As the Cancer Cure Fund (CCF) Project of the Indian Cancer Society (ICS) completes its 5th year of operation in October 2016, we would like to share some of the highlights of the project with you.

**Background:**

The aim of the project is to provide financial assistance for treatment of needy and low income patients diagnosed for any curable cancer with a reasonable survivor risk.

Thank you all the investors of the HDFC Debt Fund and our other corporate donors who choose to be a part of this journey.

The project was launched in October 2011. Uptil September 2016;
- We have received a total donation of Rs 52.79 crore, of which Rs 34.98 crore came from investors in the HDFC Cancer Cure Fund, Rs 17.5 crore from HDFC AMC as CSR and Rs 31 lac from other donors
- We have sanctioned Rs 69.98 crore to 2742 patients from 28 states of India
- We have disbursed Rs 46.95 crore to patients
- We have empanelled and are working with 15 empanelled hospitals from 12 States

ICS has put in place a very transparent and robust due diligence process for providing financial assistance under the project.
- Detailed criteria have been laid down for empanelment of hospitals and for deciding eligibility of patients to receive assistance
- The applications screened and sent by the empanelled hospitals are evaluated medically by the ICS Due Diligence Team comprising leading oncologists who meet once a week
- Final sanction is given by ICS Governing Advisory Council comprising leading finance, corporate and medical professionals at meetings held twice a month

Members of the Governing Advisory Council (GAC):
- Mrs. Usha Thorat (Chairperson)
- Dr. Anita Borges
- Mr. Hari Mundra
- Mr. Homi Khurshrokhani
- Mr. Keki Dadiseth
- Mr. M. K. Sharma
- Mr. Milind Barve
- Mr. Naveen Kshatriya
- Dr. Rajendra Badwe
- Mr. Uday Khanna
- Mrs. Smita Aggarwal (Member Secretary)

Members of the Due Diligence Team (DDT):
- Dr. Tushar Vora (Chairman)
- Dr. Amit Joshi
- Dr. Anant Gokarn
- Dr. Ashish Gulia
- Dr. Brijesh Arora
- Dr. Hasmukh Jain
- Dr. Nehal Khanha
- Dr. Purna Kurkure
- Dr. Seema Gulia
- Dr. S. Banavali
- Mrs. Gouri Raverkar (Member Secretary)

**What does the assistance cover?**

The financial assistance provided under the project covers the holistic treatment cost. This includes:

- Surgery
- Radiation Therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Supportive Care
- Rehabilitation including Prosthesis
- Investigation
Demographics of the CCF Project Beneficiaries:

- **Age wise classification**
  - 0-18 years: 35%
  - 18-30 years: 42%
  - Above 30 years: 23%

- **Gender wise classification**
  - Males: 40%
  - Females: 60%

- **Diagnosis wise classification**
  - *Hematolymphoid*: 36%
  - **Solid Tumors**: 64%

*Hematolymphoid*: Tumors that affect bone marrow, lymph and lymphatic system.

**Solid Tumors**: A tumor that does not contain any liquid or cysts. They can occur in several places like bones, muscles or any organs.

Tushar More, 14 yrs was diagnosed with Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Completed treatment from TMH, Mumbai. Currently studying in 11th Std and is good in playing cricket. Happy to pose with his father!

Laddu Kumawat, 6yrs from Ujjain was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Completed treatment from Kailash Cancer Hospital, Goraj, Gujarat. Rejoined school after treatment and is now in his 3rd Std. An Apple of his parent's eyes!

Pushpadevi, 27 yrs from UP was diagnosed with Breast cancer. Extremely happy to be back with her husband post completion of treatment in Patel Hospital, Jalandhar. Love has no boundaries!

Unique Feature of the Project:
As the DDT meets each weekend and the GAC meets twice a month, the turn around time between registration of a patient in the hospital and the disbursement of funds is very short thereby ensuring that treatment is not delayed. The maximum amount sanctioned per patient at Rs 4 lakh invariably covers the entire cost of treatment in most cases and this helps the patient and the hospital start the treatment early.

Outcomes of the Support:
CCF team closes the loop of disbursements of money to the patients through the hospitals. This process is then followed by regular follow up so that the beneficiaries complete their treatment and return to productive life. Following is the status of the patients supported:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment Completed</td>
<td>1693 (62%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Treatment</td>
<td>623 (23%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expired</td>
<td>345 (12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LFU</td>
<td>81 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2742</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prajakta Ghorpade
is a 20 year old college going girl from Satara, Maharashtra. She was preparing for her third year B.Sc. when she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, a kind of blood cancer. She was a brilliant student in her college. Her father is a farmer and his annual family income is not more than Rs. 19,000/.-

Initially she got some fever and mild weakness. She went to the local hospital but there was no relief. On going to a bigger hospital Prajakta was diagnosed with cancer in 2012. Prajakta was then advised to go to Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai in October 2012.

After initial investigations, she had to undergo chemotherapy. The total cost for chemotherapy worked out to Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Her family, being quite poor could not afford the cost of the treatment. Prajakta has lost all her hope as she did not want her family to get burdened by her illness. She decided not to start the treatment. But her father, determined to save his daughter’s life, decided to sell his land.

This situation did not go unnoticed. The TMH Social Service Department, in November 2012, suggested that she approach the ICS CCF. After undergoing the CCF procedures, she got sanction for the necessary amount of Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Her treatment started immediately after the sanction and her treatment was completed in May 2013.

Prajakta is highly inspired by the CCF work. She has decided to do work that would serve society. Therefore she has taken up a degree course on social work. She and her family are ever grateful for the valuable help rendered by ICS CCF.

Narshibhai Savjibhai Hadiyal, a 15 year old male from Kalyanpur, Gujarat was diagnosed with Osteogenic Sarcoma, a cancer that starts in the bone.

In January 2015, he started complaining about joint pain in his legs. He underwent treatment in Jamnagar but the relief was short lived. The pain in his leg came back.

This time, local doctors advised for CT scans. It was only after the scans that he was diagnosed with Osteogenic Sarcoma. He was asked to go to Gujarat Cancer and Research Centre (GCRI) at Ahmedabad. His father is a daily wage laborer with an annual income of about Rs. 15,000/-. His family was quite worried about the arrangement of funds for the treatment. However with the help of the Gujarat State Govt. Maa Yogana Scheme his treatment began in February, 2015.

The treatment plan included surgery and prostheses. The grant from the Gujarat State Government covered surgery but does not fund prostheses which cost Rs. 1.1 lacs. His family was very worried and did not know how to arrange the money for the prosthesis.

But with the help of a GCRI social worker and doctor, his case was referred to the ICS CCF in April 2015. ICS CCF sanctioned Rs. 1.1 lacs for the prosthesis and Narshibhai completed the treatment. Currently, he is on follow up at GCRI and also resumed his education. He is studying in the 10th standard and is very happy with his family.

His parents are grateful to the ICS CCF for the timely assistance and support.

Anju Mathew, 23 yrs, From Calicut, Kerala was suffering from Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. After completing treatment from Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum, she continued with her studies and has now completed her graduation and takes tuitions at home.