



2022 Issue 2

## *Newsletter*

**Colombo North Center For Liver Diseases**

### REVIVE PROJECT

When a vital organ such as the liver fails, all hope for life is lost. Life becomes a miserable counting of days in a hospital bed, suffering beyond the limits of imagination, till the inevitable end arrives.

Liver failure is a rapidly increasing problem in the world. Unfortunately, Sri Lanka is right up among the world's fastest growing rates of liver failure. An epidemic of liver disease similar to what is seen in the country with kidney disease, is not a thing of the future – it is happening now.

The only way to revive their lives is by replacing the failed liver with a healthy new liver. The miracle of a liver transplant is that it pulls the patient and family up from the depths of despair of facing death to the heights of full recovery – perfect health, an unrestricted active life, and full life expectancy

Colombo North Centre for Liver Diseases provides free of charge health care services to patients with complex liver diseases and makes liver transplantation a possibility within the country. However, due to lack of resources and facilities for complex liver transplant procedures, the “Revive” project was established. The center collaborates with many charitable organizations to ensure the possibility of liver transplantation and post-transplantation recovery of the patients especially during these critical times.

### CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

As the key development of the project, construction of a dedicated liver transplant center with modern operating theatres, intensive care and high dependency care units was started in September 2021.

The completion of the first stage was anticipated by August 2022, however, due to current financial crisis and massive rise in cost, the progress of the project has slowed considerably. Project timing and financial estimates are currently being revised.



### REVIVE Liver Fund

REVIVE Liver Fund' is a charity initiated by Colombo North Centre for Liver Diseases (CNCLD) with broad goals.

Phase 1: Construction of building Commenced in September 2021.

Phase 2 and 3: Equip operating theatres, intensive and high dependency care units.

In addition to state funding, generous contributions by individual and corporate donors is solicited.

5,277,234.11 (LKR)  
has been donated to the  
Revive Liver Fund to date.

Strength behind CNCLD; Collaborations and Donations

Amidst the current economic crisis in Sri Lanka, CNCLD greatly appreciates the well-wishers and patrons who give us their support to weather the rough seas of lack of essential medical supplies and funds. Their continued support ensures our patients a fair chance at life and access to quality healthcare, despite the current situation in the country.

A special appreciation goes to the following patrons for their continued support ;

“Suwayata Saviyak, Australia”

A charity program based in Australia, collaborated in developing the infrastructure, fulfilling the needs of essential consumables including surgical suture materials, essential drugs, anesthetic devices, Cusa tips and especially stepping in at a crucial moment by completely sponsoring an emergency paediatric liver transplantation and the child’s continued care. Their support even extends towards supporting patients and families post-transplant. The ongoing collaboration is estimated to achieve a total of 100,000 AUD



“Helping Hands Community”

A charitable organization based in Sri Lanka who successfully carried out fund raising projects for 2 paediatric liver transplant recipients, and also joined hands in donor coordination, supporting families after transplantation and donation of essential items for transplantations .

Donation of 100 bottles of Human albumin and other essential drugs for the paediatric liver transplant program by “Raise Si Lanka” and “Sri Lanka college of Paediatricians”



Ultrasound Scan Machine worth of Rs. 6 million donated by Dr. Mari Tokuda from Japan



Donation of ‘Blood Storage Refrigerator’ worth of Rs.1,484,269.36 by Tennyson and Vinitha Rodrigo Trust



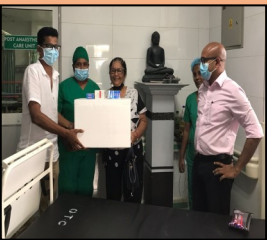
Donation of Sutures by Asian-Pacific Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association



Donation of Rs.104,200.00 worth of requirements for the Surgical ICU of CNTH, Ragama, by Sunshine Healthcare Lanka Ltd.



Donation of a dual illuminator worth of Rs.40000 by Batch of '98, St. Joseph's College, Colombo 10



Donation of essential anesthetic drugs Atropine,, Dobutamine by Mr. Royce Buultjens, of Australia,



Donation of an Instrument Layout Table by Mrs. Rangi and Mr. Nilesch Amarasinghe

Donation of 25 vials of the essential drug “Colistin 500,000 IU” by “Heal Sri Lanka”

CNCLD,  
Faculty of Medicine,  
University of Kelaniya.  
P.O Box 6,  
Thalagolla Road,  
Ragama,  
Sri Lanka

Account No : 055 1001 9004 5504  
Account Name: : University of Kelaniya  
Colombo North Centre for Liver Diseases  
Bank : Peoples' Bank  
Branch : Kelaniya branch  
Branch Code : 055  
Swift code : PSBKLKLX  
Online : <https://cncl.d.kln.ac.lk/index.php/donate>

Be the reason  
for their  
smile

## Academic activities of CNCLD

### 1. Visit to Dr. Rela institute and Medical center, Chennai

CNCLD team members visited the Dr. Rela Institute for a duration of 1 week as part of continuous professional development, where they had the opportunity to gather knowledge, experience and insight into management of patients with liver diseases as well as the infrastructure of a large scale liver transplant unit in the South Asian setting.

### 2. Facilitating overseas training in Japan for a post graduate trainee

CNCLD team member Dr. Buddhika Uragoda completed a 3months training at National center for Child Health and Development, which holds the largest paediatric liver transplant center in Japan, under Prof. Mureo Kasahara. He had the opportunity to assist nearly 20 Paediatric living donor transplantations of patients mostly under the age of 1 year.



### 3. Webinars conducted for the year :

- CT abdomen, Anatomy, pathologies and protocols! By Dr. Chinthaka Appuhamy
- Diagnostic approach to a child with liver dysfunction, by Dr. Meranthi Fernando
- Taking care of patients with compensated advanced chronic liver disease, by Prof. Anuradha Dassanayake
- Interventional oncology therapies in hepatic malignancies, by Prof. Nitin Shetty
- Approach to patient with biliary tract malignancy, by Dr. Suchintha Tillakaratne
- Patient blood management in liver transplant : an interactive case based discussion, by Dr. Klaus Goerlinger

### 4. New team members

Two new medical officers - Dr. Thilina Ranathunga and Dr. Hasantha Rosa and two demonstrators - Dr. Sakuni Cooray and Dr. Janidu Ekanayake joined the CNCLD team

## Clinical Services

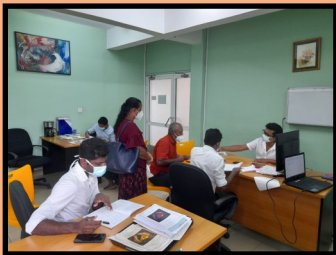
CNCLD offers many clinical services in the fields of;

- Hepato-Pancreatico-Biliary (HPB) services
- Adult and Paediatric Hepatology and Transplant
- Anesthesia in HPB and Transplant
- Hepato-biliary pathology Services
- Hepatobiliary Interventional Radiology

The center holds multidisciplinary clinics for HPB and liver transplant patients, both adult and paediatric.

From January to July 2022, the Adult HPB clinic received 488 new referrals while the liver transplant clinic received 74 new referrals.

The paediatric clinics received a total of 54 new referrals.



## Publications

The following abstracts were accepted for oral presentation at the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary international medical congress of the SLMA, to be held from 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022

- Harryprashath M, Fernando KIC, Tillakaratne S, Cooray BSC, Gunatilleke B, Siriwardana R. Outcome after curative resection for colorectal cancer liver metastasis in Sri Lanka
- Tillakaratne S, Cooray BSC, Gunatilleke B, Siriwardana R. Solid Pseudopapillary tumor of the pancreas: A single unit experience of an uncommon pancreatic tumor.

The following abstract was accepted for poster presentation at the same congress.

- Ekanayake SPN, Lakshani DHJPU, Luke WANV, Tillakaratne MSB, Dassanayake AS, Gunatilleke B, Niriella MA, Siriwardana R. Characteristics and survival of advanced hepatocellular carcinoma following palliative treatment in patients with nonviral aetiology

## Success Stories

### New Hope for little Sashin

This year marks a special milestone, as the liver transplantation on the youngest recipient with acute liver failure in Sri Lanka to date was successfully performed on 4-year-old Sashin who presented to the CNTH, needing an urgent life saving liver transplant. The surgery was planned and performed within 48 hours on 16.07.2022, with the generous support of “Suwayata Saviyak, Australia”, giving young Sashin a new chance at life.



### 10– years after new beginnings

Mr. Mahawela, who underwent a successful liver transplant surgery 10 years back, and is thriving in his new life shares his story, while looking back at the journey that led him to a happy healthy life today.

“1960 වර්ෂයේ අප්‍රේල් මාසයේ උපන් මා අවුරුදු 50ට පසු අසනීප වීම නිසා නිදහසේ රැකියාවට යාමට පවා නොහැකිව ලෙඩ ඇදට සීමා වී අවුරුදු 2ක් පමණ නිවසේ ගත කළෙමි. අක්මාව දුර්වල බව මා බැලූ හැම විශේෂඥ දොස්තර වරයෙක්ම පැවසූ අතර, එයට ඇති එකම විසඳුම බද්ධ කිරීම බව මා හට දන්වනු ලැබුවා. ඒ අනුව රාගම රෝහලේ සායනයේ ලියාපදිංචි වී සෑම මසකම සායනයට පැමිණියෙමි. 2012.08.27 දින රාත්‍රී 7.00 පමණ මට රාගම රෝහලට හැකි ඉක්මනින් ඇතුළත් වන ලෙස දුරකථන ඇමතුමක් ලැබුණි. ඒ අනුව රාත්‍රී 1.00 පමණ ඇතුළත් වූ මා හට 2012.08.29 දින අක්මාවක් බද්ධ කිරීම සිදුකලා.

ඉන්පසුව මාගේ දත්වලින් නිතරම ගැලූ රුධිරය නැවතුනා. කැම රුචිය ඇති වුනා. ඇහට තිබුණු අපහසුතා ටිකෙන් ටික අඩු වුනා. මාසයක් පමණ යන විට සාමාන්‍ය වැඩ කටයුතු කරගෙන ඉන්න පුළුවන් වුනා. මාස 3කට පසු ආපසු මගේ රැකියාව සඳහා ගියා. දිගටම අද දක්වා මම සායනයට පැමිණෙනවා. අදට අවුරුදු 10ක් ගත වී ඇති අතර මා වයස අවුරුදු 62 පසුකර ඇත. දැනට මා විශ්‍රාම ගෙන ඇති නිසා ගොවිතැන් කටයුතු වල යෙදෙමින්, තනියම මගේ ගමන් බිමන් යමින් මගේ වැඩපල කර ගනිමින් සතුටින් ජීවත් වනවා. මට මෙම ශල්‍යකර්මය සිදු කිරීමට නත් අයුරින් සහය දැක්වූ සියලු දෙනාට ගොඩක්ම ගොඩක් ස්තූති වන්ත වනවා.”

