Arya Vaidya Sala followed," said Dr. Varier.

Dr. E. Narayanankutty Varier, Medical Director of MVR Cancer Centre and Research Institute, Kozhikode, delivered the keynote address. Arya Vaidya Sala Chief Executive Officer Shri K. Harikumar, Arya Vaidya Sala Honorary Medical Advisor (modern medicine) Dr. P. Balachandran, municipal standing committee chairperson Smt. P. Mariyamu, Superintendent of AH&RC, Kottakkal East, Dr. P.R. Ramesh, and union leaders Shri M. Ramachandran, Shri K. Madhu, Shri M.V. Ramachandran, and Shri K.P. Muraleedharan spoke.

Arya Vaidya Sala Trustee and Additional Chief Physician Dr. K. Muraleedharan welcomed the gathering. Chief medical officer Dr. K.M. Madhu proposed a vote of thanks.

The palliative clinic will function from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Hospital Superintendent Dr. K. Lekha said the clinic would provide inpatient facility, if required.