Indian Association of Palliative Care
WB West Bengal Chapter

SAROJ GUPTA CANCER CENTRE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Thakurpukur

WBIAPCON 2026
PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE ELDERLY


PAIN ASSESSMENT & TREATMENT



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE


ROLE PLAY



LIVING WILL



QUIZ

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Interactive Sessions
- Case Discussions
- Role Play & Simulations
- Expert Faculty
- Quiz & Feedback

REGISTER NOW!



FEE:

Physicians, Psychologist and Nurses:
Rs. 1000/-

Others
(Social Workers and GNM Students of Nursing):
Rs. 500/-

VENUE:
SGCC&RI Thakurpukur Auditorium

DATE & TIME:
21st NOVEMBER, 2026
9:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Indian Association of Palliative Care

WBCIAPC 2026

Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre & Research Institute

50 years of Service to Humanity

Dear Colleagues,

Following the proud tradition of the previous two editions held since the inception of the West Bengal Chapter of the Indian Association of Palliative Care (WBCIAPC) in 2023, we are pleased to announce that we will be holding the WBCIAPCON 2026 Pre-Conference Workshop at Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre & Research Institute (SGCC&RI), Thakurpukur, on Saturday, 21st November 2026.

You are cordially invited to attend this academic gathering focused on the theme of Geriatric Oncology and Palliative Care. As our population ages, the intersection of cancer care and geriatrics demands specialized clinical knowledge, seamless multidisciplinary teamwork, and deep compassion. Designed to foster education, hands-on training, and widespread awareness, this workshop brings together leading experts and healthcare professionals to explore holistic support systems for elderly patients.

We are especially honoured to feature a special international segment by Prof. David Oliviere, Former Director of Education and Training at St Christopher's Hospice, UK, who will deliver a dedicated message alongside a special archival video interview featuring Dame Cicely Saunders, Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement & Palliative Medicine.

Our institute reflects the enduring vision of its founder, Dr Saroj Gupta, who dedicated his life to creating a comprehensive cancer hospital accessible to the economically disadvantaged. Committed to cancer prevention, treatment, education, and research—and celebrating over 53 years of service to humanity—SGCC&RI regularly organises scientific meetings to promote knowledge exchange and clinical excellence. We warmly welcome your active participation to make this event a memorable success.

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTION

Prof. David Oliviere

Former Director of Education & Training, St Christopher's Hospice, London, UK

- Special Video Message: Exclusive address to the WBCIAPCON 2026 Pre-Conference Workshop delegates on holistic geriatric palliative care.
- Historical Archival Presentation: Special video screening of an exclusive interview with Dame Cicely Saunders, Founder of Palliative Medicine.

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ **Expert Scientific Lectures:** Focused sessions on AI-enabled geriatric surgical, systemic & home palliative care, systemic anticancer therapy in the elderly, pain assessment in special populations, rational prescribing, and geriatric rehabilitation.
- ✓ **International Legacy Screening:** Special video message from Prof. David Oliviere (Ex-Director, St Christopher's Hospice, UK) and a rare interview screening of Dame Cicely Saunders.
- ✓ **Interactive Role Play:** Practical, multidisciplinary simulation on 'Breaking Bad News,' emphasizing empathetic communication, teamwork, and family support.
- ✓ **Legal & Holistic Care Insights:** Dedicated sessions on current Indian guidelines for 'Living Wills' and the role of spirituality in elderly care.
- ✓ **Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion:** Open forum addressing real-world challenges and controversies in geriatric palliative oncology.
- ✓ **Medi-Quiz & Attractive Prizes:** Competitive, engaging clinical quiz with attractive prizes for top scorers and participation certificates for all delegates.

Dr. Saroj Gupta & The Legacy of SGCC&RI: Over Five Decades of "Care with a Smile"



The story of the Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre & Research Institute (SGCC&RI) is inseparable from the extraordinary compassion and determination of its founder, **Padma Shri Dr. Saroj Gupta** (1929–2010). Working as a young radiotherapist in Kolkata during the 1960s and early 1970s, Dr. Gupta was deeply moved by the plight of impoverished cancer patients travelling from remote rural villages only to be turned away from overcrowded city hospitals due to an acute shortage of beds. Determined to build a sanctuary where underprivileged patients would never be denied dignity or timely medical care, he resolved to create a dedicated, holistic cancer institution.

In 1973, with a handful of like-minded physicians, social workers, and philanthropists—and aided by a generous donation of marshy land in Thakurpukur from the family of Late Chintaharan Das—Dr. Gupta laid the foundation of what began as a modest 25-bed *Cancer Centre Welfare Home*. To raise initial funds, Dr. Gupta even penned and acted in a poignant stage play, *Karkat Lagna*, portraying a destitute cancer patient struggling for shelter. His selfless dedication sparked a grassroots movement, drawing support from schoolchildren, ordinary citizens, and national leaders alike.

Dr. Gupta was ahead of his time in recognizing that healing cancer requires nurturing the mind alongside treating the body. Rather than building a sterile concrete hospital, he envisioned a serene, 16-acre green campus complete with gardens, water bodies, and peaceful spaces—a philosophy immortalized in his motto, **"Care with a Smile."** For his monumental service to oncology and society, he was honoured with the **Padma Shri** in 1987 and served as the **Sheriff of Kolkata** (1988–89).

Today, as SGCC&RI celebrates **53 years of dedicated service to humanity**, Dr. Gupta's seed of compassion has blossomed into a premier, 311-bed comprehensive tertiary cancer hospital and research centre serving Eastern India and neighbouring nations. Accredited by NABH and recognized internationally by the UICC and ESMO for integrated oncology and palliative care, SGCC&RI continues to uphold its founder's timeless mission: delivering world-class, compassionate cancer and palliative care to every individual, regardless of socio-economic status.

(Learn more at www.sgccri.org)

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF PALLIATIVE CARE, WB CHAPTER

Dr Rakesh Roy State Chapter President	**Dr Debashish Jatua** Honorary Secretary	**Dr Shrikant Atreya** Honorary Scientific Secretary

CHIEF PATRONS (SGCC&RI)

Mr Anjan Gupta Chief Patron & Secretary	**Mr Jayanta Chatterji** Chief Patron	**Dr Arnab Gupta** Co-Patron & Medical Director

ORGANISING CORE COMMITTEE

Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee Organising Chairman	**Dr Rakesh Roy** President, WBCIAPC & Organising Secretary	*Advisory Members*:	**Dr Sumanta Dasgupta (MA), Prof David Oliviere (UK), Prof Shyamal Sarkar, Dr Madhuchhanda Kar, Dr Debashis Jatua, Dr Debasish Debnath (UK), Dr Shrikant Atreya and Dr Abhijit Dam.**

LOCAL, NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FACULTY

Dr Abhijit Dam Hony. Medical Director **Kosish-the-Hospice, Bokaro**	**Dr Rakesh Roy** President, WBIAPC; In-Charge, Medical Oncology & Palliative Care **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**
Dr Abhijit Sarkar Sr. Consultant, Radiation Oncology & Deputy MA **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**	**Dr Rudranil Nandi** Sr. Consultant, Onco-Anaesthesia **TMC, Kolkata**
Dr Anurag Sarkar Consultant, Pain & Palliative Care **CNCI, Kolkata**	**Dr Shikhar More** Consultant, Onco-Anaesthesia **TMC, Kolkata**
Prof. David Oliviere Consultant Psycho-Social Palliative Care, Ex-Director of Edu. & Training **St Christopher's Hospice, UK**	**Dr Shrikant Atreya** Consultant, Palliative Medicine & Psycho-Oncology **TMC, Kolkata**
Dr Debasish Debnath Sr. Consultant, Oncoplastic & Reconstructive Breast Surgery **NHS (UK), Sabbatical at SGCC&RI**	**Prof. Shyamal Sarker** Ex-President, WBIAPC; Sr. Clinical Oncologist **Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Howrah**
Dr Gaurav Kumar Sr. Consultant, Palliative Care & Psycho-Oncology **TMC, Kolkata**	**Dr Sucheta Saha** Assoc. Director, Physio & Occupational Therapy; Sr. Consultant, Rehab. Med. **Institute of Neurosciences, Kolkata**
Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee HOD, Radiation Oncology & Palliative Care **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**	**Dr Sumanta Dasgupta** HOD, Onco-Anaesthesia & Critical Care; Medical Administrator **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**
Dr Manish De Consultant, Anaesthesia, Pain & Palliative Care **CMRI Hospital, Kolkata**	**Dr Sumantra Sarathi Banerjee** Sr. Consultant, Onco-Anaesthesia & Pain Medicine **TMC, Kolkata**
Dr Nihanthy Sreenath Consultant, Medical Oncologist **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**	**Dr Suparna Mitra Barman** Consultant, Onco-Anaesthesia & Pain Management **TMC, Kolkata**
Dr Pankaj Chowdhury Sr. Radiation Oncologist & Palliative Care Lead **Manipal Hospital, Siliguri**	**Dr Swagata Biswas** Sr. Consultant, Onco-Anaesthesia & Palliative Medicine **Peerless Hospital & Dr B.K. Roy Research Centre, Kolkata**
Dr Partha Pratim Gupta Sr. Consultant, Haemato-Oncology & Transplant **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**	**Ms Sangeeta Das** Role-Play Writer & Team Facilitator; Clinical Psychologist, MSW Pain & Palliative Care **SGCC&RI, Kolkata**

SIMULATIONS & SGCC&RI ROLE-PLAY, EVENT OPERATIONS & COORDINATION TEAM

Simulation Role-Players & Event Coordination Group: Dr Arunima Roy, Ms Fenella DeCruz, Sister Malati Sarkar, Dr Nigam Shankar Rana, Ms Parnasri Shit, Ms Pompa Bakshi, Dr Rakesh Roy, Dr Ranojit Ghosh, Ms Sabitri Das, Ms Sangeeta Das, Dr Sharique Firoz, Dr Somnath Sorcer, Dr Sonali Mukherjee Bhattacharjee, and Sister Sunandita Sahoo.

Abbreviations: *SGCC&RI = Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre & Research Institute; TMC = Tata Medical Center; CNCI = Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute; WBIAPC = West Bengal Chapter of Indian Association of Palliative Care.*

WBCIAPC 2026

Pre-Conference Workshop Programme

21 November 2026

Auditorium Hall, Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre and Research Institute (www.sgccri.org)

09:30	Registration		
10:00-10:30	**Welcoming address** **Mr Anjan Gupta**, Chief Patron & Hony. Secy, SGCC&RI **Dr Arnab Gupta**, Co-Patron & Medical Director, Professor of Surgical Oncology, SGCC&RI **Dr Goutam Bhattacharjee**, Organising Chairman and HOD, Radiation Oncology & Palliative Care **Dr Sumanta Dasgupta**, Medical Administrator and HOD, Onco-Anaesthesia & Critical Care		
10:30-10:35	Introduction: Geriatric Palliative Care Facility at SGCC&RI	Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee	
Morning Session		**Chairpersons/ Moderators**	**Speaker(s)/ Faculty**
10:35-10:55	Smart Compassion in Geriatric Oncology: AI-Enabled Surgical, Systemic & Home Palliative Care	Dr Abhijit Sarkar Dr Nihanthy Sreenath	Dr Debasish Debnath
10:55-11:15	Systemic anticancer therapy in elderly as Palliative Care	Dr Partha Pratim Gupta Dr Sumanta Dasgupta	Dr Rakesh Roy
11:15-11:35	Living Will: Current Guidelines in India	Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee Dr Rakesh Roy	Dr Abhijit Sarkar
11:35-11:55	Assessment of pain in Geriatric-general and Special population	Dr Manish De	Dr Sumantra Sarathi Banerjee
11:55-12:15	Role Play: Breaking Bad News	Simulations and SGCC&RI Role-Play Team	
12:15-12:45	Spirituality in Elderly Population	Prof Shyamal Sarkar	Dr Abhijit Dam
12:45-13:00	Video: A special interview with Dame Cicely Saunders, Founder of Palliative Medicine	Dr Rakesh Roy	Prof David Oliviere
Lunch Break			
Afternoon Session		**Chairpersons/ Moderators**	**Speaker(s)/ Faculty**
14:00-14:20	Rehabilitation in Geriatric care	Dr Abhijit Dam	Dr Sucheta Saha
14:20-14:40	Rational Prescribing in Elderly Patients with advanced cancer	Dr Shrikant Atreya	Dr Gaurav Kumar
14:40-15:25	Panel Discussion: Challenges & Controversies in Palliative Care	Chairperson: Dr Pankaj Chowdhury Moderator: Dr Sumanta Dasgupta	Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee Dr Shrikant Atreya Dr Shikhar More Dr Rudranil Nandi Dr Suparna Mitra Barman Dr Swagata Biswas
15:25-16:25	Medi-Quiz	Dr Anurag Sarkar and Dr Sumantra Sarathi Banerjee	
Coffee Break			
Closing Session			
16:40-16:50	Prize Distribution	Mr Anjan Gupta (Honorary Secretary), Dr Arnab Gupta (Medical Director), Dr Gautam Bhattacharjee, Dr Rakesh Roy, Dr Debasish Debnath	
16:50-17:00	Vote of Thanks, Certificate Distribution and Closing Remarks	Organising Committee	

***Secretariat*: Dr Rakesh Roy (9831161172); *Coordinator*: Ms Sangeeta Das (9836901579)**




PATIENT SAFETY & QUALITY OF CARE
NABH






IN MEMORY OF MAHAVIR PRASAD JALAN

