

A fall, a tumour, a second chance: 82-year-old beats all odds at Woodlands

An 82-year-old woman from South Kolkata's Moore Avenue is on the road to recovery after a dramatic sequence of medical interventions at Woodlands Hospital saved her life.

The lady, who had been experiencing memory loss for months and frequent falls recently, was finally brought to the hospital on March 31, 2025, after a particularly severe episode left her with black eye and internal facial haemorrhaging. Doctors soon discovered that the cause of her instability wasn't just age-related fragility — but a brain tumour, silently pressing against areas that control movement and balance.

"The tumour occasionally caused weakness or paralysis on one side of her body, leading to repeated falls," explained Dr Ajay Agarwal, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery, Woodlands Hospital.

Scans confirmed the diagnosis, and surgery was planned. But just as the team prepared to proceed, pre-operative tests threw up a surprise — an underlying cardiac condition that made surgery risky without first stabilising her heart.

"This was a particularly complex case because she had no immediate family to decide on her behalf. We had in-depth discussions with a group of six or seven of her relatives to ensure everything was transparent and understood," Dr Agarwal added.

On the eighth day of admission, a gross removal of the tumour surgery was successfully performed by Dr Agarwal to relieve pressure from the brain tumour — a complex neurosurgical procedure that lay at the heart of her treatment. To ensure surgical safety, a temporary pacemaker was implanted just prior by Dr Saroj Mandal, Senior Consultant, Interventional Cardiology, to stabilise

her heart rhythm.

A biopsy later confirmed the tumour to be malignant, and the patient is now gearing up to begin radiation therapy.

"Our association with Woodlands goes back to the '60s, and when we were deciding where to go in this condition, it was a unanimous decision — we were going to Woodlands. We are extremely thankful to the entire team who've taken such good care of this very difficult case. We are especially thankful for the encouragement and support we received from Dr (Biswajit) Ghoshdastidar and Dr Ajay Agarwal, and the exemplary nursing care," said the patient's niece.

Today, Santisudha Majumdar stands as a glowing example of resilience, timely intervention, and the power of coordinated care. As she prepares to return home, her case is a testament to how interdisciplinary medicine can rewrite outcomes — even at 82.



Dr Ajay Agarwal with the patient

- 65K+ Orthopaedic & Replacement Surgeries
- 3 lakh+ surgeries
- 60K+ Total Cardiac Interventions
- 79 years of service

For suggestions and queries, please write to: corporate.communication@woodlandshospital.in



H-2024-1468



8/5 Alipore Road, Kolkata 700027

☎ 033 4033 7033 | 24x7 Emergency Helpline: 033 4033 7001

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Whats up WOODLANDS

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Woodlands Hospital First in Eastern India to Use Motorised Tacker in Hernia Surgery

Woodlands Multispeciality Hospital has added another feather to its surgical cap by becoming the first centre in Eastern India to use a motorised fixation device—the MaxTack—for hernia surgery.

The breakthrough came during a minimally invasive

procedure on a 43-year-old woman with an irreducible umbilical hernia. Hernia repair typically involves reinforcing a weakened abdominal wall with a surgical mesh, which is then secured using tacks—small fasteners that need to be precisely placed for long-term success. The motorised tackler automates this step, eliminating the need for manual firing and offering consistent tack deployment.

"The motorised tackler allows for controlled, accurate placement of tacks from multiple angles, enhancing both speed and precision," said Dr Sumantra Ray, Consultant, Laparoscopic and General Surgery, who led the team. "Its ergonomic design, including a textured tip and 45-degree angulation, offers excellent access even in tight anatomical spaces—ensuring both surgeon comfort and patient safety."

The MaxTack device, developed by Covidien (Medtronic, USA), features a push-button firing mechanism and absorbable, colour-coded tacks that anchor the mesh without increasing tissue trauma. By reducing counter pressure and operative time, it also lowers the risk of post-operative pain, infection, and recurrence.

This milestone follows Woodlands Hospital's 2023 introduction of Phasix Mesh, Manufactured by Bard (BD), making it the first in Eastern India to adopt this advanced bioresorbable material that supports natural tissue integration.



"We are committed to embracing technologies that enhance surgical outcomes and support our doctors with the best tools available," said a hospital spokesperson. "The addition of the motorised tackler

reflects that commitment." With this innovation, Woodlands further cements its position as a regional leader in minimally invasive hernia surgery.

Technology meets technique — with MaxTack—only at Woodland

- **Precision Perfected:** Motorised deployment ensures uniform, controlled tack placement—no manual firing errors.
- **Surgeon-Friendly Design:** Ergonomic grip, 45° angulation, and textured tip allow access even in tight spots.
- **Patient First:** Reduces tissue trauma, post-op pain, and infection risk with absorbable, colour-coded tacks.
- **Time is Tissue:** Faster operations mean shorter anaesthesia time and quicker recovery.
- **Less Force, More Finesse:** Minimal counter pressure needed—lower risk of recurrence.

Woodlands Nursing Team Honoured at CII QC Circle Convention



Woodlands bagged the 1st runner-up award at the eastern region competition

The Nursing Team from Woodlands Multispecialty Hospital achieved top honours at the prestigious 37th Convention on QC Circle organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and has qualified for the national leg of the competition. The event saw spirited competi-

tion from healthcare teams across the region, highlighting quality initiatives aimed at enhancing patient care. The Woodlands team's project—"REVIVE: An initiative to increase patient survival post-cardiac arrest and reduce hospital average length of stay"—demonstrated significant clinical innovation. The core element was the implementation of the National Early Warning Score (NEWS), a specialised tool to detect early signs of patient deterioration. By proactively monitoring vital parameters, nurses could intervene early, dramatically improving patient outcomes.



The senior nursing team of Woodlands receives the 2nd runner-up award at the state level QC Circle Convention from Mr Rupak Barua, the new vice-chairman of the CII West Bengal State Council, who is also the MD & CEO of Woodlands

our commitment to quality healthcare. Our nurses are the backbone of patient care, and this accolade reflects their dedication to excellence, innovation, and patient-centric practices." The prestigious award ceremony took place during CII's West Bengal Annual Day at Taj Raajkutir, Kolkata, on March 18, 2025. Woodlands' consistent performance at the CII QC Circle Convention reaffirms its stature as a leading healthcare provider in Eastern India, setting a benchmark in quality patient care and clinical excellence.

MD SPEAKS



Mr Rupak Barua
Managing Director & CEO
Woodlands Multispecialty
Hospital Ltd

In healthcare, the truest measure of excellence lies in the lives we touch and the challenges we overcome together.

This issue showcases exactly that—a testament to our commitment at Woodlands Hospital to pioneering care and community leadership.

Take the inspiring journey of Mrs Santisudha Majumdar, whose remarkable recovery at age 82 from a complex brain tumour and underlying cardiac condition highlights our strength in interdisciplinary medicine. Her resilience and our coordinated medical expertise remind us that extraordinary care changes lives.

Our pursuit of excellence is also mirrored in our surgical innovations. Woodlands proudly introduces MaxTack, the region's first motorised hernia fixation device. This advancement is not merely technical but represents our commitment to minimally invasive procedures that offer precise, patient-centric outcomes. Additionally, the recognition of our nursing team's groundbreaking "REVIVE" initiative at the CII QC Circle Convention exemplifies the innovation and dedication at the heart of our nursing care. Their efforts significantly enhance patient survival rates post-cardiac arrest, underscoring the proactive, compassionate ethos of our institution. Together, these stories encapsulate what Woodlands stands for—innovation, dedication, and community spirit, continuously setting new benchmarks in patient care and clinical excellence.

WOODY SAYS

Woody Says,

Hey fam, let's talk eyes! Ever heard of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)? It's the top villain causing irreversible vision loss among our senior squad. Basically, your central vision slowly starts ghosting you—blurry scenes, straight lines doing the wave, tiny texts become mission impossible, and sometimes a shady patch appears outta nowhere (called a "scotoma"). Not cool.

But chill, here's Woody's vibe check to keep those peepers sharp:

- 1 Go green! (And orange...and yellow!) Load your plates with leafy veggies, colourful fruits, whole grains, and omega-rich fish.
- 2 Smoking? Nah, that's a hard pass.
- 3 Keep that blood pressure in check and stay on top of other health conditions.
- 4 Move it! Exercise keeps eyes and vibes fresh.
- 5 Sun protection on point—sunnies and hats are the real MVPs outdoors.
- 6 Check-ups matter! Regular eye exams help catch issues early, so book yours yearly.

Take these steps seriously—they won't cure AMD but can definitely slow its roll. Keep your sight right, fam!