



High-risk bypass surgery (CABG) routinely performed at Wockhardt Hospitals, Nashik

A 65-year-old patient with a poor heart functioning of only around 15% was successfully operated upon in a one of its kind surgery, a Coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) by Dr. Rahul Kaiche and his team at Wockhardt Hospitals.

In a heart attack, arteries supplying blood to the heart are blocked and following recovery from the heart attack, heart muscles are often damaged depending on the severity of the heart attack, the time of patient presentation and initial treatment given to the patient. This damage to heart muscles is called Heart function or Ejection fraction (EF) of the heart. Factors like the age and sex of the patients and their history of other associated diseases like diabetes, also determine the heart function. A normal heart function is around 60%, a mild dysfunction is around 50-60%, a moderate dysfunction is around 35-50% and a severe dysfunction is around 20-35%

Intensive medical therapy, surgical revascularization, ventricular remodeling, and heart transplantation are some of the current treatment options available for cases of poor heart function. A coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) displays significant clinical improvement and long-term survival for patients with low heart function when compared to medical treatment alone that has limited long-term survival or heart transplantation, which offers admirable results but is an impractical option for many, due to scarcity of donors.

Though a coronary artery bypass grafting is the safest & best treatment available for multiple blockages in all 3 coronary arteries supplying blood to the heart, it could become risky in patients with a heart function of only around 15% which is indicative of a severe dysfunction. *"In operating upon such patients, the risk of life along with the risk of strokes, renal failure, infections, and complications in a CABG operation increase five-fold when compared to risk of 1-2% in patients with a mild to normal heart function"*, said Dr. Rahul Kaiche, Senior Cardiac Surgeon at Nashik (North Maharashtra)

Technical skill and medical management, both before and after surgery are very important in high-risk surgeries. Where special devices like Left Ventricular Assist Device are used in many countries, their high cost is not a viable solution for many patients in India. Despite this, with the use of drugs like Milrinone and an Intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) machine, Dr. Rahul Kaiche successfully operated on this patient, who was discharged on the 7th day post-operation. In his last three years at Wockhardt Hospitals Group, Dr. Rahul Kaiche and his team have successfully carried out many such cases of which nearly 13% of the patients were with a poor heart function (EF < 30%.)

"Every patient at Wockhardt deserves the best possible care. Our state-of-the art Cardiac Operation Theatres, Super specialized Surgeons, trained technical Staff and the enormous back up from the Intensive Care Unit that allow our team to perform high-risk surgeries successfully, make this achievable".