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Cardiac unit inaugurated

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THE advanced cardiac surgery unit of Jehangir Hospital was inaugurated on Friday by Dr Ajit Damle, noted cardiac surgeon from Merit Hospital, Fargo, Dakota, USA.

Speaking at the inauguration, he said the infrastructure and technology at Jehangir were on par with international standards. Chairman JHC Jehangir stated that there was a need to set up a facility where complicated and high-risk cases could be operated with as much safety as routine cardiac surgery cases.

Chief cardiac surgeon Dr Manoj Pradhan said the unit set up in March 2006 had completed over 200 cardio thoracic procedures in a 10-month span. "We have given outstanding results in complex cases in high-risk patients with complications like poor LV function, chronic renal failure and age. We have operated successfully on patients over 80 years of age," Dr Pradhan added.

Giving details about the advanced techniques, he said that the hospital specialised in minimally invasive heart surgery like left anterior small thoracotomy CABG. Dr Manoj Durairaj informed said: "We have also operated on paediatric patients with serious conditions like complex AV canal defects, Tetralogy of Fallot, ventricular septal defects, PDA's and coarctations, as well as atrial septal defects, through a minimally invasive right thoracotomy approach."

According to Dr Pradhan, in western India, only Jehangir Hospital provides intra-operative Flowmetry, a system which confirms that the newly-grafted vessel is functioning well.