

LUNG CONNECT INDIA FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

What is happening in the organisation?

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2026

Lung Connect India Foundation observed World No Tobacco Day by raising awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use and its strong link to lung cancer. Through educational initiatives and advocacy efforts, we encouraged individuals to make informed choices for better lung health. Quitting tobacco is one of the most effective ways to reduce the risk of cancer and other serious diseases. Together, we can work towards a healthier, tobacco-free future where every breath matters.



A PROUD GLOBAL MILESTONE FOR PATIENT ADVOCACY

Lung Connect India Foundation is proud to congratulate **Ms. Rasika Bombatkar** on her selection for the prestigious **IASLC STARS (Supportive Training for Advocates, Researchers & Survivors) Scholars Program 2026** by the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC).

Through this highly regarded program, Rasika will receive specialized training, mentorship, and opportunities to collaborate with leading researchers, clinicians, and advocates from across the globe. Her participation will further strengthen the integration of patient perspectives into lung cancer research, policy, and advocacy initiatives.

We are delighted to see her represent the patient community on an international platform and are confident that her contributions will continue to drive meaningful change for individuals and families affected by lung cancer.

Patient Voice at the World Health Assembly

Lung Connect India Foundation is proud to share that **Rasika Bombatkar**, a young patient advocate and lung cancer survivor, spoke at the World Health Assembly on the importance of integrating lived experience into national health policy.

Drawing from her own journey, Rasika highlighted the challenges patients face, including stigma, barriers to care, and the need for stronger patient representation in healthcare decision-making. Her message emphasized that lived experience is not just a story—it is valuable expertise that can help shape better policies and research.

We congratulate Rasika for representing the patient community with strength and compassion on a global platform and for championing the importance of meaningful patient engagement in healthcare.



A MASSIVE STEP FORWARD:

LUNG CONNECT INDIA FOUNDATION LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST LUNG CANCER CLINICAL TRIAL REGISTRY!

For lung cancer patients and caregivers, one of the toughest moments is when standard treatment options begin to exhaust. In these critical times, **Clinical Trials offer a powerful ray of hope**, providing access to cutting-edge therapies and life-saving new drugs.

But until now, patients in India faced a massive hurdle: **Information was scattered**. Finding out which trial was happening where, checking eligibility, and knowing how to apply felt like an impossible maze. Due to this lack of clear information, thousands of patients missed out on timely, advanced care.

WE RECOGNIZED THIS CRITICAL GAP and put in our absolute best efforts to bring all available information under one roof, **ensuring patients can benefit from it in time.**

However, we know this is just the beginning and there is still a lot more information to be added. To make this truly impactful, we need the active support of **doctors, hospitals, and the healthcare industry** to share timely insights with us. This will allow us to update upcoming trials in real-time and deliver this life-saving data straight to the patients who need it most.

Ultimately, we believe that easing the burden for lung cancer patients is a mission that cannot be achieved without our collective efforts.

WATCH THE VIDEO GUIDE: HOW TO NAVIGATE
The attached video gives you a step-by-step walkthrough of our website (www.lungconnectindia.org). Watch it to learn how easily you can:

- Search for a relevant trial matching the patient's profile.
- Understand the exact procedure to participate.
- Connect with the respective medical centers.

EXPLORE THE REGISTRY HERE:
www.lungconnectindia.org

One Platform. All Lung Cancer Clinical Trials in India. Easy Search. Check Eligibility. Find the Right Trial. Connect with Top Medical Centers.

AN APPEAL TO DOCTORS, HOSPITALS, AND THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY
Dear Medical Fraternity, this initiative is built for patients, but it cannot stay updated without you. We earnestly request oncologists, researchers, and hospital administrators to share details of any new or ongoing lung cancer trials under your supervision. By partnering with us, you help ensure that our registry remains updated in real-time, allowing eligible patients to reach your clinical sites without losing precious time.

Partner with us and make a difference. Connect with us here: contact@lungconnectindia.org

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!
No one should lose a fighting chance simply because they didn't have the information. Please share this post widely.

YOUR ONE SHARE COULD GUIDE A PATIENT TOWARD A LIFE-SAVING BREAKTHROUGH.

www.lungconnectindia.org

Simplifying Clinical Trials for Patients and Caregivers

Lung Connect India Foundation is pleased to introduce a patient-friendly resource designed to make clinical trials easier to understand. Developed by our team member **Mohammad Rizwan**, this initiative aims to simplify key concepts such as clinical trials, eligibility criteria, and participation, helping patients and caregivers make informed decisions.

We extend our sincere gratitude to **Dr. Akhil Kapoor** and **Dr. Ullas Batra** for their valuable guidance and support in shaping this resource. Through this effort, we hope to empower patients with accessible information and reduce barriers to understanding clinical trial opportunities.

WORLD CLINICAL TRIALS DAY SPECIAL

HOPE THROUGH RESEARCH

UNDERSTANDING CLINICAL TRIALS IN CANCER CARE

LUNG CONNECT INDIA FOUNDATION
PRESENTS




CLINICAL TRIALS

KNOWLEDGE TODAY...
BETTER TOMORROW



DR AKHIL KAPOOR
Professor- Medical Oncology
MPMMCC, Varanasi



DR MINIT SHAH
Associate Professor
TMH, Mumbai



MOHAMMAD RIZWAN
Caregiver
Bhatinda, Punjab



SUCHISMITA BERA
Living with Lung Cancer
West Bengal



MS VANDANA MAHAJAN
MODERATOR
LEAD COUNSELLOR, LCIF



JOIN THE CONVERSATION. BE A PART OF THE CHANGE!



LIVE ON YouTube

World Clinical Trials Day Webinar Highlights

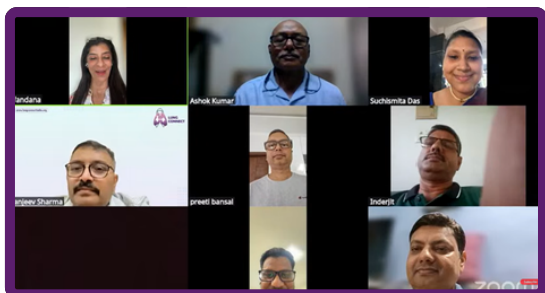
To mark World Clinical Trials Day, Lung Connect India Foundation hosted a special webinar, *"Hope Through Research: Understanding Clinical Trials in Cancer Care,"* aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of clinical research among patients and caregivers.

The session highlighted the critical role of clinical trials in advancing cancer treatment, emphasized that participation is voluntary and guided by informed consent, and addressed common misconceptions about patient involvement in research. Discussions also focused on the rigorous safety measures in place, the potential access to innovative therapies, and the importance of patient advocacy in spreading accurate information.

The panel included Dr Minit Shah, Dr Akhil Kapoor, Mohammad Rizwan, and Suchismita Bera. It was moderated by Vandana Mahajan.

The webinar reinforced a powerful message: clinical research continues to improve survival, quality of life, and treatment options for cancer patients worldwide.

PATIENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

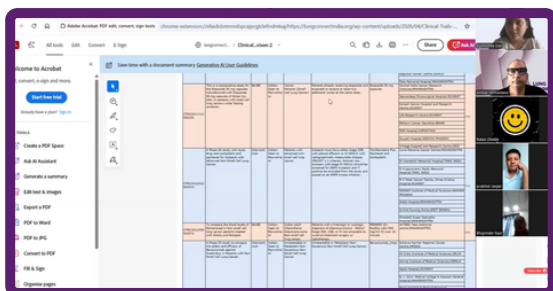
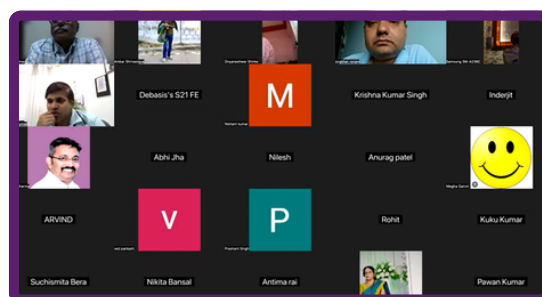


MUMBAI CHAPTER

Lung Connect India Foundation successfully conducted its 179th Support Group Meeting – Mumbai Chapter on 8th May 2026. During the session, Dr. Avinash explained how to improve quality of life in supportive care. Dr Arti addressed all the queries of the meeting participants. The meeting also featured inspiring words of motivation and shared experiences from Mr Indrajit Yadav.

UP-BIHAR CHAPTER

Lung Connect India Foundation successfully conducted its 180th Support Group Meeting – UP-Bihar Chapter Chapter on 20th May 2026. During the session, Dr. Arul explained the surgical options in lung cancer, Dr Amit Kumar addressed all the queries of the meeting participants. The meeting also featured inspiring words of motivation and shared experiences from Ashok Kumar.

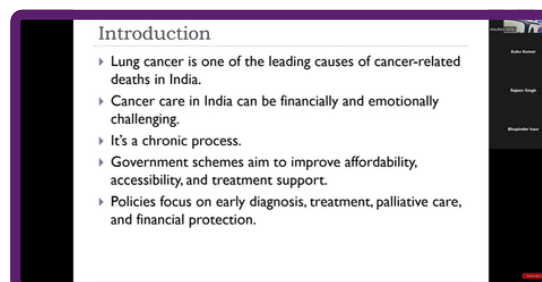


GERIATRIC

Lung Connect India Foundation successfully conducted its 49th Support Group Meeting – Geriatric OPD on 15th May 2026. During the session, Ms Suchismita explained the influence of social media on cancer education and advocacy. Dr Arvind addressed all the queries of the meeting participants.

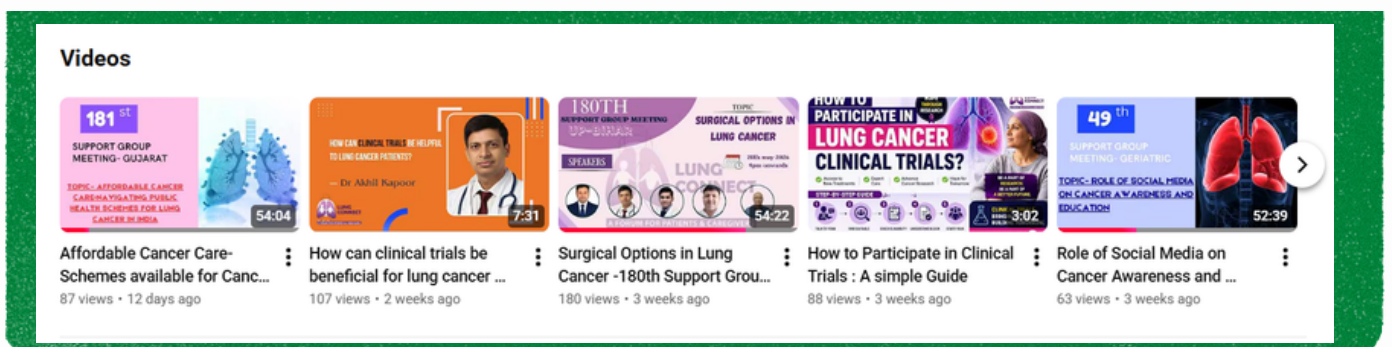
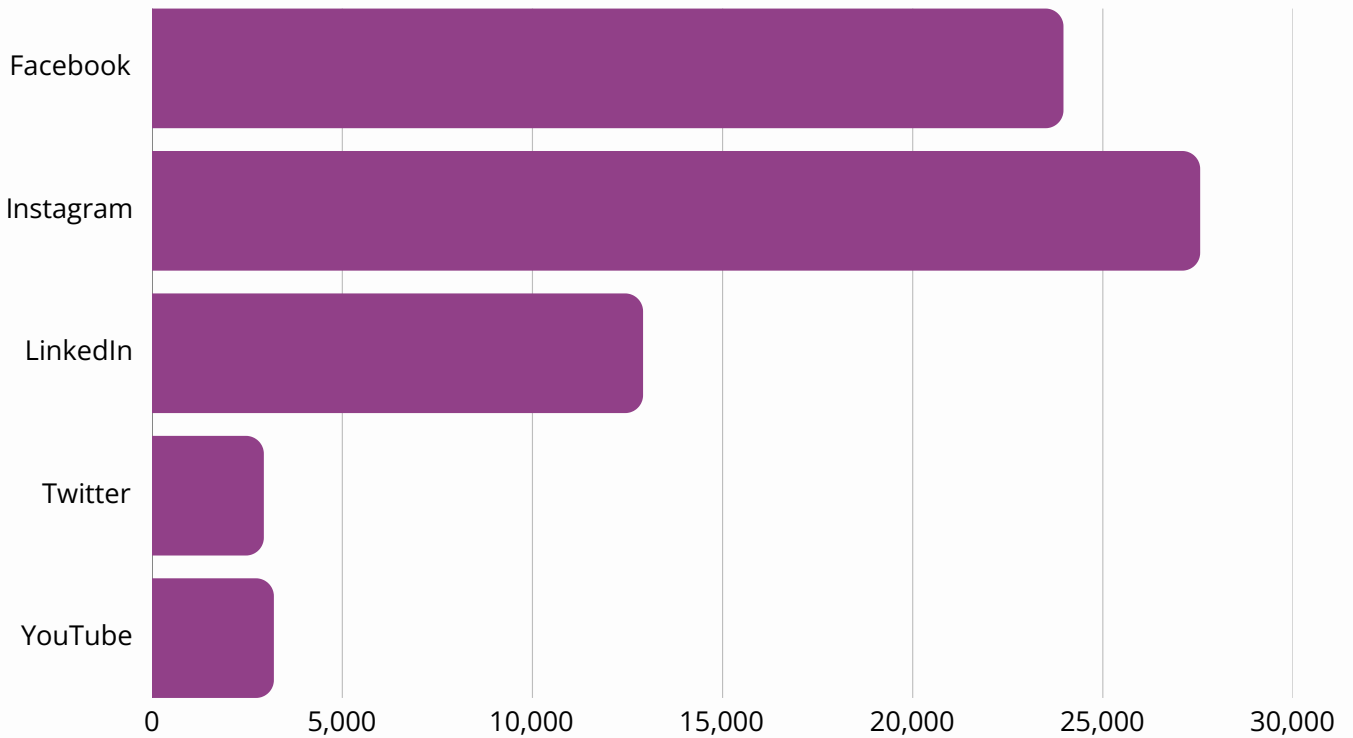
GUJARAT CHAPTER

Lung Connect India Foundation successfully conducted its 181st Support Group Meeting – Mumbai Chapter on 29th May 2026. During the session, Ms. Tejal explained Affordable cancer care navigating public health schemes for lung cancer india. Dr Palak Bhatt addressed all the queries of the meeting participants. The meeting also featured inspiring words of motivation and shared experiences from Paresh Shah.



SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

Lung Connect India Foundation



BUDDY PROGRAM- SAATH NIBHAAYE HAUSLA BADHAAYE

At Lung Connect India Foundation (LCIF), our Buddy Program stands as a reminder that support goes beyond treatment. By connecting patients and caregivers with trained survivors and experienced peers, we are building a network rooted in empathy, understanding, and shared strength.


Each interaction offers more than guidance—it brings comfort, reduces fear, and helps individuals feel seen and heard during a challenging time. As the program continues to grow, so does its impact across our community.

बडी प्रोग्राम



साथ निभाए, हौसला बढ़ाए


क्यों जुड़ें हमारे बडी प्रोग्राम से?

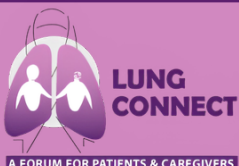
लंग कैंसर के इलाज की जटिलताओं को समझना एक कठिन प्रक्रिया हो सकती है, और यही कारण है कि लंग कनेक्ट का बडी प्रोग्राम मरीजों की देखभाल के अनुभव में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। एक बडी एक भरोसेमंद ~~मनुष्य~~ साथी होता है, जो मरीजों को इलाज से जुड़ी विभिन्न जिम्मेदारियों और कार्यों को प्रबंधित करने में मदद करता है।



- भावनात्मक सहयोग
- स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में समन्वय
- दुष्प्रभावों के प्रबंधन में सहायता
- वित्तीय मार्गदर्शन
- देखभाल में सहायता

 बडी बनें
बडी का अनुरोध करें



**LUNG
CONNECT**

A FORUM FOR PATIENTS & CAREGIVERS

WWW.LUNGCONNECTINDIA.ORG

Subscribe to Our Newsletter

Stay connected, subscribe now for news updates, latest activities, workshops, free resources and more!



Since its inception, the Buddy Program has received 702 support requests, successfully connecting 502 buddy seekers with trained survivors and experienced peers. Supported by a dedicated network of 33 active buddy supporters, the program continues to provide emotional support, practical guidance, and reassurance to patients and caregivers across India.

PATIENT/ CAREGIVER CORNER



PAWANENDRA RAJ SINGH

(Caregiver Uttar Pradesh, India)

I am Pawanendra, and I stand here as a caregiver. Often, I feel caregivers are the silent patients—we carry the fear, the uncertainty, and the responsibility, yet much of what we go through remains unspoken.

This is the journey of my brother Mr Devendra Raj, who was diagnosed with lung cancer in February 2025. What made it even more difficult to accept was that there were no clear symptoms. He was active, had no breathing issues, and lived a normal life as he is an advocate in Agra. He did not have any major habits like smoking, and there were no visible warning signs. Yet, the diagnosis revealed lung cancer that had already progressed.

It all started with some minor health concerns, which led us to further tests. Step by step, we went ahead with investigations like bronchoscopy and biopsy. Like many families, we were afraid—there are always doubts and fears around procedures like biopsy. But I learned that accurate and timely diagnosis is crucial, and we should not let fear delay it.

After detailed testing, including NGS (Next Generation Sequencing), we came to know that it was EGFR mutation-positive lung cancer. This information changed the course of treatment for us.

We went to Tata Memorial Hospital, where we received guidance from experienced doctors. With their support, my brother was started on a targeted therapy—Osimertinib, an oral medication specifically used for EGFR mutation lung cancer. Although it is expensive, it has made a significant difference. The survival expectations we initially heard have improved, and his condition has been stable with a better quality of life.



[READ MORE](#)