

A 40-year-old man, suffering from penile cancer, had given up all hope after two of the premier hospitals at Jammu declared him "inoperable", given his advanced stage of cancer, which was compounded by his uncontrolled hypertension. But he received a new lease of life when Dr. Nadeem Niyaz Jan and his team at ESIC Hospital, Bari Brahmana, Jammu removed the tumour.

Pritam Lal from Gobindnagar, Kathua, was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma, a form of cancer in the penis, around seven months ago, but he initially tried out alternative treatment, before opting for surgery. Owing to the delay, the tumour grew from 2 cm to almost 10 cm. When he visited one of the renowned hospitals, the doctors termed his case "inoperable", and even said his days were numbered. He then visited a private premier institute where he was advised to go to Delhi or Chandigarh as his case was rare, as well as, complex in nature and would be dealt there. However, due to financial restraints he was not able to go to Delhi. He visited ESI Dispensary at Kathua where he was referred to the Surgical Department of ESIC Hospital, Bari Brahmana, Jammu.

After a thorough metastatic workup Pritam Lal was taken up for the extensive surgery last week at ESIC Hospital, Bari Brahmana, Jammu and his tumour was removed in a three and a half hour surgery. The tumour, which had originally developed on his glans penis, kept growing till it involved the entire shaft. "Penile cancers are very uncommon, accounting for 0.4 – 0.6 % of all male malignancies. In his case though, the tumour was big and a decision to undertake a total penectomy with bilateral radical orchidectomy with perineal urethrostomy was done. The patient has had a good post operative period and is recovering well." said HOD, Surgery, ESIC Hospital Dr. Nadeem Niyaz Jan along with team members Dr. Dhruv Gupta and Dr. Sunil Kumar Verma.