

Thyrocare Launches FocusTB – The brand for Tuberculosis Testing Services

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Thyrocare today announced the launch of FocusTB, its affordable brand focusing on TB diagnostics.

Speaking at a launch event in Mumbai, Dr. A Velumani, CEO of Thyrocare Technologies said:

"With the launch of our TB offering, we hope to make a fundamental and measurable change to the way Tuberculosis is diagnosed and treated in India. Drug resistant strains of TB pose a significant public health hazard and must be addressed by India's healthcare sector sooner than later. We are bringing highly advanced technologies like PCR to bear against this adversary for the first time in India. FocusTB services are available throughout India through Thyrocare's Pan Asian network with more than 30,000 sample collection points."

India is ranked among the countries with the highest TB burdens globally. As per WHO, India is one of the six countries that account for half of new TB cases globally. Estimates suggest that as much as 40% of the Indian population suffers from Latent TB rather than the active form of the disease which is contracted when the patient is immuno-compromised.

One of the emerging public health disasters is the emergence of multiple drug resistant (MDR) Strains of TB. Lack of awareness and dose discipline among the patients globally is making them more prone to drug resistant TB, a complication which is difficult to treat and could be fatal. People with MDR-TB do not respond to the first-line drugs for TB, i.e., Isoniazid and Rifampicin. According to a recent study in Lancet, by the year 2040, the fraction of TB patients with multiple drug resistance will rise to 12.4% of all TB cases in India. Mortality rate is ~40% in TB patients who develop MDR-TB and ~60% in patients with XDR-TB. Early and accurate diagnosis is the only key to tackle MDR-TB and control its spread.

More information can be found on the website – www.focusTB.com

About Tuberculosis:

Tuberculosis (TB) is an air-borne disease, caused by a group of genetically related Mycobacterium complex, which includes *M. tuberculosis*, *M. bovis*, *M. africanum*, *M. microti*. Apart from affecting the lungs (pulmonary TB), it can also affect other parts of the body like kidney, spine and brain giving rise to a more dangerous form of the disease called Extra Pulmonary TB.

About Thyrocare:

Founded in 1996, by Dr. A Velumani, Thyrocare is India's first fully automated diagnostics services provider with a focus on providing quality at affordable costs to laboratories and hospitals in India and other countries. Thyrocare operates its national Centralized Processing Laboratory (CPL) in Mumbai - India for esoteric tests; and Regional Processing Laboratories in major metro cities of

India and other parts of Asia. We have focus on strong technologies, strong brands and strong systems that enable all laboratories to give their clients the best of science and technology at an affordable cost.

Thyrocare's IT enabled, 24x7, fully automated diagnostic laboratory set up covering over 2,00,000 sq. ft. floor space ensures error-free processing of over 50,000 specimens and over 2,00,000 Clinical Chemistry investigations per night. Thyrocare's unmatched speed factor is achieved through a combination of air-cargo logistics and IT enabled, barcoded, bi-directional systems that ensures a turnaround time of 4 to 8 hours for processing of samples that arrive at any time of the day or night

With a belief that 'Quality' is the heart of any intelligent management, Thyrocare became one of the first Indian diagnostic laboratories to obtain internationally renowned quality accreditations like ISO 9001 and CAP (College of American Pathologists) certification.

Meticulously created and monitored systems, well-chosen and trained manpower, wise selection of the best global technologies for specialized testing and an uncompromised approach to instrumentation has ensured that Thyrocare is looked upon as a yardstick for quality by stakeholders in the diagnostic industry. The uniqueness of Thyrocare is its effort to innovate and remain at par of the global standards for best of quality service delivery, at the most cost-effective prices.