#### SANKALP INDIA FOUNDATION

# Sankalp Patrika















# From Counselling to Cure: Training for BMT Preparedness

In July, Sankalp Hemoglobinopathies Academy of Learning (SHeAL) held two virtual training sessions for management team focused on bone marrow transplant (BMT) counselling and enrolment.

The sessions, conducted on July 15th and 21st in regional languages, brought together coordinators, doctors and nurses from our management program.

These teams are often the first to speak to families about the possibility of cure.

When a child is newly registered, coordinators explain not just transfusion care and chelation therapy but also introduce BMT as a curative option.

The training, led by the Cure team, focused on early counselling, addressing parental fears, eligibility, testing and the commitment required from families.

Many parents fear harm to the healthy sibling donor. The session clarified that bone marrow donation is safe and crucial when done early. This is done by comparing it to other organ donation and explaining key differences.

Nearly 60 percent of children undergoing BMT at Sankalp begin their journey through our daycare centres.

With better preparedness and continuous support, families are better informed and confident to take the next step toward cure.

# July Highlights

#### **Blood Donation**

Collected 1463 units from 26 camps and in-house. impacting countless lives. Managed 14 rare Bombay Blood group requests

#### Thalassemia Management

Transfused 4378 units across 23 centers in 6 states, aiding 2500+ children

#### **Prevention**

Performed 17 antenatal screenings, preventing 7 affected births and empowering families

#### Cure

Performed 16 Bone Marrow Transplants in Bangalore and Ahmedabad, offering hope to children

#### **HLA Typing**

Typed 312 individuals from 134 families across 5 camps in 3 states enabling potential matches

This August, as we mark Independence Day and Raksha Bandhan, we are reminded of the power of freedom and the strength of bonds.

Let's continue working towards the day every child is free from the burden of transfusions, and every family is protected through awareness and timely care.

Together, let's stand for health, hope and harmony.

Team Sankalp







## Sattva Group's Lifesaving Commitment: 372 Units of Hope

From May to July 2025, the Sattva Group partnered with Sankalp India Foundation to host five impactful blood donation drives across their campuses in Bangalore.

Through the dedication of Sattva employees and volunteers, a total of **372** units of blood were collected, each one a lifeline for children with thalassemia, sickle cell anemia and other hemoglobinopathies who depend on transfusions every 15–20 days.

Drive Highlights:

- Sattva Knowledge Court (14 May): 115 units
- Sattva Mind Comp (28 May): 80 units
- Sattva Galleria (11 June): 59 units
- Sattva Global City (22 July): 54 units
- Sattva Softzone (24 July): 64 units

This collaboration not only met an urgent medical need but also inspired a deeper connection to community health. We look forward to more such partnerships in the future.



### SIRO Recognition: A New Chapter in Research-Led Care

Sankalp India Foundation has been recognised as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (SIRO) by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India.

This recognition strengthens our mission to drive research-led solutions for thalassemia and sickle cell disease, enabling deeper collaborations, innovation and improved care for vulnerable communities.



## Sankalp Study on Prenatal Screening Published in IMJR

We are proud to share that our study on prenatal hemoglobinopathy screening has been published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research, the official journal of ICMR.

This recognition strengthens the scientific foundation of our Prevention Project, validating how early screening and timely intervention can significantly reduce the burden of thalassemia and sickle cell disease across India.



#### Silent Pillars: Powering Logistics From Tumkur

Inspired by the work at our Tumakuru Day Care Centre and moved to give back, Shruti has quietly supported our logistics needs for over five years.

Running her DTDC franchise on her own, she has handled every single courier from the centre free of cost, ensuring that critical samples, reports and medicines reach on time, even personally delivering urgent parcels herself. We salute her compassion and action.



## Fetal Screening Begins at GMC Nagpur

On 25 July, the first fetal screenings were conducted at Government Medical College, Nagpur, as part of our Prevention Program. This partnership brings critical antenatal testing for hemoglobinopathies into a leading government hospital, ensuring timely detection of high-risk pregnancies.

It also creates a dual impact, offering essential care to underserved families and rural communities while equipping medical students with practical, hands-on training in genetic screening.



## Preparing for Cure: BMT Counselling in Hyderabad

On 24 July, the Sankalp Cure team, in partnership with the Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Society (TSCS), held a focused BMT counselling and clinic session in Hyderabad.

As part of our six-year collaboration, we have successfully completed **89** BMTs from TSCS. In this session, Dr. Mohan Reddy physically reviewed **26** patients and over **35** families received counselling and hope for cure.



## Mini Lab Operational at Ahmedabad Health1 BMT Unit

This month marked one month of operations for the Health1 Mini Lab at our BMT unit in Ahmedabad. Made possible through the generous support of DKMS, this dedicated inhouse facility is streamlining routine investigations and enhancing patient care during bone marrow transplants.

DKMS has been a longstanding partner in our Cure Program, helping us improve access and outcomes for children in need of BMT. With the mini lab now operational, care is faster, more reliable, and better coordinated.



# 124 Units collected: Together for Every Drop

On 6th July, a blood donation camp was held at the Ahmedabad Day Care Centre, run in partnership with Shree Jalaram Abhyuday Sadbhavana Trust (SJA), by Team Sankalp with support from patients, parents, and Team Jalaram.

Together, they collected 124 units of blood, ensuring continued care for children in need. A heartfelt thanks to all who contributed.



## Strength in Every Step: Jyoshna's Triumph Over Pain

Living with sickle cell anemia, Jyoshna has faced chronic pain crises and hospital visits since childhood. Coming from a financially struggling family, continuing education was never easy.

But she never gave up.

Even during excruciating pain crises, she remained focused on her studies. Today, she is pursuing her Intermediate education, determined to chase her dreams.

With support from Sankalp, she was brought under structured care. Regular follow-ups, pain relief and hydroxyurea therapy helped reduce her pain episodes and improve her health.

Jyoshna's journey is proof that with the right care and a strong will, even the toughest odds can be overcome.



# A Hard Choice For A Brighter Tomorrow

When Payal and Atul Vasava from Gujarat learned they were both carriers of Sickle Cell Disease during their second pregnancy, they faced a painful decision. Fetal screening confirmed their baby was affected.

Social and family pressure made them hesitant, but thanks to weeks of sensitive, fact-based counselling by the Sankalp India Foundation Prevention team, they gained the clarity and courage to choose medical termination.

With compassion and support, the team helped them overcome fear, misinformation and stigma.

Their journey reflects the importance of consistent follow-up, empathetic counseling, and providing accurate medical information to support reproductive decision-making in the face of societal stigma.

Read more on sankalpindia.net



