

Publication : Ahmedabad Mirror
Date : Thursday, August 12, 2010
Edition : Ahmedabad
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Woman donates 65% of liver to save husband

City-based hospital does living donor liver transplant, a first successful attempt in Gujarat



Dr Chirag Desai (c) who performed a surgery on Sunil and Jigna Patel

AHMEDABAD MIRROR BUREAU

In a very emotional stage of life when husband suffer from liver failure and the only option remains for the wife is to donate a part of her liver, can be quiet unbelievable. But its true story.

Sunil Patel, 47, an agro chemical businessmen and a resident of Ghatlodia area in Ahmedabad suffered with a high fever in February 2010 and after a blood and other required tests, he was diagnosed with liver and kidney damage. He was advised to undergo an immediate liver transplant.

When his wife Jigna, 46, having a similar blood group agreed to donate a part of her liver to help her ailing husband. All the necessary tests were carried out to check the suitability of the donor's liver.

On Wednesday, a team of doctors and gastroenterologist surgeons from city-based Apollo Hospital, conducted the first successful living donor liver transplant surgery in Gujarat on Jigna.

Dr Chirag Desai, Chief Liver Transplant Surgeon, Ahmedabad, said, "It was a 16-hour complex surgery. Not only were we focused on the recipient surgery we had to exercise extreme care towards donor safety."

Dr Anupam Sibal, Group Medical Director, Apollo Hospitals and Senior Pediatric Gastroenterologist, said, "In 1998 Apollo Delhi performed the first successful pediatric and adult liver transplant in India and now the first ever living donor liver transplant in Gujarat in 2010 is yet another milestone in 12 years."