

Green Corridor from Delhi airport to Fortis Escorts, Okhla helps swift transport of live heart during peak traffic hours

- *18.4 kms of peak traffic was covered in 21:20 minutes*
- *Donated heart from 47-year-old man transplanted into 34-year-old woman*

New Delhi, February 18th 2020: A team of doctors from **Fortis Escorts, Okhla** retrieved a live donor heart in Ruby Hall Clinic in Pune earlier today. The live heart was air transported from Pune to Delhi. A 18.4 kms long green corridor was created from Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport to Fortis Escorts in Okhla that swiftly transported the live heart in less than 21:20 minutes at the peak of traffic hours. The team of doctors was led by **Dr Z S Meharwal, Head of Adult Cardiac Surgery, VAD & Heart Transplantation Programme, Dr Vishal Rastogi, Head, Heart Failure Clinic at FEHI and Dr Naveen Saraf, Principal Consultant, Cardio Thoracic Vascular Surgery at Fortis Escorts, Okhla (FEHI).**

The team was alerted by National Organ Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) about a possible donor heart in Ruby Hall Clinic in Pune earlier today. The team immediately left for Pune at 03:10 AM today to retrieve the heart. The donor heart along with the team boarded the flight at 03:30 PM and reached IGI Delhi at 05:40 PM. The ambulance swiftly completed the 18.4 kms long stretch in 21:20 minutes amidst traffic rush.

The donor heart from a 47-year-old male was retrieved after he was declared brain dead. It was shortlisted by NOTTO for a 34-year-old female from Delhi. She has been getting treatment from **Dr Vishal Rastogi, Head, Heart Failure Clinic at FEHI.** However, her condition reached a critical condition almost a month ago and was on levosimandon infusion support since then. The heart transplant surgery is being performed by **Dr Z S Meharwal, Executive Director & HOD, Cardiac Surgery at FEHI** at the time of this press release.
