



Rotary Club of Surat West

R.I. District 3060 Zone 4-B



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Rotary Year 2023 - 2024

Club No 31549 / Charter Date : 30th April 1996

 : rotarysuratwest

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 : www.rotaryclubofsuratwest.org

SPARK

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Rtn. Gordon R. McNally
R.I. President - 2023 - 2024



Rtn. Nihir Dave
D.G. 3060 - 2023-2024



Rtn. Sonal Shah
Club President



Rtn. Meeta Kapoor
Hon. Club Secretary

Bulletin Editor : Rtn. Mausam Jalan

FROM THE DESK OF BULLETIN EDITOR



My dear Rotary Surat West family,

Harvesting human stem cells is a complex and ethically debated process that holds significant promise for medical advancements. Stem cells possess the unique ability to differentiate into various specialized cell types, making them valuable in regenerative medicine and research. However, the methods of extraction, particularly from embryos, raise ethical concerns.

Embryonic stem cells, derived from embryos, are pluripotent and can become any cell type in the human body. Harvesting these cells typically involves the destruction of the embryo, leading to ethical debates over the status of the embryo as a potential life. This controversy has prompted researchers to explore alternative sources, such as adult tissues and induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs).

Adult stem cells are found in various tissues and organs, offering a more ethically acceptable option for harvesting. These cells are multipotent, meaning they can differentiate into a limited range of cell types. While less versatile than embryonic stem cells, they have shown promise in treating various diseases and injuries.

Induced pluripotent stem cells are created by reprogramming adult cells to regain pluripotency. This method avoids ethical concerns associated with embryonic stem cells but presents challenges in terms of efficiency and safety.

Stem cell harvesting has enabled breakthroughs in treating conditions like leukemia, spinal cord injuries, and heart disease. Despite the potential benefits, the ethical considerations surrounding the use of embryonic stem cells underscore the need for ongoing dialogue and regulatory frameworks to balance scientific progress with ethical standards.

Regards

Rtn Mausam Jalan

Bulletin Editor – 2023 -24

Visit to VIECELL Institute of Regenerative Medicine on 11th February 2024.

On 11th February, at 11 am, Members of Rotary Club of Surat West visited VIECELL Institute of regenerative medicine center, Kalp Business Centre, Citilight road, Surat.

We were welcomed warmly by VieCell partner Ms. Hetal.

President Sonal greeted the gathering and proceeded the meeting. There was an informative and interactive session with Dr. Ankur Patel and Dr Megha Patel. Lots of questions were satisfactorily answered, enhancing our knowledge about the latest in curing diseases as well as wellness.

It was an absolutely worthy session. We hope those who missed out this time, would take benefit of such interesting meetings in future.

PP Rtn Bhavesh Shah proposed a hearty vote of thanks. We dispersed after a round of healthy food and exchange of gifts.

Thank you so much PP Rtn. Geeta Modi for arranging this opportunity for our club members.





Rtn Dr Vijay Shah from our side contributed with his experience in the medical field. PP Rtn Setu Gandhi, PP Rtn Bankim Sitwala, PP Rtn Bhavesh Shah, Rtn Gaurang Goel, Rtn Nipa Sitwala, Rtn Rakhi, as well as the President asked many questions and participated with interest.



RI President's message – February 2024



I am enthused and encouraged by your embrace of mental health initiatives throughout the Rotary world. More than 1,000 of you have responded so far to an ongoing survey by the Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives, offering your feedback on what Rotary can do to improve the personal well-being of members.

The top suggestions are illuminating. Rotary members are asking for more fellowship, camaraderie, conversation, cohesiveness, and connection. They also want more recognition, validation, and integration. They are seeking more service opportunities, and they want more wellness activities, including mental health speakers, awareness efforts, and education.

Our members not only appreciate the greater focus on mental health, but they also believe that making more of the Rotary experience will materially improve their lives. I find it interesting that members are not asking anything dramatically new of their club — rather they want more of what we do best. For example, connection can be improved during meetings simply by assigning seating once each month to encourage people to speak with someone new.

Here are some great ways that we can help achieve these results and make Rotary more appealing to those considering membership. First, we need to acknowledge the importance of increasing belonging in our clubs and to encourage Rotary members to make the most of every opportunity for new and stronger connections. Public health experts worldwide are concerned about increasing levels of loneliness — the U.S. surgeon general has even declared it an epidemic. Mental health experts agree that finding groups and clubs around common hobbies and interests is a strong way to create greater connectedness. This is what Rotary is all about. We need to make sure all of our members are fully engaged and that our communities are better aware of this inherent strength.

Second, if your club has found new ways to build connection, please share your stories with us at mindhealth@rotary.org so we can make them more broadly known within the Rotary world. Your good ideas might inspire others. Post your service project stories on Rotary Showcase.

And finally, I encourage you to share feedback from surveys like this with your club and bring forward your own ideas to improve your club experience and meet your peers' expectations. The journey we have begun is about more than mental health. It is about taking advantage of the full strength of our wonderful organization and helping all members feel that they are part of a community that cares deeply about their personal well-being.

Everything you do to strengthen connections in Rotary, with each other and the people we serve, also helps improve mental health. And everything we do to improve mental health helps strengthen those connections. Let's continue this virtuous cycle.

Gordon McInally

President, Rotary International

Rotary Peace Fellowship- Applications Invited



ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIP

Full funding for a master's degree or postgraduate diploma in disciplines related to peace and development

Rotary  

APPLY NOW

Applications for Rotary's Peace Fellowship are now open!

Over 1,700 Rotary Peace Centres alumni are working in 140+ countries in roles ranging from leaders of grass-roots organizations to high-level positions with national governments.

Learn more about this opportunity for the 2025-26 academic year:
<https://on.rotary.org/3kUYAKv>

Philately: the study of postage stamps and history.



You can experience Rotary's history through commemorative stamps, encapsulating Rotary happenings since the first stamp was created in 1931, honouring the 1931 Rotary International Convention in Vienna.

Click through to see more commemorative Rotary Stamps through the years.

- Brazil: commemorating the 1948 Rotary Convention in Rio de Janeiro.
- Australia: Created in 1955 in honour of Rotary's 50th anniversary.
- Cook Islands: Created in 1980 for Rotary's 75th anniversary.
- **India: Created in 1987 to commemorate the Asian Regional RI Conference in New Delhi and promote polio immunization.**

Rotary's 119th Anniversary on 23rd February



Rotary started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on 23 February 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships.

Over time, Rotary's reach and vision gradually extended to humanitarian service. Members have a long track record of addressing challenges in their communities and around the world.

"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."

Paul Harris, Rotary founder

Our ongoing commitment

That commitment endures today through an organization that remains truly international. Only 16 years after being founded, Rotary had clubs on six continents. Our members now span the globe, working to solve some of our world's most challenging problems.

We are not afraid to dream big and set bold goals. We began our fight against polio in 1979 with a project to immunize 6 million children in the Philippines. **Today, polio remains endemic in only two countries — down from 125 in 1988.**

For detailed history of Rotary from 1905 to 2023, please click the following link,

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotarys-timeline>

The first four Rotarians: Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey, and Paul P. Harris who met on 23rd February, 1905 to launch Rotary club



FEBRUARY : ROTARY PEACE & CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH



This is at the heart of all of Rotary's work

Fostering Peace and Understanding led to Youth Exchange Programmes.

It led to our Rotary Peace Fellowships- Over the past decade 1000 professionals have been selected and trained in Rotary's Peace Centres in Universities around the world. They are now working for peace in over 100+ countries.

We refuse to accept conflict as a way of life. Rotary projects provide training that fosters understanding and provides communities with the skills to resolve conflicts.

Through our service projects, peace fellowships, and scholarships, our members are taking action to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

We help leaders learn how to prevent and mediate conflict at its source.

There can be no Peace while people have poor water, disease, poor Mother & Child health, no education, and poverty Let us have a successful month ahead.

IT IS NOT A MATTER OF
BRINGING MORE PEOPLE
INTO ROTARY,
IT'S RATHER A
QUESTION OF GETTING
MORE ROTARY INTO
PEOPLE.

HAROLD THOMAS

Rotary
DOWN UNDER



Over 8

rotary



adjective:

(of motion) revolving around a center or
axis; rotational

noun:

a global network of 1.2 million neighbors,
friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who
see a world where people unite and take
action to create lasting change – across the
globe, in communities, and in themselves.

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Rotary International Data :

Courtesy PDG Rtn Devendra Shastri