

EDITORIAL

Dear Family of Passages, everywhere,

**“As you become comfortable with uncertainty,
infinite possibilities open up in your life.” - Eckhart Tolle**

Many months have passed and we continue to be wary of waves of the Corona virus and it's variants in our city and in different parts of the world. As we adapt to the “new normal,” several uncertainties have surfaced. Grappling with uncertainty is an inherent part of being human.

Every day, we are facing ambiguity of one sort or another, from not knowing whether jobs will be available, to the terrible feeling of a health scare hanging over our heads. We can argue its inevitability and its acceptance or take life as it happens, learning from its lessons.

Being alert and objective can take us down positive paths and lead to proactive actions.

The Passages' team continues its humble efforts to aid restore normalcy for our patients and the organizations we support. Our Medicine Bank and collection drives ensure the goal of benefitting the patients.

We are grateful for your continued trust and loyalty to the causes we support.

Keep smiling,

Kaya Shewakramani

CANCER HEALTH PROGRAMME

Medicine Bank: (A report by Rita Advani)

Dear friends and well-wishers,

It is time to say a few words about our Cancer Health Programme's Medicine Bank activities at Passages.

After the first Lockdown eased off, we resumed the distribution of our chemotherapy tablets for Breast Cancer patients through our Medicine Bank initiative. Some regular patients from Cama Hospital had started coming to the Passages' office at the Indian Cancer Society Medical Centre Building.

Snehal and Rehana, our able administrators, started distributing Tablets Letrozole and Tamoxifen once a month at a given date and time, in the lobby of our office building. All distributions are meticulously recorded in our Register.

Unfortunately the Covid-19 Pandemic reared its head once again in early 2021. In the months of March / April there was a second Lockdown-like situation with offices being shut once again.

Patients had to wait again for services to resume owing to the strictly enforced health protocol.

From May 2021 onwards, regulations were eased and activity started once again, albeit cautiously. We were able to extend our helping hand to patients, although fewer than before.

We hope to continue now without any further hitch.

Hopefully the festive season will not invite any more complications!

CANCER HEALTH PROGRAMME

Patient Appeals

Between April-Sept 2021, we had received (via email) Nine individual patient appeals seeking financial assistance for their on-going cancer treatments. All were extended financial aid by Passages (under our Illness to Wellness initiative) following scrutiny of their treatment bills.

DONATIONS

During the lockdown months, we, at Passages, made donations of Art and Craft supplies and food essentials to the children residing at:

- **The Bal Asha Trust, Mahalaxmi (25 children)**
- **St. Jude's Childcare, India, Sewri (26 children)**
- **The Byramji Jijibhoy Home for Children, Matunga E. (25 children)**

We acknowledge, with gratitude, the assistance extended by our donors.