

Blood stem cell donor meets young recipient

DC CORRESPONDENT
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DATRI, a blood stem cell donors registry, has organised a special event, on Wednesday. Chaitanya, 32-year-old IT professional working in Hyderabad, saved the life of seven-year-old Yoka Sarvesh from Dindugal by donating his blood stem cells.

AP health minister Dr Kamineni Srinivas, Dr NTR University of Health Sciences registrar Dr. S. Appala Naidu, AP medical council chairman Y. Raja Rao and co-founder and CEO of DATRI Raghu Rajagopal, were present on the occasion.

Sarvesh was diagnosed with thalassemia major when he was just four months old and needed regular blood transfusion till he could find a life-saving blood stem cell donor.

Chaitanya registered with DATRI in 2012 during an awareness session conducted at Hyderabad in 2016. Within four years of registering, he received a call from the NGO informing him that he was a perfect match for a child with a serious blood disorder.

Strongly supported by his family, Chaitanya was happy to donate his blood stem cells to save a young life.

"I can say with pride that I experienced one of the biggest joys of my life in meeting Yoka who is leading a healthy life



Blood stem cells recipient Yoka Sarvesh is carried by donor Chaitanya at a programme organised by DATRI in Vijayawada on Wednesday. — DECCAN CHRONICLE

because of a small effort on my part," said Chaitanya.

As per the protocol, the identity of donors and recipients are kept anonymous for one year. Both the recipient and donor expressed their desire to meet each other. So, when the doctors declared that Sarvesh was completely cured, DATRI facilitated

the meeting between the two and their families.

Parents of Blessy, a four-year-old kid from Pidugurala, and Kartik, an eight-year-old boy from Tenali have made an appeal, requesting people to register as potential Blood Stem Cell Donors. These kids are also suffering from thalassemia and are waiting for donors.