



INSTITUT JANTUNG NEGARA
National Heart Institute

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IJN INTRODUCES MYVAL, THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY TO TREAT AORTIC STENOSIS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 31, 2020: As its closing achievement for the year, Institut Jantung Negara (IJN) today made history by being the first hospital in the ASEAN region to successfully implant an advanced man-made heart valve in a patient.

The valve, called Myval, is made of biological tissue, and designed to be used for those who require transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI). TAVI is a relatively new procedure that is commonly used to treat patients with aortic stenosis, particularly who are deemed high-risk for open heart surgery.

The first patient to receive Myval from IJN was an 83-year-old patient with severe aortic stenosis, who was previously experiencing shortness of breath and heart pain due to her condition. The implantation was successfully completed this morning at 10:45am.

One of the most prevalent heart diseases in the developed world, aortic stenosis is a condition where the opening of the heart's aortic valve becomes narrowed. This in turn restricts the blood flow from the heart to the rest of the body, causing a greater strain on the heart. The condition often develops due to age, as calcium build-up causes blockages to the valve.

Patients may not always immediately show symptoms, but they will eventually experience adverse effects such as breathlessness, chest pains, and blackouts as the condition worsens. If left untreated, aortic stenosis often leads to heart failure and death.

While the conventional treatment for aortic stenosis is open-heart surgery to replace the valve, some 30% of patients are unable to undergo surgery due to risk factors such as other underlying conditions and age.

For such high-risk patients, the TAVI procedure is a minimally invasive alternative to treat the condition. In TAVI, doctors will insert a catheter via a small incision in the femoral artery (a large artery in the leg) or chest. A replacement valve is then inserted through the catheter and guided to the heart. Aside from being a viable option for those who are unable to undergo surgery, the procedure is also associated with faster recovery rates, as well as less pain and trauma.

INSTITUT JANTUNG NEGARA 34-34
145, Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

TEL (+603) 2617 8200 URL www.ijn.com.my
FAX (+603) 2698 2824 EMAIL info@ijn.com.my

IJN. BEYOND
HEART



IJN has been a pioneer of TAVI regionally, being the first centre in Asia to introduce the procedure. Since 2009, IJN has successfully carried out TAVI with a multidisciplinary team comprising cardiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, anaesthetists and paramedical staff.

In this regard, the Myval device is an addition to IJN's existing capabilities. IJN Senior Consultant Cardiologist, Dr. Shaiful Azmi Yahaya explained that due to its unique design, the Myval enables doctors to carry out the procedure with even greater precision.

"For instance, one significant benefit of this device is the 'navigator delivery system', which enables the surgeon to guide the valve into the heart more efficiently," Dr. Shaiful said.

"By improving the accuracy of this valve implantation, we can also reduce the patient's chances of requiring a pacemaker later on."

Dr. Shaiful added that such technological improvements to the TAVI procedure will enable more patients to benefit from it, especially those who are unable to withstand the risks of undergoing surgery.

"Continuous innovation is what we need to keep doing what IJN does best; adopt the latest yet safest technology to improve the lives of our patients."

About Institut Jantung Negara Sdn. Bhd.

Institut Jantung Negara (IJN) was set up in 1992 and is dedicated to the management and treatment of heart diseases by providing cardiology, paediatric cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery services for adults and children.

Today, IJN is reckoned to be among the best medical centres for cardiovascular and thoracic care in Malaysia and the region. IJN has kept abreast with the latest medical advances, from handling a simple hole in the heart surgery to heart and lungs transplantations.

With a strong commitment to be a global heart care centre of excellence, IJN has paved the way by creating many “firsts” for cardiovascular and thoracic care in the country, namely:

- 1. 1st in SEA to introduce AXCESS Stent to treat bifurcation lesions*
- 2. 1st in Asia to introduce Renal Denervation – a radio frequency ablation procedure to treat patients with resistant hypertension*
- 3. 1st in the SEA to implant Bio resorbable Vascular Scaffold – a new stenting device*
- 4. 1st in the country to implant the Watchman device to reduce the risk of stroke in patient with AF*
- 5. Introduced HeartMate II – a new mechanical heart assist device as a bridge to transplantation in 2010*
- 6. 1st in Malaysia to perform Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI)*
- 7. 1st in Malaysia to perform minimally invasive lobectomy for lung disease*
- 8. 1st in the country to perform minimally invasive procedure to repair congenital chest deformity called “Pectus Excavatum” and “Pectus Carinatum”*
- 9. 1st in Malaysia to perform a double heart transplantation (redo) within 24 hours*
- 10. 1st to perform keyhole (endoscopic) surgery to treat lone atrial fibrillation in Asia and Australasia in 2006*
- 11. 1st to perform single and double lungs transplant*
- 12. 1st to perform the implantation of an Implantable Ventricular Assist Device (IVAD).*
- 13. 1st medical institute in the country and the Southeast Asean region to perform coronary bypass surgeries and complex thymectomy procedures on conscious or ‘awake’ patients without general anesthesia.*
- 14. 1st in Malaysia to perform bone marrow stem cell transplantation in patients suffering from severe ischemic heart disease with no other treatment options.*
- 15. 1st medical institute to conduct a homograft procurement to facilitate heart transplant.*

16. *1st medical institute in the country to perform a heart transplant.*
17. *One of the first in the region to perform detailed mapping for complex arrhythmia.*
18. *1st medical institute in the world to Implant a Bio-absorbable Pulmonary Valve Conduit*
19. *1st medical institute in Malaysia to carry out the complete replacement of the aorta.*
20. *1st in the world 2nd Generation smallest pacemaker*
21. *1st in Asia to perform Peripheral Arterial Disease procedure with Vasculflex Multi-LOC device*
22. *1st in Malaysia to implant dual chamber pacemaker system in a pregnant patient using non-fluoroscopic imaging*
23. *1st outside of United States to Implant Micra AV Pacemaker*
24. *The 1st in ASEAN region to implant MyVal a device with the latest technology to treat aortic stenosis*

-ENDS-

For more information, please contact:

Nur Izrinda Badrolhisham

Institut Jantung Negara

Tel: +603-2600 6316

Mobile: +6012-3891800

Email: nurizrinda@ijn.com.my

Noor Zuhareen Zulaika Zakaria

Institut Jantung Negara

Tel: +603-2600 6302

Mobile: +6017-3510560

Email: zuhareen@ijn.com.my