

## Info Cell

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# 'Medical Profession- Welfare not Warfare'

**T**he changing facet of medical profession, the overall impact that it has on the society and its complex relationship with the common man on the street were among a host of issues that were discussed at a seminar aptly titled "Medical Profession- Welfare not Warfare" which was held at JW Marriott, Juhu last Sunday.

Health experts, representatives of corporate companies and police officers came together to discuss the changing trends in the medical profession which in turn is creating a complex relationship between doctors and patients.

The conference was organized by Global foundation for Ethics and Spiritual Health (GFESH). Topics that were discussed included- Is Doctor God? Strengths and limitations of Medical Science, Communication skills for a doctor, Medical Practice- a solo act or a team game?, A common mans perspective of a doctor, The mobility in an eventuality, Law for doctors- protective or punitive and Professional relationships- competition or collaboration.

At the seminar, eminent industrialist, Hrishikesh Mafatlal, chairman of Arvind Mafatlal Group



said, "Every profession has its own set of challenges including professional, personal and institutional."

But we should not fear them and end up choosing the wrong path. Instead, we should believe in our ethics and moral values and continue to be truthful to our work. Medical field is transforming with the changing times but a doctor needs to bear in mind that he should not take the patient for granted and bring in quality, compassion and honesty in their services."

Participating medical experts felt that medical field is turning to be a business wherein a patient has become a client which is a huge cause of concern. Dr Ajay Sankhe, Director of Bhakti Vedanta hospital and Medical Research Institute in Mira Road said, "We are not against doctors making

money but there needs to be quality work in exchange of money. But if a doctor only focuses on making money, then he is walking on the wrong end. Also, it is extremely crucial that patients understand that doctors are not god and they do their best to save each and every patient's life but they need to show faith in the doctors and not doubt."

Dr Avinash Supe, dean of KEM hospital said, "We always tell our doctors that see yourself as god-like but not as god as you are not the one who decides who will survive or die. There are cases wherein we had no hope and still the patient walked back home with a smiling face and the one who was doing well the previous night was found dead the next morning with a heart-attack. Further, it is significant that doctors understand the art as well as sci-

ence of medicine wherein they need to have knowledge, values and skills to handle and treat a patient during crisis and difficult times. Only then, he will be a complete doctor."

GFESH is patronized by His Holiness Radhanath Swami, a spiritualist of international repute who stated that doctors need to be strongly attached to their vocation and com-



plete their responsibilities. "Doctors are the only hope for the ailing patients and it is their responsibility that they connect to their pain in order to give in their best treatment. They should not run after success but try to excel and reach out to people even in remote areas and provide aid. It is only then that they will be successful and find happiness in their work and life," he added.

It was also felt that a Doctor's occupation was becoming a kind of warfare too—as evident from the number of attacks on doctors which are increasing by the day.