

Goa to host Regional Council Meeting, Western Region of Hemophilia Federation(India)  
on June 3-4

Panaji, June 1, 2023

The Hemophilia Federation (India) (HFI) will hold its Regional Council Meeting for the West Region at the International Center Goa on 3rd and 4th June 2023.

Goa Minister for Social Welfare Subhash PhalDessai and Goa State Disability Commissioner Guruprasad Pawaskar will inaugurate the meet at 2 pm on Saturday, June 3.

HFI, affiliated with the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH), has been actively working for the well-being of hemophilia patients in India for the past 40 years.

With its inception beginning with three chapters, HFI has grown to encompass 93 chapters across the country. Currently, there are approximately 28,000 individuals identified with hemophilia in India, and the cost of their treatment remains high.

The West Zone, consisting of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Goa, has 22 societies dedicated to providing free treatment and improving the social lives of hemophilia patients.

Hemophilia is a hereditary blood disorder characterized by deficiencies in clotting factors VIII and IX. Anti-hemophilic factors are used for treatment, but their availability is limited in many parts of India, causing difficulties for patients. Delayed treatment and a higher incidence of pain are common due to on-demand treatment only after bleeding occurs.

Preventive treatment, known as prophylaxis treatment, is considered the best approach according to World Hemophilia Guidelines. This treatment requires regular factor infusions to prevent internal bleeding. Advanced treatments, such as extended half-life factors and non-factor injections like Emicizumab, have transformed the lives of patients, enabling them to lead more normal lives.

To prevent hemophilic births and alleviate the financial burden, pre-natal diagnosis and carrier detection tests are crucial.

The Hemophilia Society Panjim Chapter, an influential NGO in the West Region of HFI, addresses various issues related to hemophilia and strives for the well-being of patients.

Treatment for hemophilia patients in Goa is primarily provided by the Goa Medical College & Hospital (GMC).

Issues of medical treatment, education, empowerment & advocacy in States and Centre, including demand to extend Reservation in government jobs and promotions to persons with Hemophilia will be deliberated, among others in the two day meet. (eom)

**DI/NB/AXP/SG/2023/636**

-----  
Issued by the Department of Information & Publicity

Department of Information & Publicity,

Government of Goa,

Udyog Bhavan, Third Floor,  
Near Azad Maidan,

Panaji – Goa.