

Seeking Treatment: Choosing between going abroad or availing local healthcare facilities

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It is not just the cost and trust issues that are hurting the local healthcare system. The rise of medical tourism has also played a role in this problem. Medical travel agencies have grown in Bangladesh, offering patients a fully-fledged service, from booking appointments with doctors to hotel rooms.

"Our services aim to make the process of seeking medical treatment abroad as smooth as possible for patients and their families by handling logistics. In recent years, medical tourism has grown significantly, with many patients traveling to India and other countries such as Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and more. For patients with non-life-threatening conditions, the opportunity to combine

treatment with travel is often taken advantage of," said a representative of a medical tourism agency on the condition of anonymity.

Transformation of local healthcare industry in recent years

"I was rushed to the emergency of a top hospital, where I visited my doctor regularly, in

outside the country to take treatments but honestly, most of those treatments are also available now in Bangladesh.

Both public and private hospitals have made tremendous progress in recent years. We now have dedicated hospitals for burn victims, cancer patients, and so on. Previously, many treatments were only available outside Bangladesh like cancer treatment, brain surgery, bone marrow transfer, and kidney transfer, but now, our hospitals are providing these facilities in Bangladesh safely and with international standards," said Dr Arif Mahmud, Director, Medical Services at Evercare Hospital Dhaka, one of the most prominent private hospitals in Bangladesh, giving quality healthcare facilities to its patients.

As healthcare evolves, the need for comprehensive and accessible platforms that provide patients with information about the care they desire becomes increasingly important. Praava Health, a network of family health centres founded in 2018, has been at the forefront of this movement by offering international standard healthcare facilities in the heart of Bangladesh.

"We are proud of our committed, passionate, and internationally-trained doctors that consists of highly-experienced family medicine doctors, gynaecologists, and nutritionists to dentists and physiotherapists, as well as visiting specialists, including cardiologists, nephrologists, ENT specialists, and numerous others. We also offer overseas video consultations with foreign doctors for any second opinions, thereby eliminating the added time and expense patients incur by travelling abroad," said Sylvana Quader Sinha, Founder, Managing Director, and CEO of Praava Health.

Dhaka while I was pregnant. Both times, the hospital gave me the right treatment and assured me everything was fine. When it was time for delivery, they did everything to make sure both the baby and I were safe. My husband and I were really impressed by the service of that hospital as we felt like we got treated like we were in a foreign hospital." — Sahana Parvin

It is a well-known fact that the healthcare system in Bangladesh has undergone significant developments in recent years. From the implementation of new technologies and equipment to the training and development of medical professionals, the country has made significant strides in enhancing the quality of care provided to patients. Despite the challenges, the government and private sector has been working together to improve the healthcare system and make it more accessible to the population.

"Every year, so many patients go

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- ✓ সঠিক মাপ ও তাপ
- ✓ চাহিদানুযায়ী ভিন্ন ভিন্ন সাইজ
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