DMC/DC/F.14/Comp.2757/2/2020/ 09th October, 2020

**O R D E R**

The Delhi Medical Council through its Executive Committee examined a complaint of Shri Surinder Lamba r/o 79A New Lahore Colony, Shastri Nagar, New Delhi-110031, alleging medical negligence on the part of doctors of Life Line Hospital in the treatment of complainant’s brother Shri Vinod Lamba, resulting in his death on 26.03.2019.

The Order of the Executive Committee dated 25th September, 2020 is reproduced herein below:-

The Executive Committee of the Delhi Medical Council examined a complaint of Shri Surinder Lamba r/o 79A New Lahore Colony, Shastri Nagar, New Delhi-110031(referred hereinafter as the complainant), alleging medical negligence on the part of doctors of Life Line Hospital (referred hereinafter as the said Hospital) in the treatment of complainant’s brother Shri Vinod Lamba, resulting in his death on 26.03.2019.

The Executive Committee perused the complaint, written statement Medical Superintendent of Life Line Hospital and other documents on record.

It is noted that as per the complaint the patient Shri. Vinod Lamba was taking treatment from Lifeline Hospital. On 26th March, 2019, 8:35am, the patient was rushed to Lifeline Hospital for breathing difficulty. On the way to hospital, he got unconscious. Patient reported at the Hospital between 8:42-8:45am. On examination, oxygen saturation was 40% (as told by doctor). In the first precious 10 minutes, only CPR was given without any ET tube insertion (as per medical emergency protocols) and any documentation. No ECG done, no medical treatment was given, BLS and ACLS not started. After first precious 10 minutes of reporting, it was told to take the patient to nearby Makkar Hospital (Priydarshini Vihar) as Lifeline Hospital had no ventilator facility at that time. No doctor, no bag mask ventilation/no oxygen accompanied with such critical patient. Makkar Hospital is at a distance of a few meters from Lifeline Hospital. When the attendant asked for stretcher for shifting, they refused for stretcher, and told to shift the patient on their own, that again led to wastage of time. Doctors in the Makkar Hospital were also shocked that the patient was referred without any doctor and without oxygen/ET tube insertion. In the Makkar Hosptial, despite all their efforts, the patient died at 09:15am. This all shows, the medical negligence on the part of Lifeline Hospital. If proper protocols and medical procedures have been followed the patient could have been saved.

The Medical Superintendent of Lifeline Hospital, in its written statement averred that the patient Shri. Vinod Lamba a follow up case of lymphoma, was brought to Lifeline Hospital emergency on 26.03.2019 at 08:45am in unconscious state. He was immediately, without any delay, examined by duty doctor and nursing staff, on examination his BP was not recordable, Pulse was not Palpable and there was no spontaneous respiration. Immediate CPR was started along with AMBU bag ventilation and administered medications as per guideline, 5 cycles of CPR were given with chest compression@>100/min. But patients BP remained not recordable, pulse was not palpable and pupils remained bilateral fixed and dilated. When the accompanying attendants were told about the condition of the patient, the attendants started crying and became aggressive. They refused for further CPR and insisted on taking the patient to another hospital. The accompanying person of the patient forcefully shifted the patient to their vehicle and took him from the hospital.

The Executive Committee at the outset notes that there are no medical records of Life Line Hospital, pertaining to the treatment administered to the patient, however, as per the complaint and written statement of Medical Superintendent, Life Line Hospital, the patient who was a diagnosed case of hodgkin’s lymphoma, having undergone multiple cycles of chemotherapy for the same, reported to the said Hospital around 8:45 am on 26th March, 2019 in an unconscious state. The patient was examined by duty doctor, oxygen saturation was also taken as per the complaint itself (less than 40%) and CPR was initiated. Thereafter the patient was taken to Makkar Hospital where as per the death certificate he was brought in casualty, B.P. less, no respiration, pupil dilated and fixed. He was intubated and CPR done and patient declared dead at 09:15 am on 26th March, 2019.

It is observed that sequence of events leading to the death of patient, show that in the limited time span, the patient was at Lifeline Hospital, reasonably adequate treatment was initiated. The allegation in the complaint that Lifeline Hospital ask the patient to be taken to Makkar Hospital which is at a distance of few meters could not be reconciled with the assertion of the Medical Superintendent of Life Line Hospital that the patient was forcibly taken to Makkar Hospital by the attendants of the patient.

In light of the observations made herein-above, it is, therefore, the decision of the Executive Committee that prima-facie no case of medical negligence is made out on the part of doctors of Life Line Hospital in the treatment of complainant’s brother Shri Vinod Lamba.

Complaint stand disposed.

Sd/: Sd/: Sd/:

(Dr. Arun Kumar Gupta) (Dr. Vinay Aggarwal) (Dr. Ajay Gambhir)

Chairman, Member, Member,

Executive Committee Executive Committee Executive Committee

Sd/: Sd/:

(Dr. Satendra Singh) (Dr. Anupam Prakash)

Member, Expert Member

Executive Committee Executive Committee

The Order of the Executive Committee dated 25th September, 2020 was confirmed by the Delhi Medical Council in its meeting held on 08th October, 2020.

By the Order & in the name of Delhi Medical Council

(Dr. Girish Tyagi)

Secretary

Copy to:-

1. Shri Surinder Lamba r/o 79A New Lahore Colony, Shastri Nagar, New Delhi-110031.
2. Medical Superintendent, Life Line Hospital, A-13, Priya Darshini Vihar, Lakshmi Nagar, Near Sai Baba Mandir, New Delhi-110092.

(Dr. Girish Tyagi)

Secretary