

SANKALP INDIA FOUNDATION

Sankalp Patrika



01 September 2025



Independence Day Celebrations at Sankalp: Freedom in Every Sense

This Independence Day at Sankalp was more than just a celebration. It was a day filled with pride, joy and togetherness. The morning began with the flag hoisting, followed by soulful patriotic songs and heartfelt dances that lit up the faces of children and families alike. A colourful statewise fashion show added to the vibrance, showcasing the diversity of India. The air was filled with laughter, applause and the warmth of shared pride.

Our celebrations also went online with virtual competitions in Elocution and Photography, where participants expressed their love for the nation in powerful words and stunning visuals. The winners were: Photography – 1st prize: Shaival Gandhi, 2nd prize: Prashant, 3rd prize: Afreen. Elocution – 1st prize: Anusha Iyengar, 2nd prize: Dharmi, 3rd prize: Rahul Sharma.

The on-the-spot Statewise Fashion Show saw enthusiastic participation, with our staff showcasing beautiful outfits from their native states. The fashion show winners were: 1st Prize - Byntalang Umsong & Mariada Dhar (Meghalaya) 2nd Prize - Mamtha, Anusha & Jyoti (Karnataka) 3rd prize shared by 2 states - Queensy Mary (Assam) & Rohini Pradeep (Kerala).

As we came together to celebrate India's freedom, we also renewed our collective dream of freedom from thalassemia and sickle cell disease. At Sankalp, every step we take towards prevention, care and cure is guided by this vision. True patriotism lies not only in honouring our nation's past, but also in building a healthier, stronger India where every child can grow free of these disorders.

August Highlights

Blood Donation

Collected **1308** units from **30** camps and in-house, impacting countless lives. Managed **7** rare Bombay Blood group requests

Thalassemia Management

Transfused **4431** units across **23** centers in **6** states, aiding **2500+** children

Cure

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

HLA Typing

Typed **358** individuals from **127** families across **2** camps enabling potential matches

This September, we reflect on resilience and renewal.

From the children who walk into our centres with courage, to the families who trust us with their toughest decisions, and the teams who stand by them, every story reminds us why we serve.

Let us step into this month with gratitude for how far we have come and determination for how much more we can do together.

Team Sankalp



Strengthening the Path to Cure in Belagavi: BMT Counselling Camp

On 7th September, our Cure and Management team members Pushpa, Dr. Mohan Reddy, and Abhijith Iyengar organised a counselling camp at KLE's Dr. Prabhakar Kore Hospital & Medical Research Centre, Belagavi. A total of **57** families participated, with many moving forward in their journey towards Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT).

For children with thalassemia and sickle cell disease, BMT is the only established cure. Yet for most families, the process seems daunting.

Counselling plays a critical role in breaking down complex medical details into clear, simple information, addressing doubts, and easing fears. It helps families understand donor matching, treatment timelines, and the long-term benefits of cure.

This camp not only created awareness but also gave parents hope and reassurance. By providing accurate information and compassionate guidance, our team enabled families to make informed choices.



A Milestone of Recognition: Hope & Healing

At the Midterm PHO CME in Noida, Sankalp India Foundation was honoured by the Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Chapter of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics for our contributions to stem cell transplantation in thalassemia, accepted by our president Mr. Rajat Agarwal.

This recognition celebrates not just the lives saved through our Cure Program but also the futures safeguarded through our Prevention Program.



301 Transplants, One Shared Mission: Ahmedabad

We are proud to announce the completion of the **301st** Bone Marrow Transplant in Ahmedabad. Each transplant represents a child freed from the cycle of transfusions, complications and uncertainty.

This milestone reflects not just medical excellence but also the dedication of our doctors, nurses, coordinators and partners of the Sankalp Program for Cure who work tirelessly to make cure accessible.



NASCO: Advancing Prevention and Collaboration

Sankalp India Foundation was felicitated at the 5th Foundation Day of the National Alliance of Sickle Cell Organizations (NASCO) in Nagpur, where our Regional Coordinator, Mr. Aniruddha Dhar, received the honour on behalf of the organisation.

This recognition highlighted our prevention efforts through prenatal screening across **26** districts of Maharashtra and **36** districts of Madhya Pradesh.



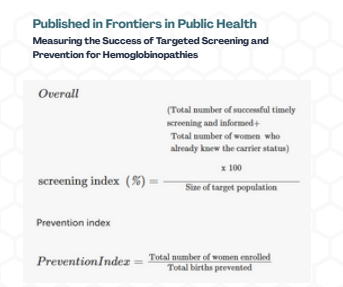
Strengthening Management: Building Expertise in Chelation Therapy

On 13th and 14th August, Sankalp India Foundation organised the 3rd Management Training under SHeAL, focusing on chelation therapy. The session was facilitated by Ms. Prathyoosha, Quality Manager for the Management Program, and led by Dr. Mohan Reddy through online modules.

The training covered medicines like Deferoxamine (Desferal), Deferiprone (Kelfer), and Deferasirox (Deseriox). Practical case studies and impactful videos on counselling and medicine administration enriched the sessions, ensuring participants gained both technical and patient-centred insights.

Chelation therapy is vital for children receiving frequent transfusions, as iron overload can cause serious complications.

This training strengthened the capacity of our Management team members to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care for children with thalassemia and sickle cell disease.



Redefining Success in Hemoglobinopathy Prevention Screening

Our latest study, published in **Frontiers in Public Health**, introduces two powerful tools: the **Screening Index** and the **Prevention Index**, to measure the true effectiveness of screening programmes.

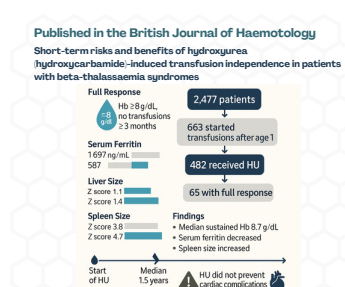
By focusing on timeliness, counselling, quality, accessibility, and the prevention of affected births, these indicators offer a way to strengthen public health strategies and protect countless families.



TEC Gives Back: Life in Every Drop, Hope in Every Toy

The Executive Centre (TEC) Community Bangalore chapter recently organised a two-part CSR initiative with Sankalp. Over **60** members donated blood to support transfusions, while **200** members handcrafted **150** soft toys to bring comfort during treatment.

This effort not only strengthened awareness of thalassemia but also offered both medical and emotional support to children and their families.



Hydroxyurea in Thalassemia: a Decade of Insights

At Sankalp India Foundation, every decision starts and ends with one question: What gives our children the best chance at a healthy life?

Our decade-long study on hydroxyurea (HU), published in the **British Journal of Haematology**, reveals both benefits and risks, shaping safer treatment protocols and guiding global care for children with thalassemia dependent on frequent transfusions.



12 Years to Cure: A Lifetime of Smiles Ahead for Mansi and Her Family

Vijay and Payal Nandwani from Katni, Madhya Pradesh, never imagined the struggles they would face when their daughter Mansi was born. Diagnosed with thalassemia major before her first birthday, her life quickly became defined by monthly transfusions and a 100 km journey to Jabalpur to arrange safe blood.

For years, the family prayed for a cure. When Mansi's younger brother was born and proved a perfect bone marrow match, hope turned into possibility. Guided by relatives who found help through Sankalp India Foundation, the family travelled to Ahmedabad. After 12 years, Mansi finally underwent her bone marrow transplant. Today, Mansi is thriving. She eats, plays, and enjoys life like any other child. Her father says with pride, "She has no problem. She lives very well."

For Sankalp, her journey reflects the power of persistence, family love, and the gift of a sibling's match. Stories like hers remind us why the fight against thalassemia must go on.



A Mother's Prayer Answered: Husena's New Beginning After Bone Marrow Transplant

For the Sham family, life changed when their daughter Husena was diagnosed with thalassemia major at just 13 months of age. From that moment, every few weeks meant long visits to the hospital for blood transfusions. The routine was exhausting, but the family never gave up hope for a cure.

Their search eventually brought them to Sankalp India Foundation in Ahmedabad. After years of outpatient follow-up and preparation, Husena underwent a bone marrow transplant in April this year.

Now, her transplant is holding strong. She continues her weekly OPD visits with a smile, and her mother shares with gratitude that her daughter is doing well.

For Sankalp, Husena's story is a reminder that behind every procedure is a child's chance at freedom and a family's dream of a healthy future.

[Read more on sankalpindia.net](http://sankalpindia.net)

MYTH BUSTERS

MYTH

Carriers (trait) show symptoms and have health problems.

FACT

Carriers usually lead normal lives and may not even be aware of their condition unless they are tested.

CONTRIBUTE NOW

