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SP Medifort

Rare Limb Salvage Surgery Saves Youth's Leg at SP Medifort

Thiruvananthapuram: A 26-year-old man from Kollam, who faced the grim prospect of losing his leg following a devastating accident, has been given a new lease of life thanks to the expertise of the medical team at SP Medifort. In a groundbreaking multi-stage surgical procedure led by Dr. Sreelal Sreedharan, Senior Consultant – Plastic Surgery, and supported by Dr. Aathithya, Orthopaedic Surgeon and Executive Director of SP Medifort, Yoosuf's severed foot was successfully reattached and reconstructed.

The accident, which left Yoosuf with a completely severed foot, required an extraordinary combination of surgical precision and innovation. The first of a series of surgeries involved reattaching the foot using an external fixator to stabilise the bones. Blood vessels were then meticulously sutured, followed by nerve and artery grafting from the patient's right leg, as direct suturing was deemed unviable.

Speaking about the intricate process, Dr. Sreelal Sreedharan, who holds advanced degrees in surgery and plastic surgery, stated, "The complexity of this case required a multidisciplinary approach and extreme attention to detail at every step. Our primary goal was not just saving the limb but ensuring functional recovery and quality of life for the patient."

Ensuring Circulation and Recovery

Five days after the initial surgery, a second microvascular flap surgery was performed upon confirming adequate blood circulation in the injured leg. Flesh from the right leg was transferred to the left, with blood vessels intricately connected to restore circulation. Due to the severe tissue loss in the foot, an extensive reconstruction of the flesh and skin was undertaken, with grafts sourced from the right leg.

Dr. Sreelal further explained that the surgeries were only the first steps in a long road to recovery. The next phase, scheduled for three months post-surgery, will involve the placement of steel plates to stabilise the leg and additional reconstructive procedures to shape the limb.

Long-Term Prognosis and Expertise

Commenting on the case, Dr. Aathithya, Orthopaedic Surgeon and Executive Director at SP Medifort, said, "This surgery showcases the advanced capabilities of SP Medifort in handling rare and complex trauma cases. Yoosuf's resilience, combined with our team's expertise, has paved the way for a full recovery. We are optimistic that he will regain both functionality and sensation in his foot within six months."

Yoosuf's case highlights the pivotal role of advanced medical interventions in saving limbs that would otherwise have been amputated. The young man is expected to walk independently in the coming months, marking a remarkable turnaround in what was initially a life-altering injury.

Dr. Sreelal Sreedharan, Senior Consultant in Plastic and Microvascular Surgery, along with Dr. Niranjan T. J., Senior Consultant in Orthopedics, Dr. Sujeesh and his team, Dr. Vimal V. V. and his team, as well as the Emergency Department and other specialists, collaborated in performing the surgery.