



Dr. A. S. SOIN
Hepatobiliary and Liver Transplant Surgeon
MBBS(AIIMS), MS (AIIMS), FRCS (Edin), FRCS (Glas), FRCS
(Transplant Surgery)-Cambridge, UK

Dr Sooin is recognized the world over for his pioneering work in establishing liver transplantation in India.

He is one of the founder members and Trustee of the HOPE (Human Organ Procurement and Education) Trust which is a non-governmental, non-profit body aimed at spreading awareness about brain death and organ donation in order to benefit hundreds of thousands who die from organ failure in India annually.

Dr Sooin and his team currently perform 16-18 live donor liver transplants every month with results which are at par with the world's best centres i.e., a success rate of 95% for the patients and an excellent safety record for the donors. Apart from referrals from all over the country, he handles cases from the rest of South Asia, The Middle East and Africa.

In his extensive experience of 18 years as a Liver Transplant and Hepatobiliary surgeon, he has performed more than a thousand liver transplants and more than 7500 other complex liver, gall bladder and bile duct surgeries.

Dr Sooin has to his credit, almost all the country's FIRSTS in liver transplantation, *in addition to 3 global firsts.*

Among his pioneering achievements is the credit of having performed India's first ever successful cadaveric liver transplant in November 1998. This patient is also the longest survivor after a liver transplant in India. He then performed India's first successful left lobe transplant (living donor) in 1999 and then also the country's first successful adult-adult living donor right lobe liver transplant in March 2000.

He was also the first surgeon to successfully perform laparoscopic donor nephrectomy (removal

of kidney by keyhole surgery) in India. He has successfully used this technology for kidney transplantation in more than 300 cases so far.

Education and Training

He spent 12 years in India gaining his MBBS and MS degrees followed by specialist experience in Liver and Gastrointestinal Surgery. He then went to U.K where within six months, he obtained FRCS from both Glasgow and Edinburgh, and then trained and worked in two of the world's most renowned centres for Liver and Biliary Surgery, and Liver, Kidney and Pancreas transplantation for 6 years.

He became the first Indian and only the fifth surgeon in the UK to qualify and obtain an Intercollegiate FRCS in Transplant Surgery. He spent a year at University of Birmingham with Prof P McMaster and 5 years at University of Cambridge with Prof Sir Roy Calne who is acknowledged worldwide as one of the pioneers and founders of modern transplantation.

At Cambridge, he was a Surgical Tutor for the University MBBS students and Faculty for Royal College Training courses in Basic surgical skills and Laparoscopic Surgery for junior surgeons. In addition, he conducted pioneering research in experimental intestinal transplantation, and clinical liver transplantation.

He has been a Visiting Fellow at the Department of Liver Transplantation and Immunology at the Kyoto University Hospital, Kyoto, Japan in 1997 and Visiting Faculty at the Asan Medical Centre, Seoul, Korea in 2000. These two centres are the world's most experienced and renowned for living donor liver transplantation.

Honours

In April 2010, Dr Sooin was honoured with the **Padma Shri**, a highly coveted national civilian award, for his pioneering work in Liver Transplantation in the country. In addition, he has received numerous awards and honours for academic excellence as well establishing liver transplantation in India. These include :

- British Transplant Society Research awards (1994 and 1996)
- The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh award (1997)
- DMA Distinguished Services Award (2005)
- Medindia Oration award (2008) and RD Birla Outstanding Clinician award (2010).