MedGenome teams up with KCHRC to set up molecular genetics lab

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Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Center (KCHRC) and MedGenome announced the inauguration of the molecular genetics laboratory at KCHRC.

The inauguration was presided over by Dr. Purvish, Dr. Yogesh Mistry, Dr. Vikram Patel, Dr. Rajesh Katharia, Dr. Ramprasad and Dr. Arati Gupta-Khanna. The function was followed by a doctor's meeting which was organized under the flagship of the Indian Medical Association (IMA), Baroda chapter. More than 100 clinicians and geneticists attended the meeting.

Dr. Ramprasad, COO, MedGenome, highlighted the importance of Molecular Genetics in Medicine and how genetics can help clinicians in not only proper diagnosis of the disease but also managing the disease with the drugs of choice. He spoke about the utility of genetic screening, and how it can help in the management of genetic disorders.

As an outcome of this collaboration, KCHRC and MSA will be able to offer a gamut of MedGenome's genetic tests for a range of diseases in cardiology, endocrinology, hematology, neurology, nephrology, oncology, ophthalmology, and pediatrics.

An interactive session on the use of molecular diagnostics in clinical practice then ensued, wherein Dr Rakesh Shah (Neurologist), Dr V.C. Chauhan (Cardiologist) and Dr. Sheila Aiyer (Pediatrician) discussed the pivotal role that genomics could play in these respective fields of medicine.

Dr. Purvish Parikh, Director of Precision Oncology and Research at the Asian Institute of Oncology highlighted the use of liquid biopsy methods in improving the cancer patient outcome.

Dr. Arati Khanna-Gupta, VP- R&D, MedGenome (India), gave an overview of the genetic center, the research being carried out at KCHRC and various genetic tests that will be offered at the center. She briefly explained how the KCHRC-MedGenome centre would function, and the logistics of sample collection.

Next generation sequencing technology have been rapidly evolving and has resulted in drastically reducing the costs of genetic screening which was not affordable till recently in Indian scenario. With the latest advancements, focus is also on large scale genetic studies of an investigative nature, which have the potential to reveal the genetic causative factors of various rare and common diseases and act as guide for the implementation of precision medicine.