



INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Department of Health Research – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

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(ICMR IN NEWS)

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ICMR-AIIMS launch world-class IndiCleft Tool to detect cleft children; 35000 new cases every year in India

February 14, 2019/United News of India

ICMR launches web-based tool for data recording of patients suffering from cleft lip

February 14, 2019/Outlook India

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February 14, 2019/Drug Today

AIIMS, ICMR launch tool to record cleft lip patients' data

February 14, 2019/The Quint

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AIIMS, ICMR develop INDICLEFT- Desi tool to track and treat cleft lip and palate

February 14, 2019/Speciality Medical Dialogue

Web-based tool to help build data on cleft-lip patients

February 15, 2019/The Hans India

ICMR launches web-based tool to help treat cleft

February 16, 2019/The Sunday Guardian Live

ICMR launches portal to detect cleft patients

February 16, 2019/The Hindu

ICMR-AIIMS launch world-class IndiCleft Tool to detect cleft children; 35000 new cases every year in India

February 14, 2019/United News of India

New Delhi, Feb 14 (UNI) The **Indian Council of Medical Research** and the Centre for Dental Education and Research of the All-India Institute of Medical Research on Thursday launched IndiCleft, the first web and android-based tool of its kind in the world, to detect lip and cleft patients for treating them as early as possible. It is estimated that about 35,000 children are born every year in India with cleft lip and palate. Lip and Cleft is a deficiency from birth in the normal formation of the mouth, with a split in the upper lip or palate (or both) that affects the looks, hearing, speech, nutrition and the psychology of the patient, with long-term implication on the quality of life of the individual and the family.

ICMR launches web-based tool for data recording of patients suffering from cleft lip

February 14, 2019/Outlook India

New Delhi, Feb 14 The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, in collaboration with the AIIMS Thursday launched "IndiCleft", a web-based tool which will help in online and offline data recording of patients suffering from cleft lip or cleft palate. Cleft lip or cleft palate is a condition when the two sides of the lip, developing in an unborn baby, do not completely fuse together. It affects weight, speech and chewing habit of a child and leads to abnormal arrangement of teeth, poor jaw relations and facial aesthetic. This constitute nearly one-third of all congenital malformations of the craniofacial region with an average worldwide incidence of 1 in 700. Its incidence among the Asian population is reported to be around 1.7 per 1,000 live births or higher. The robust web-based recording system, which has been developed with the help of the National Informatics Centre (NIC), enhanced with more server space and improved capabilities at ICMR Headquarters, was launched by ICMR Director General Dr Balram Bhargava.

Even though a national epidemiological data is not available in India, many studies from different parts of the country have reported a variation in the incidence of cleft anomaly. Based on estimates, it is suggested that approximately 35,000 new-born cleft patients are added every year to the Indian population.

IndiCleft is a comprehensive aid for cleft patients covering important components broadly grouped under 10 headings -- demographic, socioeconomic, maternal history, surgical history, dental history, surgical and post-surgical evaluation, ENT evaluation, speech assessment, genetic evaluation and lastly, dental evaluation, Dr O P Kharbanda, the chief of Centre for Dental Education and Research (CDER) at the AIIMS said.

[ICMR launches web-based tool for data recording of patients suffering from cleft lip](#)



February 14, 2019/Business Standard

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Even though a national epidemiological data is not available in India, many studies from different parts of the country have reported a variation in the incidence of cleft anomaly. During the study, data of 164 cases with cleft lip and palate anomaly were recorded from three high-volume cleft care centres in Delhi and NCR, involving two public-funded hospitals, the AIIMS and Safdarjung hospital, and a private hospital, Medanta-The Medicity, in Gurgaon.

[ICMR launches Indicleft tool to treat Cleft Lip & Palate](#)

February 14, 2019/Drug Today

*NEW DELHI: Scientists from the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** have developed a new tool that tracks and treats cleft lip and palate patients and identifies babies who are prone to the condition so that treatment can begin early.*

Approximately 35,000 cleft lip babies are born every year in India. Over the years, many of these children receive no or sub-optimal care. Thus the total cumulative burden of this disease is huge.

The tool, called Indicleft, is a web comprehensive aid for cleft patients covering important components broadly grouped under ten headings-demographic, socioeconomic, maternal, surgical and dental history, ENT evaluation, speech assessment, genetic evaluation and dental evaluation.

Launching the Indicleft tool and its study, Prof Balram Bhargava, Director General ICMR, said, "A total of 164 cases with cleft lip and palate anomaly were recorded from three hospitals involved in the project including All India Institute of Medical Sciences (55), Safdarjung Hospital (54) and Medanta- The Medicity (55).

He said, "Among the subjects that came to these hospitals, the doctors noted that there was wide variation in age at the primary lip and palatal surgery. Further, it was noted that surgery was required in more than 1/3rd of the patients."

Prof OP Kharbanda, Head-Dental Education and Research AIIMS- Delhi said, "The result of the study indicated that in the sample of cleft patients an assessed in the project, the treatment needs were high." He pointed out that there seemed an urgent need to devise strategies to improve the delivery of quality care with joint efforts of all experts and health care providers. The Indicleft study was initiated

under the aegis of ICMR New Delhi in 2010 and was advanced and successfully completed in the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Deformities and ENT, AIIMS, New Delhi, in 2010.



[AIIMS, ICMR launch tool to record cleft lip patients' data](#)

February 14, 2019/Social News

New Delhi, Feb 14 (IANS) 'IndiCleft,' a web-based tool that helps record data of patients suffering from cleft lip or cleft palate, both online and offline, was launched by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** here on Thursday.

The tool, launched in collaboration with the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), is a robust web-based recording system developed with help of the National Informatics Centre (NIC) with enhanced server space and improved capabilities.

"IndiCleft is a comprehensive aid for cleft patients covering important components broadly grouped under 10 headings -- demographic, socioeconomic, maternal history, surgical history, dental history, surgical and post-surgical evaluation, ENT evaluation, speech assessment, genetic evaluation and lastly, dental evaluation," said O.P. Kharbanda, chief of the Centre for Dental Education and Research (CDER), AIIMS.

Cleft lip or cleft palate is a condition when the two sides of the lip do not fuse together in unborn baby. It affects weight, speech and chewing habit of a child and leads to abnormal arrangement of teeth, poor jaw relations and facial aesthetic. It constitutes nearly one-third of all congenital malformations of the craniofacial region with an average worldwide incidence of 1 in 700. Its incidence among the Asian population is reported to be around 1.7 per 1,000 live births or higher. In India, it is estimated that approximately 35,000 children are born with cleft lip every year.

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AIIMS, ICMR develop INDICLEFT- Desi tool to track and treat cleft lip and palate

February 14, 2019/Speciality Medical Dialogue

New Delhi- In a view to ascertaining the status of cleft lip and palate patients in India, the top researchers of the country have gathered to develop a new tool to track these patients and give a push to their treatment

Indicleft is a new tool to monitor clinical profile and the treatment status of cleft lip and palate subjects in India. The new tool has been developed by various research institutes including AIIMS and ICMR under the Indicleft Taskforce project.

The hospital-based pre-pilot study was initiated under the aegis of **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, New Delhi in 2010. The study was advanced and successfully completed in the Department of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Deformities and ENT, AIIMS, New Delhi (2010-12).

The key objectives of the project include:

- a. Identify patterns of the congenital birth defects of the face, cleft lip and palate in India.
- b. Establish the baseline data of a spectrum of problems of cleft patients, discuss the protocols of treatment given to these children and their actual treatment needs.
- c. Ascertain the risk factors associated with congenital defects of the face: nutritional, environmental and genetic.

A total of 164 cases with cleft lip and palate anomaly were recorded from three hospitals involved in the project (55 from AIIMS, 54 from Safdarjung, 55 from Medanta- The MEDICITY). These researchers found significant insights into the structure and spread of the congenital defects in the country. Among the subjects that came to these hospitals, the doctors noted that there was a wide variation in age at the primary lip (range 2 to 180 months) and palatal surgery (3 to 228 months). Further, it was noted that surgery was required in more than 1/3 rd of the patients

Some other results of the study included

- A significant percentage of cases required lip and nose revision surgeries (36% and 35% respectively).
- Fifty-five percent of cases had a post-surgical oronasal fistula.
- A large proportion (77.5%) of the operated UCLP cases had complex orthodontic treatment needs.
- A high proportion of patients had hearing defects (44.7%) and many of these also had concomitant tympanic membrane afflictions also (nearly 40 % cases), in one or both the ears.
- Around fifty percent (49.7%) cases had clinically relevant speech intelligibility problems.

[Web-based tool to help build data on cleft-lip patients](#)

February 15, 2019/The Hans India



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Based on estimates, it is suggested that approximately 35,000 new-born cleft patients are added every year to the Indian population. Currently, the multi-centric phase of the study is underway in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Guwahati.

“In our study, we also evaluated a few risk factors including maternal smoking and alcohol consumption, intake of drugs during the first trimester of pregnancy and exposure to smoke during the same time using chulha at home or due to passive smoking. We also took into account the history in drug intake and radiation exposure in the first trimester of pregnancy and it was concluded that all these risk factors may be related to increased incidence of cleft in the progeny,” Sr Kharbanda said. The government’s Rashtriya Bal SwasthyaKaryakram has identified cleft lip and palate as one of the visible deformities which are recorded under the programme.

[ICMR launches web-based tool to help treat cleft](#)

February 16, 2019/The Sunday Guardian Live

NEW DELHI: **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, along with All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), launched “IndiCleft”, a web-based tool that will identify risk factors and help in online and offline data recording of patients suffering from cleft lip or cleft palate. Cleft of the lip or the palate is the split or an opening in the lip or the roof of the mouth and is a common birth condition. It can occur alone or as part of a genetic condition or syndrome. Patient suffering from cleft palate has difficulty speaking and feeding. IndiCleft is a robust, first web and android-based tool and has been developed with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC). “There are two elements here, the first element that you are looking at here is the patient information and the second element is module for collecting patient’s data,” ICMR Director-General Dr Balram Bhargava said during the launch on Thursday. Explaining the working of the tool, experts said that the whole page is designed specifically to capture information for two categories of users – one is for the patients and parents seeking information, and the other is for the professionals “who are willing to get associated with us.” About 35,000 cleft babies are born every year in India. Speaking on the subject, Dr Bhargava said, “In this era of technological dominance, we should be slightly careful and I think we should start small projects like this.” The Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram has identified cleft

lip and palate as one of the visible deformities which are recorded under the government programme. Speaking about the programme, Deputy Health and Family Commissioner Dr Ajay Khera said, “This tool is also going to identify the risk factors because prevention is better than cure. If we have complete information about 35,000-40,000 cases and if we try to collect their demographic profile and various risk factors one can make out whether the reasons are genetic in nature or whether other factors could be the culprit.” The multi-centric phase of the study is currently underway in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Guwahati.

ICMR launches portal to detect cleft patients

February 16, 2019/The Hindu

A national web-based portal on cleft education and researchers platform was launched at the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. The Indicleft tool is the first-of-its-kind portal that provides facility to researchers’ data and findings to upload cleft anomaly from any site. “The tool includes all aspects of the cleft anomaly from the time of conception, birth and till adulthood. The tool was developed under the aegis of a task force multi-speciality project funded by the ICMR in collaboration with the Centre for Dental Education and Research, AIIMS, New Delhi. The project is the brainchild of Professor O.P. Kharbanda and was conceived in 2007. The pre-pilot phase started in 2010,” noted an ICMR release. The project is on multicentre mode. The overall goal of the project is to establish strategies for prevention and treatment of this deformity. As a part of the study, a comprehensive “IndiCleft tool” has been developed in collaboration with National Informatics Centre (NIC), which has been employed across different participating centres in the country. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for recording extra and intra oral photographs, radiographs, dental study model and investigations on hearing and speech defect have been developed in the IndiCleft tool. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Balram Bhargava, Director General, ICMR said: “There are obvious advantages of the tool like GIS data recording where the data from all over the country can be co-related with the demographic details of the area for the determination of risk factors, features of patient follow-up, real time data analysis. Overemphasis of the quality of the data collection under a promising project like IndiCleft was also highlighted.”

With regards,

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