

African woman with 'nerve-wracking' pain gets new lease of life in Pune hospital

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WHEN A 54-year-old woman from Malawi in East Africa could not find a solution to a complex nerve pain that led to severe recurrent pain on one side of her face compounded by a rare stabbing pain in her throat that was triggered whenever she swallowed, it was at a Pune hospital that she got some relief.

"This patient suffering with double neuralgia is a very rare and uncommon case and since four years was on high doses of brain numbing medications and antidepressants. In addition, there was another challenge added to this case which was an Arterio-Venous Malformation

(AVM) inside the brain (Cerebellum), (a tangle of blood vessels that connects arteries and veins in the brain)," Dr Jaydev Panchawagh, told media persons on Tuesday.

Trigeminal Neuralgia, also known as 'Suicide disease' is the disorder with the infamous tag of "the worst pain that could be experienced by man" and Glossopharyngeal Neuralgia is another such severe pain syndrome, says Dr Panchawagh. He added that AVMs are abnormal clusters of blood vessels that are tightly packed together in the affected area.

The procedure was done initially on May 2 and then May 6

where Dr. Panchawagh and Interventional Neurologist Dr. Anand Alurkar along with a team of medical experts devised a comprehensive plan to address both the debilitating pain and the underlying Cerebellar AVM located in close proximity to the affected nerves. In this multi-stage procedure, the team first performed Angiography-guided embolization to partially occlude the AVM. This technique involved the insertion of a thin catheter into the blood vessels supplying the AVM, followed by the injection of medical glue to occlude the vessels. Once the embolization was safely completed, the team proceeded with the removal of the AVM to eliminate the risk of continued bleeding.

In this case, the AVM was still receiving blood supply from multiple arteries within the cerebellum. "Hence, during the surgery, utmost care was taken to separate and preserve vital 'transiting vessels' that passed near the AVM. After an intense and intricate eight-hour surgery, the most crucial aspect remained—the separation of the blood vessels compressing the Trigeminal and Glossopharyngeal nerves, effectively treating the patient's double neuralgia," Dr Panchawagh said.

This complex neurosurgery marks a significant milestone in the MVD surgery centre at Pune, offering hope for patients facing similar complex cases involving AVMs and neuralgia.

BRS is neither Congress-A team nor BJP-B team, says KCR in Pandharpur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JUNE 27

STATING THAT Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) is a national party, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao said Tuesday that his party is neither Congress-A team nor BJP-B team.

KCR visited Pandharpur in Solapur district on Monday for a two-day pilgrimage accompanied by his cabinet colleagues, elected members and office bearers of the party. "Why are established political parties in Maharashtra both ruling and opposition so worried about our visit to Pandharpur. We have just started our political activities in Maharashtra, a few months ago. But I can sense all po-



Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao

litical parties are worried," he said. "The BRS is neither Congress-A nor BJP-B team... We are a party of and

for farmers. The BRS is in a mission to transform India through upliftment of 70 to 80 crore farmers across country," KCR added.

Claiming that BRS is a national party, he explained: "The BRS is not a political party which is restricted to states of Telangana or Maharashtra. We are working in several states."

The Western Maharashtra is the traditional bastion of Congress and NCP. However, since the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, both parties have suffered setbacks.

Out of the total 48 Lok Sabha seats in the state, Western Maharashtra has 11 seats. In 2019 Lok Sabha polls, BJP had won five seats, followed by Shiv Sena (undivided) three, NCP three and Congress zero.

The western Maharashtra region has 70 Assembly seats and in the 2019 polls NCP won 27 seats, BJP 20, Congress 12, Shiv Sena (undivided) five, and others six.

Ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, BRS is using the farmer plank to find a ground in Western Maharashtra.

The party has already opened its office in Nagpur and plans to set up offices at Sambhajinagar, Pune and Mumbai soon. During his address, Telangana CM said, "BRS was on mission to transform Bharat. The farmers should unite to make abki bar, kisan sarkar a reality. If farmers join hands they can form a government and bring pro-farmer reforms".

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