

CITY

Sakal Times

Helping hands for burn victims

Camps offer free treatment to underprivileged people

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Pune: Disabilities caused due to burns not only make lives of patients miserable but also entail costly treatments that are often not affordable. With the aim of helping such people, Mumbai-based National Burns Centre (NBC) and Rotary International-District 3140, have joined hands to offer deformity corrective surgeries free of cost.

Under the initiative 'Operation Restore', burn patients are surgically treated at camps to correct functional and non-cosmetic deformities.

A mother of two small children, 25-year-old Archana Kamble from Sangli, suffered severe burns on the neck about six months ago. The burns were so extensive that her neck was stuck to her chest, and her upper torso and arms had become completely rigid. She couldn't even eat on her own. Today, she is on the path to recovery after having been operated under 'Operation Restore'.

OPERATION RESTORE

- Next camp: Nov 9 and 10 at NBC
- Screenings for Nov camp: Every Tuesday and Friday Between 1 and 3 pm
- Centre: National Burns Centre, Sector-13, Samarath Ramdas Swami Marg, Airoli, Navi Mumbai
Patients can directly approach NBC on the screening days
- Contact numbers: NBC 022-27793333 (Dr Shilpa Kamik) Rotary: 9820281068 (Vishnu Kamat) 9819118800 (Puja Puri) 9969264398 (Pradeep Kumar Pujari)
- Complete treatment, including pre-operative screening, corrective surgery and post-operative care, is provided free of cost to the underprivileged patients.

Similarly, Sayyad Ali, a cinematographer from Mahim, who has filmed a number of movies and television serials, lost fingers of both hands, when he threw a burning stove out his house to save his family from a major accident. He was successfully operated at NBC and is hoping to resume his livelihood soon.

So far, 200 such people from Maharashtra and across India have been successfully treated.

NBC at Airoli-Navi Mumbai is considered one of the

best institutes in India for burn-related treatments. Specialist doctors from NBC, and expert surgeons from Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Kolhapur have performed complex corrective surgeries at the camps. Over 100 doctors and special nurses have provided voluntary medical help to burn victims.

The patients are discharged 10 to 15 days after the surgery. The total expenditure comes to about Rs 80,000 per surgery, which is incurred by NBC and Rotary Club.