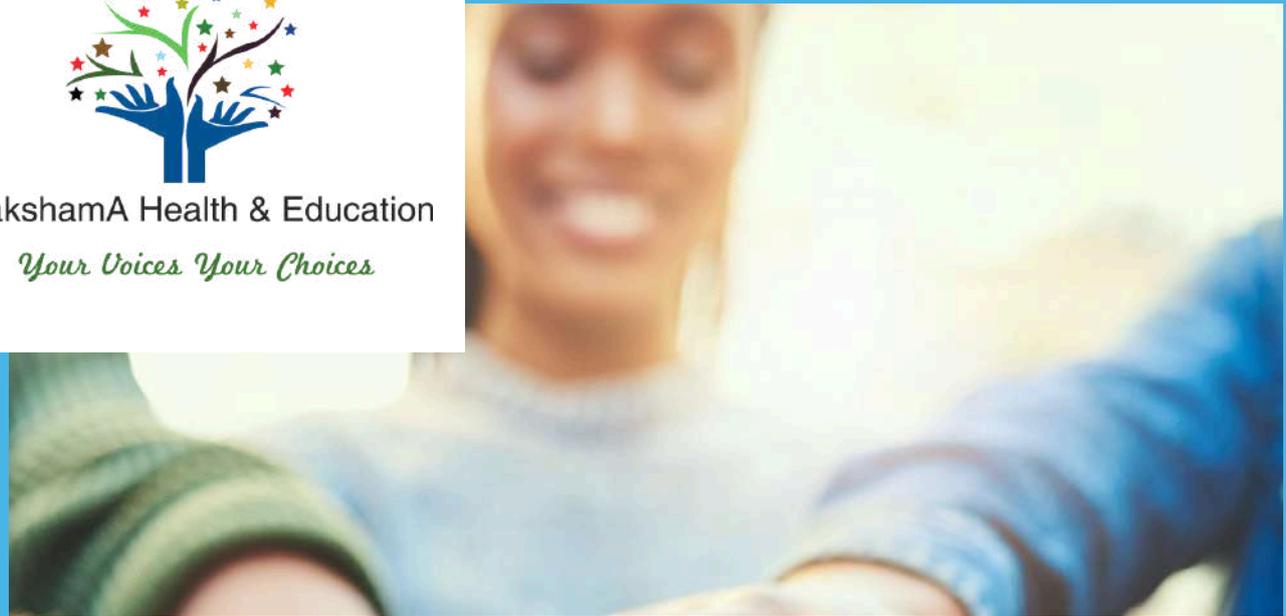




DakshamA Health & Education

Your Voices Your Choices



DAKSHAYANI AND AMARAVATI HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Annual Report 2025



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LETTER FROM THE *CEO*

Dakshama Health is a not-for-profit implementing agency committed to strengthening patient advocacy, delivering on-ground healthcare support, and translating lived experience into meaningful systems change.

Our organization carries the name *Dakshayani & Amaravati* in honour of two women whose resilience and integrity shaped the values we stand for. Their lives inspired our founding team, and their legacy continues to guide our mission: to improve how health is perceived, accessed, and delivered in India.

In 2025, we actively worked to bring patient and caregiver voices to the centre of health decision-making. We focused on building practical solutions for people living with rare diseases, cancer, mental health conditions, and other chronic illnesses—ensuring that care is safe, accessible, and grounded in real patient needs.

As a full member of the International Alliance of Patient Organisations (IAPO), we remain aligned with a global movement that believes patients must be equal partners in shaping health systems. This year has reinforced that belief. Whether through counselling support in hospitals, community outreach, training frontline teams, or co-developing policy materials, our core commitment has stayed the same: to put people first.

Thank you to our partners, supporters, and the communities we work with. Together, we continue to build a healthcare ecosystem that listens, includes, and delivers.

- *Dr Ratna Devi*

VISION

Empower patients and caregivers with the right knowledge, tools and forums to seek and access healthcare options that suit their needs and through their voices bring about a positive change in the healthcare environment.

MISSION

A world where people live a healthy and disease-free life through knowledge-based choices in an atmosphere of equality, equity and access.

WHY THIS?

01

Millions of patients face chronic or complex health conditions with no psychosocial support.

02

There is limited health literacy and counseling support at the point of care.

03

Vulnerable communities lack access to credible health information or navigation help.

04

Patients' voices are excluded from policy, safety, and system design.



OUR CORE TEAM



Dr. Sita Ratna Devi
Chief Executive Officer



Jugesh Mourya
Head Finance and HR



Bikash Prasad
Head IT and Administration



Mugdha Barik
Senior Program Manager



Dr. Riya Agrawal
Program Manager



Dr. Mohini Singh
Project Officer

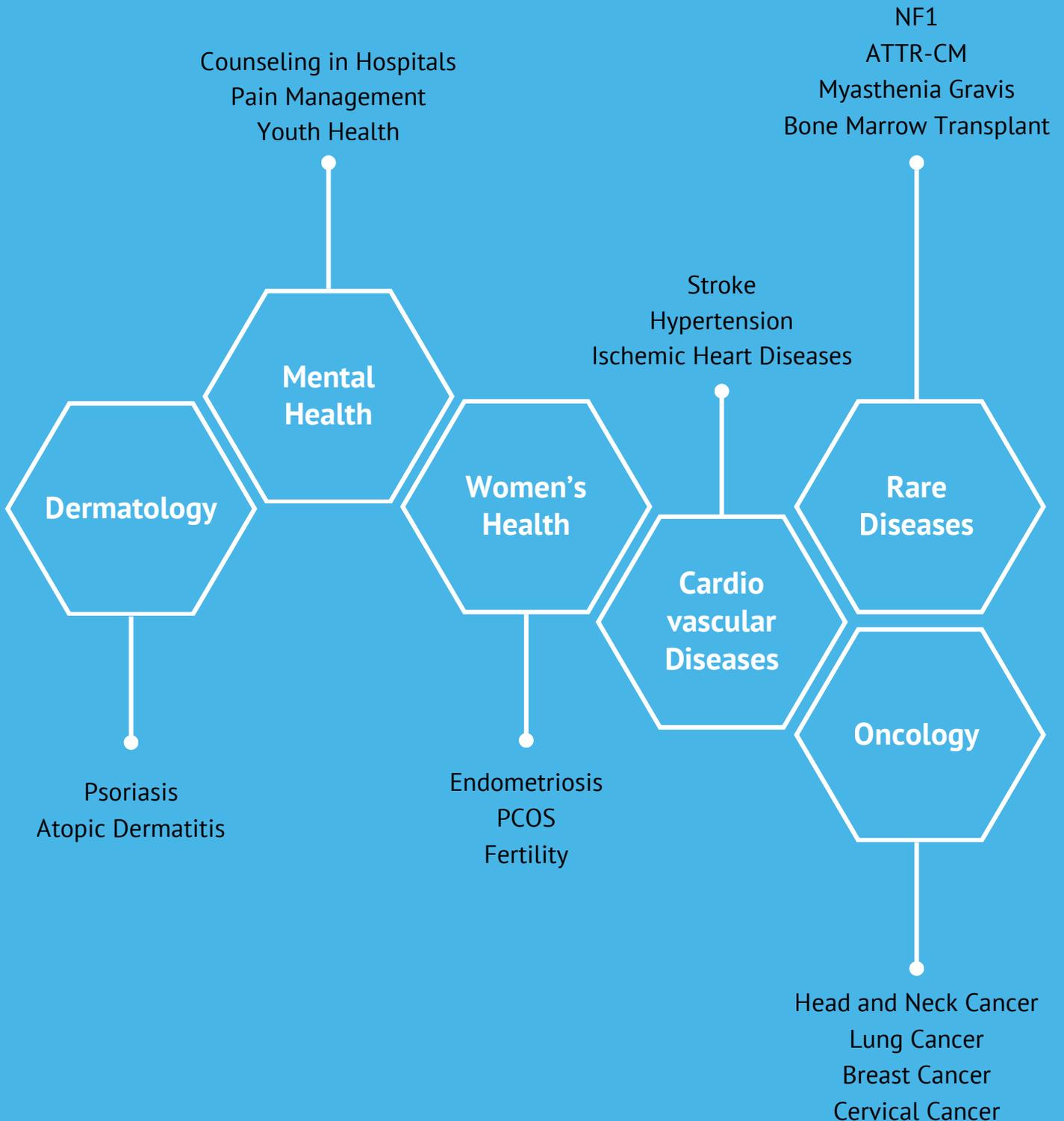


Shantanu Satapathy
Project Coordinator



Rohan Shukla
Program Support Coordinator

OUR FOCUS AREAS



OUR PROJECTS

In 2025, we undertook initiatives that brought patient and caregiver perspectives to the forefront of healthcare delivery and systems change.

01

**STEP UP
FELLOWSHIP
PROGRAM**

04

**RARE REACH
INITIATIVE**

02

**SPAN-HNC
SUPPORT**

05

**INTERNATIONAL
PATIENT
SUMMIT 2025**

03

**POLICY
ADVOCACY
ON REUSE OF
SUDs**

06

**PFPSN-INDIA
(patient
safety)**



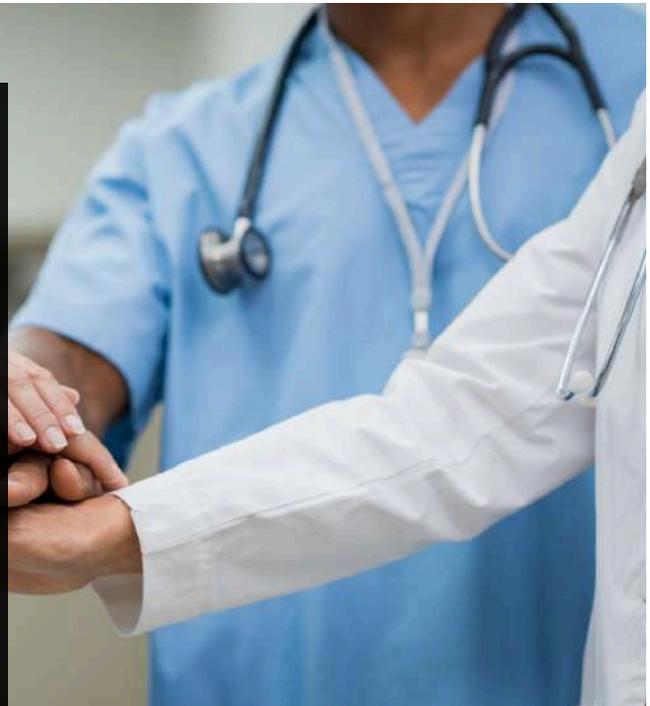
STEP UP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The *Sustained Training & Education Project – Upgrading Physician Skills* project was designed to enhance surgical skills in arthroplasty and arthroscopy by supporting structured hands-on fellowship training across accredited hospitals in India.



Our Success

Since the project launch in 2023, we have successfully trained a total of **40 fellows – 37 in Arthroplasty and 3 in Arthroscopy**. In 2025 itself, we have expanded the program by onboarding **24 new fellows**, significantly strengthening surgical training capacity and ensuring wider reach across both specialties.



The Reach

This initiative has been pivotal in advancing physician skills and aligns with our shared commitment to improving clinical excellence in India. The program is being implemented across **14 hospitals** in the country.



SPAN-HNC SUPPORT

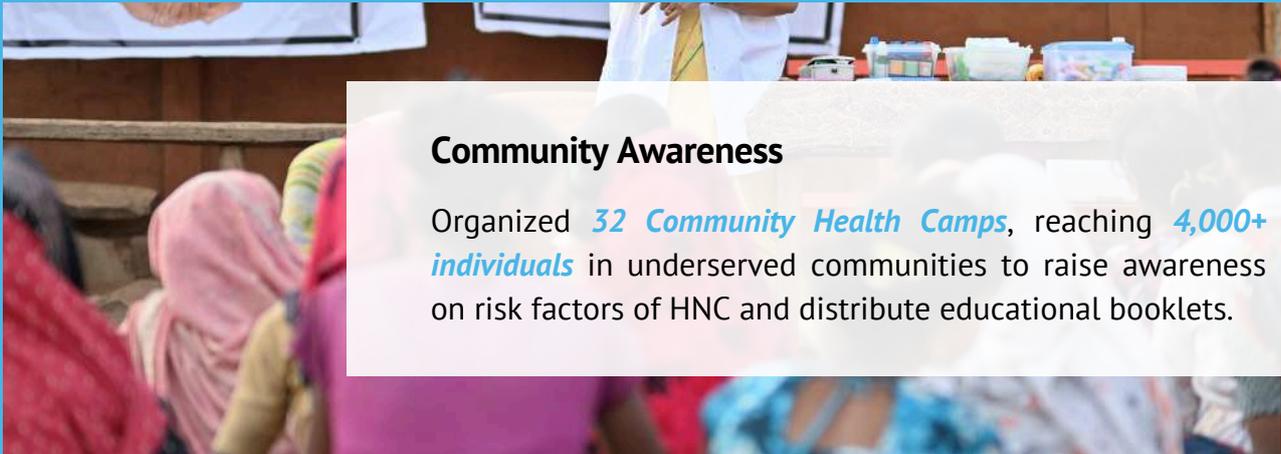
A Brief about our project

The **SPAN-HNC (Screening, Patient Awareness, Nutritional Support- Head & Neck Cancers)** project is a CSR project being implemented by DakshamA Health since 2023, successfully tackling critical barriers in patient care by integrating counseling, nutrition support, awareness, and community engagement into a sustainable and replicable model.



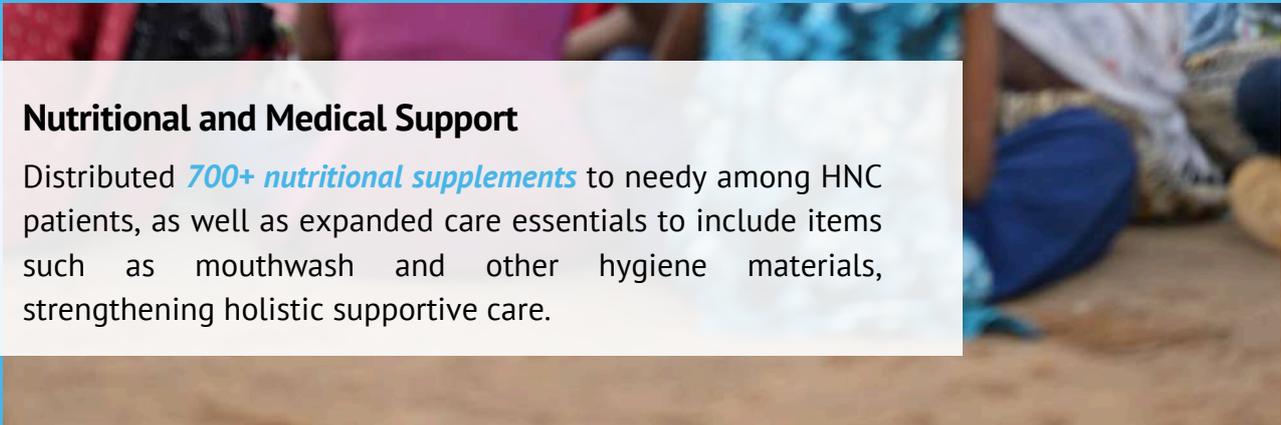
Counseling and Holistic Mental Health Support

Our counselors stationed across 3 states in India have counselled over **1500 patients living with cancer**; along with conduction of **10+ patient experience sessions** such as music & art therapy, yoga & meditation, etc.



Community Awareness

Organized **32 Community Health Camps**, reaching **4,000+ individuals** in underserved communities to raise awareness on risk factors of HNC and distribute educational booklets.



Nutritional and Medical Support

Distributed **700+ nutritional supplements** to needy among HNC patients, as well as expanded care essentials to include items such as mouthwash and other hygiene materials, strengthening holistic supportive care.

POLICY ADVOCACY ON REUSE OF SUDS(SINGLE USE DEVICES)

THE PURPOSE

- To build regulatory momentum, improve ethical practices, and safeguard patient rights regarding the reuse of single-use medical devices (SUDs) in India.

THE PROGRESS

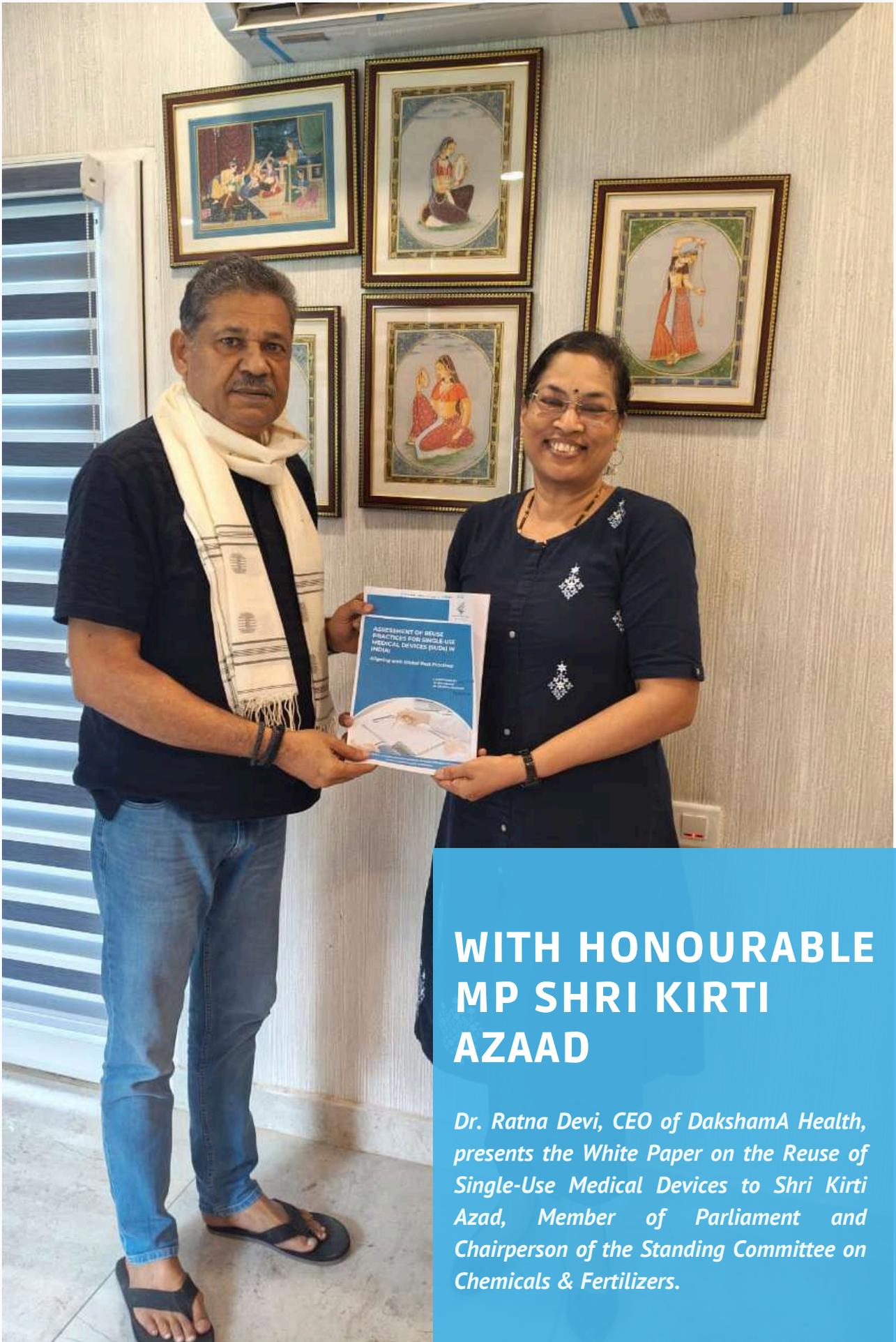
- Final white paper published and disseminated widely (publicly available).
- Stakeholder outreach expanded from 15 to 77 stakeholders, including parliamentarians, regulators, patient groups, and technical experts.
- High-level meetings conducted with:
 1. Director of Medtech Policy
 2. Joint Director, National Health Authority
 3. Patient Safety Secretariat, MoHFW
 4. Additional DG & Director (EMR), DGHS
- White paper shared with the Standing Committee on Health, IMPF, elected representatives, and CLRA.

KEY MILESTONES

- Meeting with Shri Kirti Azad, Chairperson, Standing Committee on Chemicals & Fertilizers (28 August 2025).
- Resulted in initiation of a draft Private Member's Bill proposing amendments to the Clinical Establishments Act and the Drugs & Cosmetics Act.
- Draft guideline framework for SUD reuse circulated for expert feedback.

THE TAKEAWAYS

- MoHFW formally acknowledged gaps in current regulation.
- CDSCO reiterated that SUDs cannot be reused and misuse constitutes an offence.
- No existing guidelines on safe reuse—creating space for policy change.



WITH HONOURABLE MP SHRI KIRTI AZAAD

Dr. Ratna Devi, CEO of Dakshama Health, presents the White Paper on the Reuse of Single-Use Medical Devices to Shri Kirti Azad, Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Chemicals & Fertilizers.

RARE REACH INITIATIVE

THE NF1 PROJECT

To build a robust support ecosystem for NF1 patients in India through awareness, early diagnosis, peer support, patient advocacy, and multi-disciplinary clinical coordination.



IMPACT SUMMARY

2025 marked a major acceleration in NF1-focused work at DakshamA Health – community formation, expert engagement, referral strengthening, and clear progress toward establishing a long-term national NF1 ecosystem. With advocacy, patient support, and diagnostic strengthening running in parallel, the project significantly deepened national visibility for NF1. **A formal MOU was signed with AIIMS New Delhi to support patient navigation.**



PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- [NF1: A Call for Inclusion in National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021](#)
- [The Long Wait and the Struggle of Families Battling NF1](#)



ACHIEVEMENTS

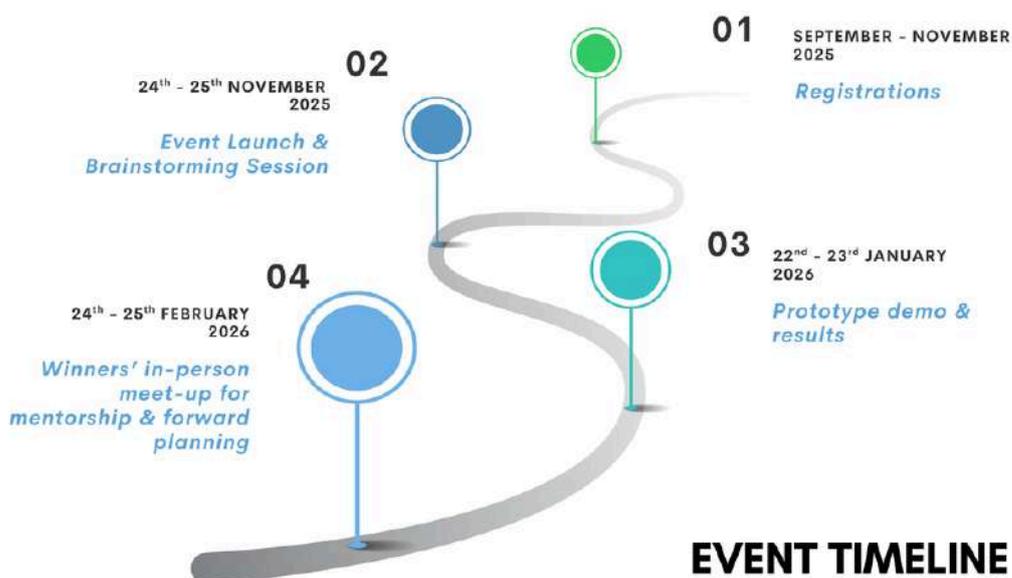
- **NF1 Support Group** formally launched with a growing community hosted via WhatsApp (**56** active members).
- Publication of the **first NF1 patient testimonial video** on YouTube – amplifying lived experience and public awareness.
- Link: <https://youtu.be/e69BsuFjkWM>
- Three additional patient testimonies recorded and currently under editing.
- Organized **4 Patient Experience Sessions** and **2 Capacity-Building Sessions** for NF1 patients & caregivers.
- Conducted the **first NF1 Working Group Meeting**, initiating the formation of a clinical Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) for diagnosis, referral, and case management.
- Established **two NF1 referral desks**.
- Running an **active NF1 Helpline Desk**, a **Facebook support group**, and **Instagram page** (NF1 Warriors) for continuous patient support.
- Identified and mentored **2–3 NF1 patient advocates** – empowering them to participate in events and support the community.
- Supported **patient-led advocacy letters to government** requesting access and affordability reforms.

RARE IMPACT 2025

Rare Impact 2025 is a collaborative, *patient-inclusive virtual hackathon* focused on tackling the toughest challenges faced by people living with rare and genetic disorders.

Held under the Rare Reach Initiative of DakshamA Health in partnership with PAIR Academy, this event connected multi-stakeholders from *India, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Nepal* to co-create digital tools, platforms, and systems that drive change.

- 20+** Representatives from Patient Groups
- 10+** Clinical and Research Experts
- 5+** Policy & Subject Matter Experts as Mentors
- 8** Teams representing 7 countries



HOW THIS WILL IMPACT THE CURRENT RARE DISEASE LANDSCAPE IN INDIA

Rare Impact 2025 is more than a hackathon – it is a systems-building initiative. By bringing together patients, clinicians, researchers, innovators, and policy experts, the event aims to be a catalyst for long-term transformation across the rare disease landscape in India and the Asia-Pacific region.

Elevating Patient Voice in Innovation

- Ensures solutions are co-designed with patients, not for them.
- Incorporates lived experience into tool building, strengthening relevance and usability.
- Trains patient representatives to participate in tech development, advocacy, and evaluation.



Enabling Scalable, Low-Cost Public Health Solutions

- Teams are encouraged to build lightweight digital tools that can be adopted by hospitals, NGOs, patient groups, and primary-care settings.
- Focus on open-source, interoperable, or policy-aligned designs.

Creating a Pipeline for Innovation & Policy Integration

- Solutions include early symptom identification, referral pathways, clinical decision aids, etc.
- Mentors from clinical specialties guide teams on accuracy and applicability.
- Tackle geographic and socioeconomic barriers that currently limit access.



INTERNATIONAL PATIENT SUMMIT 2025

The 2nd International Patient Summit held on March 7–8, 2025 in New Delhi, served as a landmark platform for advancing the conversation on health, climate change, and patient-centered action in the Asia-Pacific region. Organized under the theme “*Health, Climate, Community: Uniting Stakeholders for Action*,” the summit brought together over 600 registrants, including more than 130 in-person participants from 33 countries. The diverse audience featured patient advocates, policymakers, public health professionals, academics, and industry leaders—each committed to shaping resilient and inclusive health systems in the face of growing environmental challenges.



33

Countries

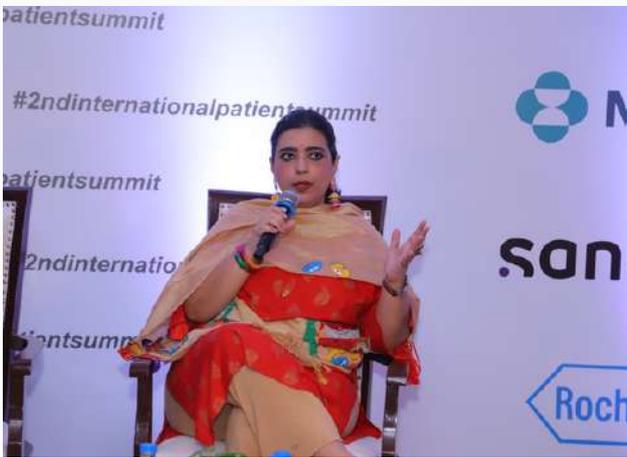


100+

Patient Advocates

Over the two days, the summit featured a series of high-level panel discussions addressing a range of pressing topics—from universal health coverage and chronic disease management to mental health, digital health equity, and climate-responsive infrastructure. Conversations underscored how community data, local leadership, and technological innovation are essential to both preparedness and accountability. The active participation of speakers from the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India**, and the **World Health Organization** further validated the summit’s relevance on the global health agenda.





PATIENT SAFETY WEBINAR SERIES

Hosted under the Patients for Patient Safety Network – India (PFPSN-India)



About PFPSN-India

Patients for Patient Safety Network – India (PFPSN-India) is a national patient-led platform working to advance safer, more transparent, and people-centred healthcare across the country.

The network brings together patients, caregivers, advocates, clinicians, public-health experts, and institutions committed to reducing preventable harm. DakshamA Health serves as the Secretariat for PFPSN-India and leads awareness activities, training, and system-wide advocacy on patient safety.

Purpose of the Webinar Series

The 2025 Patient Safety Webinar Series was launched to strengthen awareness, capacity, and public dialogue around critical patient-safety challenges in India.

Anchored to the WHO World Patient Safety Day 2025 theme – “Safe Care for Every Newborn and Every Child – Patient Safety from the Start” – the series focuses on ensuring safety across maternal, newborn, and child healthcare systems.

WEBINAR 1: Safe Birth and Neonatal Care: Strengthening Health Systems for Every Newborn

DATE: 13th June 2025

EXPLORE: [Click Here](#)

WEBINAR 2: Minimizing Risks in Medication, Nutrition, and Immunization: Strategies for Children and Adolescents

DATE: 30th July 2025

EXPLORE: [Click Here](#)

WEBINAR 3: Strengthening Public Health Systems: Policy, Partnership & Strategies

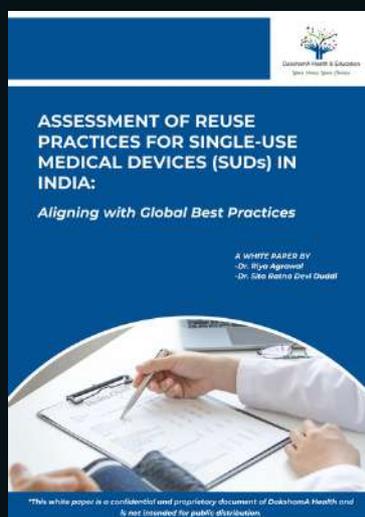
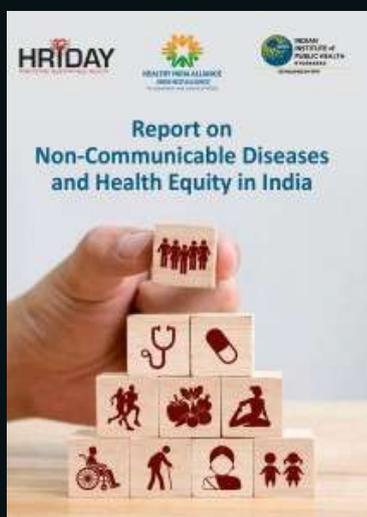
DATE: 19th Sept 2025

EXPLORE: [Click Here](#)

In addition to leading the Patient Safety Webinar Series under PFPSN-India, DakshamA Health was also invited to represent patient perspectives at the WHO Virtual Regional Workshop on Patient Safety: “Striving for Zero Avoidable Harm, Quality of Care, and Alignment with National Health Policy / IPC Strategy” held from 1–2 May 2025.

At this workshop, Dr. Ratna Devi delivered a session on “Patient Networks Driving Inclusion of Patient Voice into Patient Safety Programs”, highlighting how organised patient groups, including PFPSN-India, play a critical role in shaping safer healthcare systems. Her participation reinforced DakshamA’s commitment to embedding lived experience into national safety strategies and positioned the organisation as a regional leader in patient-centred safety advocacy.

OUR PUBLICATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS



CONTD.



Together, these publications not only contributed to the evidence base on patient-centred healthcare but also positioned DakshamA Health as a credible voice in national and global conversations. Our growing body of work opened doors for deeper collaboration and visibility, enabling us to represent Indian patient perspectives in key forums throughout 2025.

The following section highlights these engagements—events where our research, insights, and on-ground experience directly informed dialogue, strengthened partnerships, and reinforced our commitment to building a more inclusive and responsive health ecosystem.

By representing patient perspectives in high-level forums, policy dialogues, and multi-stakeholder conferences across India and abroad, we ensured that the insights emerging from our research directly informed real-world discussions.

These engagements not only amplified the voices of patients but also enabled us to build strategic partnerships, learn from global best practices, and bring those lessons back into our programmes.

DAKSHAMA REPRESENTATION & ENGAGEMENTS IN 2025

FEBRUARY

4th Global NCD Alliance Forum | *Rwanda*



MARCH

GLC4HSR Annual Conclave 2025 | *India*

Life Course Immunization: Pulse of a Resilient Health System | *India*

2nd International Patient Summit 2025 | *India*



MAY

National Dialogue on Happy ageing among PLHIV & Cervical Cancer among Women Living with HIV | *India*



JULY

PACER Workshop 5 | *India*

PHILIPS Future Health Index 2025 | *Virtual*

AUGUST

FICCI Rare Diseases Conference 2025

| *India*

ICMR National Co-Design Workshop |

India



SEPTEMBER

ICHOM Conference 2025 | *Ireland*



OCTOBER

5th edition Future of Health Asia | *Singapore*



NOVEMBER

22nd CII Health Summit 2025 | *India*

Rare Impact 2025 | *Virtual*

APARDO Conference 2025 | *Indonesia*

GHH Unite Summit 2025 | *Ireland*

IAPO 11th Global Patients Congress |
Philippine

OPPI Annual Summit | *India*

Inaugural GCM Participant Gathering |
Virtual

DECEMBER

ESMO Asia Congress 2025 | *Singapore*

One Day International Conference on
Navigating Cell Therapy in India | *India*



THANK YOU

Please reach out to us at:

✉ communications@dakshamahealth.org

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