

Indian Contribution to Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Purandare C. N. • Patel M. • Balsarkar Geetha

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Dr. B. N. Purandare

Dr B. N. Purandare was an illustrious son of an illustrious father. He was Dr. N. A. Purandare's firstborn son. Born in a family of Vaidis and nurtured by his famous father, he graduated from The Seth G S Medical College and KEM Hospital with flying colours. He went on to London and Edinburgh to train in surgery and gynecology after medical education in India, and became Fellow, Royal College of surgeons.

A premier vaginal surgeon with excellent skills, he devised the abdominal cervicopexy operation for prolapse which revolutionized the conservative surgeries for prolapsed and the surgery is named after him. It is widely performed even today. His special interests included performing vaginal hysterectomy, vaginal sterilization, Schauta's operation, abdominal cervicopexy, and tubal recanalisation, where he has left his mark on these surgeries. He was fond of teaching undergraduates and postgraduates as well, and a group of students always followed him on his clinical rounds. Many of them have grown up to be prominent gynecologists of international repute today, and are proud to be associated with him even today.

At Purandare Griha, the hospital started by his father, he delivered many patients some of whom are celebrities like Sunil Gavaskar.

He pioneered research and was Director of Research, Dean and later, Professor Emeritus of the Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital, where he devised many of his surgeries and their modifications. He was also Dean of the Medical Faculty of Bombay University. He was also

Purandare C. N. (✉), Ex. Professor
Grant Medical College, Mumbai, India
e-mail: dr.c.n.purandare@gmail.com

Patel M., Ex. Professor & HOD
ESI-PGIMSR, MGM Hospital, Parel, Mumbai, India

Balsarkar Geetha, Prof. OBS & GYN
Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital & Seth G.S. Medical College,
Parel, Mumbai, India



Dr. B. N. Purandare being facilitated by the president of India, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He was Honorary advisor on maternal health to the Ministry of health, Government of India.

When Government of India, decided to study the high maternal mortality associated with illegal abortions in India, the Shantilal Shah Committee was formed. Dr. B. N. Purandare was an esteemed member of the Shantilal Shah Committee, which eventually led to the MTP Act in India. The Government of India awarded him with the Padma Bhushan award in 1972 for his meritorious contribution to the field of medicine in India.

He was a Founder fellow, Indian academy of sciences.

Dr. B.-N. Purandare was the Tenth President of FOGSI in 1967–1968. He was also the First Indian President of the FIGO from 1973 to 1976.

There is an Arts college and high school in Lonavala on his name which shows his commitment to education in rural sector of India.