

## Inauguration of 'International Workshop on Endourology' By German Uro Surgeons at B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital & Rural Medical College.

'In accordance to physicians' duty that encompasses patient care, continuing medical education, knowledge and experience exchange as well as research; we are pleased to undertake an Indo-German joint effort in conducting a medical workshop and surgery camp dedicated to Endo-urology. The workshop and camp started today, i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> December and will continue till 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with utmost respect to the indigenous population and in keeping with the spiritual beliefs of the Walawalkar Trust and Hospital.

Doctor Cristoph Lang, the esteemed professor and chief of Urology, Knappschafts Krankenhaus, Sulzbach Saarland, Germany was the driving force who made this event a reality. Dr Lang is an internationally famous urological surgeon and he was accompanied by two of his urological surgeon colleagues – Dr. Ms. Sneha Naique and Dr. Taiseer Sayegh. A surgical team is not complete without OT staff and so Dr. Lang was accompanied by Ms. Haike Becker and Mrs. Christine Hubertus. Delegates from all over India have registered for this advanced urology workshop.

On behalf of the department of surgery, Dr. Sanjiv Patankar gave an introductory speech and the inauguration of the workshop was initiated. Dr. Patankar expressed his deep gratitude on behalf of all present that everyone was able to participate and enjoy such an intellectual and advanced workshop experience for the first time in a rural part of India. A solemn lamp lighting ceremony was performed by Managing Director of Shri Vithalrao Joshi Charities Trust, Mr. Vikas Walawalkar saheb.

Mrs. Sneha Naique, Urologist and Assistant professor, Knappschafts Krankenhaus, Sulzbach Saarland, Germany is the dynamic and wonderful young lady who initially introduced Dr. Lang to the wonderful modern medical and surgical infrastructure that is available at BKL Walawalkar

Hospital in Konkan, a scenic coastal strip of Maharashtra, India. It is notable that this was the first time, a workshop of this magnitude was conceived and is being conducted where advanced simulators and endourology equipment was directly flown in from Germany. We sincerely thank Mr. Markus Scharfen, Managing Director, Richard Wolf India for the outstanding support and commitment and providing the advanced instrumentation such as simulators including high-fidelity mannequin-type simulators or virtual-reality simulators necessary for this workshop.

We also thank Mr. Satish Pol, Regional Manager (West India), Richard Wolf India, for his untiring efforts, willingness, commissioning, and setup of these complicated and delicate instruments.

**Clinical skills laboratory** has already been established in B.K.L. Walawalkar Hospital & Rural Medical College as a facility for simulation-based medical education (SBME). SBME is believed to be superior to the traditional style of medical education from the viewpoint of the active and adult learning theories. SBME offers both learners and patients a safe environment for practice and error. In addition, technology-enhanced simulation training is associated with beneficial effects for outcomes of knowledge, skills, behaviors, and patient-related outcomes. The infrastructure of this Basic Skills Lab proved to be worthy for his workshop that includes live hands on surgeries along with training in Skills lab and presentations by renowned Endourological faculty surgeons from Germany.

Dr. Lang's comment rings true the basic ethos of this SVJC Trust – "I was most impressed by the focus on holistic development of all the facets of the rural society rather than just provision of medical facilities. This trust has provided world class, modern and well equipped hospital and dedicated team of doctors in a rural part of India. In addition there is a English Medium School, a Medical College, and courses for Nursing, biomedical technology, endoscopy, and emergency medicine. Over and above this there are wonderful facilities provide for sports and physical fitness, and this is what makes this institution unique."

# GLIMPSES



Inauguration Ceremony – Managing Trustee Shri Vikas Walawalkar welcomes the German Team



Shri Vikas Walawalkar (Left) and Dr. Christoph Lang (Right) addressing guests & Participants



Simulators provided by German Team