

Chandigarh PGI to bust kidney disease spin doctors

TNN | Nov 18, 2021, 01.05 PM IST



CHANDIGARH: Tilt your bedside using bricks on the lower side of the bed and dialysis will end! Sit in a hot water tub, and kidney diseases can be cured! These are some of the tall and unscientific claims being spread around that PGI doctors are countering, as they see many patients landing up with delayed treatment.

One such recent case of quackery saw claims being made that patients from PGI were coming to them and they were treating them by changing body postures. Doctors are now planning to start a series of lectures online to bust such claims. The Indian Medical Association (IMA), Chandigarh has equally condemned

these therapies.

'BODY NOT A TWO-WHEELER'

Quacks spreading claims that kidney diseases can be solved by changing body postures. PGI nephrologists say they have been seeing many such patients coming to the hospital after their cases have been messed up



“The misinformation compares the body to a two-wheeler which stops when the flow of petrol is not there. So, one has to tilt against the gravity. People tend to believe such things easily and forget that our body is not a two-wheeler!

Dr Raja Ramachandran | DEPARTMENT OF NEPHROLOGY, PGI

Dr Virender Kappal, president, IMA, Chandigarh, said, “Our stand on the issue regarding 360-degree postural medicine is that it is an alternate system of medicine, whereas the IMA follows allopathy, which is scientific, analytical and researchbased.” He said, “The IMA does not endorse or recommend its use unless recognised bodies declare it on the basis of scientific and evidence based research and all such announcements should be endorsed by regulatory bodies.”

Nephrologists at PGI have been seeing many such patients coming to the hospital after their cases have been messed up by such practitioners. “This is an easy trap as it does not need many investigations and follow ups and is seemingly cost-effective. But if patients do not come for dialysis on time, they can die with complications,” said Dr Raja Ramachandran, department of nephrology, PGI. He said, “The misinformation compares the body to a

two-wheeler which stops when the flow of petrol is not there. So one has to tilt against the gravity. People tend to believe such things easily and forget that our body is not a two-wheeler!"

Doctors said in India there are 1.5 lakh per year new patients with renal failure who are put on dialysis every year. Also, dialysis costs Rs 35-40,00 every month to a patient. "A total of 80% of these waiting for dialysis die either because they cannot afford it or are misguided by quacks. Thus these patients fall victim to such quackery," said Prof Ashish Sharma, head of the renal transplant surgery department, PGI