



Report on
Second Jella Nandedkar Memorial Hybrid Symposium on
Evidence Based Palliative Care

In Memory of Dr. Sandhya Jella Nandedkar Supported by Dr. Abhay Kumar Jella and Family

Organized By: Indo-American Cancer Association & Pain Relief and Palliative Care Society, Hyderabad

Date: Saturday November 8, 2025, **Venue:** Hotel Avasa, Hitech City, Hyderabad

Total Participants: 83 (53 offline, 30 online)

The Second Jella Nandedkar Memorial Hybrid Symposium on Evidence-Based Palliative Care (Second JNMHS-EBPC) brought together **83 participants (53 offline and 30 online)**—clinicians, researchers, trainees, and international experts—to explore current evidence, evolving practices, and emerging innovations shaping the future of palliative care. Building on the tremendous success of the Inaugural JNMHS-EBPC, the Second JNMHS-EBPC carried the legacy forward with renewed energy, deeper collaboration, and a stronger commitment to evidence-based palliative care. Held in memory of **Dr. Sandhya Jella Nandedkar**, the event blended scientific depth with meaningful reflection on her legacy.



Dr. Suresh K Reddy speaking at Opening Ceremony



Honouring tradition through the lamp lighting

The morning opened with heartfelt reflections from **Dr. Suresh K. Reddy, Professor, Department of Palliative Care, Rehabilitation, and Integrative Medicine at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston T, USA**, and **Dr. Gayatri**

Palat, Professor and HOD at MNJ Regional Cancer Center, Hyderabad, who emphasized the power of evidence-based practice grounded in compassion and dignity.

Soon after, **Dr. Naveen Salins, Professor & Head of Dept of Palliative Medicine kasturba Medical College, Manipal**, led the audience through a practical exploration of managing chronic dyspnea in community settings. His session connected research with lived clinical experience, highlighting strategies that bring real comfort to patients.

One of the most anticipated moments of the day came with the keynote address by **Dr. David Hui, Professor and Director of Supportive & Palliative Care Research, Department of Palliative, Rehabilitation, and Integrative Medicine, Division of Cancer Medicine at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston T, USA**. Joining live via Zoom, he offered valuable insights into prognostication—one of the most sensitive and challenging aspects of palliative care. His guidance on communicating prognostic information with honesty and clarity resonated deeply with the audience.

During the event, Dr. Hui was honoured with the **Dr. Sandhya Memorial Award for Excellence in Palliative Care Research**, recognizing his global leadership and scholarly contributions.

The symposium then transitioned into a vibrant sequence of talks under **Innovations in Therapeutics**.

Dr. Gayatri Palat revisited modern approaches to pressure sore prevention,

Dr. Suresh K. Reddy introduced the emerging non-opioid analgesic *Suzetrigine*,

Dr. Praneeth Suvvari, Consultant and In-charge, Department of Pain and Palliative Medicine,

Basavatarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital and Research Institute,

Hyderabad, explored the expanding role of artificial intelligence in palliative care, and

Dr. Mathangi Krishnakumar, Associate Professor, Surgical and Neuro Intensive Care Unit, St. Johns National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore

& Dr. Parvathy V, 3RD Year DNB Resident, Department of Pain and Palliative Medicine, St. Johns National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore, shared their practical journey of implementing Advance Medical Directives within a tertiary hospital.



Talk by Dr. Naveen Salins.



Dr. Suresh Reddy receives the award on behalf of Dr. David Hui, presented by Dr. Gayatri Palat.

The afternoon brought forward the enthusiasm of growing scholars as junior investigators from across India presented their original studies. Their work reflected curiosity, rigor, and a promising future for palliative care research.

Later, the symposium shifted into discussions on

Marijuana in Palliative Care.

Dr. Arjun M. Pillai, Residency in Palliative Medicine, Department of Pain and Palliative Medicine, MNJ

Institute of Oncology and RCC, Hyderabad, walked the

audience through the foundational science of cannabinoids, while **Dr. Praneeth Suvvari** returned to the stage to share real-world clinical experiences and outcomes. Their combined perspectives shed light on a rapidly evolving therapeutic area.

As the final session began, a thoughtful panel featuring **Dr. Suresh K. Reddy, Dr. Priya, Consultant Physician, PRPCS, Hyderabad, Dr. Archana Iyengar, Consultant Physician, PRPCS, Hyderabad, and Dr. Gayatri Palat,** explored the complexities of

physician handoff. The discussion highlighted structured communication tools, patient safety during transitions, and the role of digital systems in reducing clinical error. The day concluded with warm words of gratitude and a shared commitment to carrying forward the legacy of **Dr. Sandhya Jella Nandedkar.** Participants left with renewed purpose, deeper understanding, and a collective vision for advancing palliative care through science and humanity.



The Vibrant Gathering of Participants



Panel Discussion

The Second JNMHS-EBPC Symposium, offering 2 CPD credit hours recognized by the Telangana Medical Council, stood not only as a scientific gathering, but as a story of people united by compassion, curiosity, and the pursuit of better care for patients and families.



Dr. Suresh K Reddy honouring Dr. Gayatri Palat



Dr. Suresh K Reddy honouring Dr. Praneeth Suvvari

Reported by: Manoj Kumar Gujela, Program Manager-India- IACA