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# THE PRAVIN AGARWAL FOUNDATION

## April'26 Newsletter

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As we move forward in 2026, TPAF reflects with pride on the milestones achieved over the past year. With 700+ children supported through life-saving interventions and a strong network of 25+ hospital partners, our journey continues to be driven by impact, compassion, and collaboration. Each number represents a life transformed, a family given hope, and a future restored. Over the past year, TPAF has worked relentlessly to bridge the gap in Pediatric Liver Care by enabling timely transplants, supporting critical procedures like Kasai, and strengthening partnerships across the healthcare ecosystem.

Building on this momentum, TPAF has completed 10 years in enabling PLTs for underprivileged children and April marks another step forward in our mission to ensure that no child is denied access to life-saving treatment due to financial constraints. As we continue this journey, we remain committed to expanding our reach, deepening our impact, and bringing hope and healing to many more families.

## A moment of Honour at LIVCON 2026

In April 2026, a proud moment for TPAF, as Mr. Pravin Agarwal was felicitated at LIVCON 2026, held in Mumbai, for his outstanding contribution towards enabling Pediatric Liver Transplants for children in need. He was honoured by Nanavati Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mumbai, in recognition of his generous support in facilitating life-saving treatments for 45+ children, reflecting his deep commitment to making critical healthcare accessible to underserved families. Adding to this recognition, Mr. Agarwal was felicitated by Dr. Mohamed Rela, a globally renowned liver transplant surgeon, acknowledging his significant efforts in strengthening the Pediatric Liver Transplant ecosystem in India.

This recognition at a prestigious platform like LIVCON stands as a testament to the impact of TPAF's mission, transforming lives and giving children a second chance at life.



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Together with over 25+ hospital partners, dedicated doctors, and our incredible supporters, TPAF has continued to work towards a brighter future for children battling liver disease. As we reflect on the journey of 2025-26, our commitment to this cause remains stronger than ever.

Over the year, we have stayed true to our mission by:

- Facilitating timely medical interventions through Pediatric Liver transplants and Kasai procedures.
- Providing essential financial support to ease the burden on families.
- Empowering communities with awareness on early detection, timely treatment, and prevention.

With 700+ children given a second chance at life through our collective efforts, this year stands as a testament to what can be achieved through compassion, collaboration, and purpose.

As we close the year, we remain determined to expand our reach, strengthen partnerships, and continue ensuring that no child is left behind.

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## Our Commitment and Impact

### The lives we touched...



**Rudransh Pind**

Rudransh Pind is a 2-year-old from Latur, Maharashtra, who was diagnosed with acute and subacute hepatic failure with coma. His condition was critical and required immediate medical attention. His father, a farmer, and the family were going through a very difficult time, both emotionally and financially. With the right support and timely intervention, Rudransh underwent a Pediatric Liver Transplant at Ruby Hall Clinic, Pune.

In a deeply personal act, his mother became his donor and helped make the transplant possible.

Rudransh is now recovering well. His journey is a reminder of how timely support and family strength can make a life-saving difference.



**Mahika Bose**

Mahika Bose is a 1-year-old from Howrah, West Bengal, diagnosed with Biliary Atresia. She had earlier undergone a Kasai procedure, but it was unsuccessful, and her condition continued to worsen. Her father, who works in retail, and the family were facing a difficult time as they searched for the right treatment and support. Mahika underwent a Pediatric Liver Transplant at Rela Hospital, Chennai. In a courageous step, her mother became the donor and helped make the transplant possible.

Mahika is now on her recovery journey. Her story reflects the importance of timely intervention and the strength of a family standing together during the toughest times.



**Akshata Chinabhim**

Akshata Chinabhim, a 16-year-old from Mumbai, Maharashtra, was diagnosed with Autoimmune Hepatitis with overlapping Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. She was also experiencing severe abdominal distension and jaundice, making her condition increasingly serious. Her father, a daily wage earner, and the family were under immense pressure as they tried to manage the treatment and its costs. Akshata underwent a Pediatric Liver Transplant at Jaslok Hospital, Mumbai. In a strong show of support, her brother stepped forward as the donor, helping make the transplant possible.

Akshata is now recovering and moving towards a healthier future. Her journey shows the strength of family and the importance of timely medical care.

# Industry Update

## Global Outcomes of Open Versus Laparoscopic Versus Robotic Donor Hepatectomy

### Background

Living donor liver transplantation is a critical solution to the global organ shortage. Comparisons of donor short-term outcomes according to the surgical approach are limited to a few single-center retrospective studies. This study aimed to evaluate the short-term outcomes of open, laparoscopic, and robotic surgical approaches to living donor hepatectomy using data from the prospective International Living Donor Liver Transplantation Registry.

### Methods

Data from 2600 living donors undergoing hepatectomy were prospectively collected from September 2023 to February 2025. Donors were grouped into open (1726; 66.4%), laparoscopic (242; 9.3%), and robotic (632; 24.3%) approaches.

### Results

The mean donor age was 33 (SD 9.4) y, with 45% women and a mean body mass index of 24.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (SD 6.5). Conversion rates were 15.3% for laparoscopic and 5.1% for robotic approaches (odds ratio, 0.30; 95% confidence interval, 0.17-0.50; P < 0.001). Robotic hepatectomy was associated with the lowest intraoperative blood loss (70 mL; interquartile range, 50-100), lowest pain scores on postoperative day 1 (visual analog scale, 2.3; SD 1.9), and shortest hospital stay (4 d; interquartile range, 3-5). Robotic hepatectomy was associated with the lowest overall (grade ≥1; 4.6%) and major (grade ≥3a; 0.3%) complication rates compared with laparoscopic (16.5% overall, 3.7% major) and open (10.4% overall, 1.9% major) approaches (P < 0.001).

### Conclusions

This is the first global study to show evidence that robotic living donor hepatectomy offers superior short-term outcomes compared with laparoscopic and open approaches. Although open surgery remains the most common approach, robotic techniques show promise for improving donor safety and recovery.

Source - <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/41143569/>

# Status, Advances, and Challenges in Pediatric Liver Transplantation in Africa

## Introduction

Pediatric liver diseases are a significant mortality burden in low-income countries particularly in Africa, where access to life-saving Pediatric Liver Transplantation (PLT) is limited. We aimed to determine the current state of PLT in Africa based on the available literature, identify key barriers to access, and propose solutions.

## Methods

We conducted a comprehensive search of peer-reviewed articles, reports, and gray literature from databases such as Google Scholar, PubMed Central, Web of Science, and African Journal Online. We included studies on PLT between January 2000 and July 2024. Data were extracted, collated, and summarized following the Arksey, O'Malley, and Joanna Briggs Institute frameworks.

## Results

Only two African countries have PLT programs, located in South Africa and Egypt. Approximately 548 PLTs were performed, with 388 in South Africa and 160 in Egypt. Biliary atresia is the leading indication (43.1%). Sixty-six percent of patients wait longer than a year for a transplant. Living donors are predominantly used, with deceased donor programs primarily located in South Africa. Compared to global 1-y and 5-y survival rates of 86.6% and 77.7%, survival in Africa is at 79.4% and 67.4%, respectively. PLT complications include biliary (41%), vascular (16%), and enteric (10%). Major challenges include limited access and infrastructure, donor shortages, late referrals, diagnostic delays, financial and socioeconomic barriers, clinical and postoperative complications, and policy bottlenecks.

## Conclusions

PLT in Africa has limited access and poorer outcomes compared to global trends. Addressing these requires increasing resources, improved early diagnosis, expanded deceased donor programs, policy development, education, and resource allocation.

Source - <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0022480425008248>

## Research Insight: Life After Pediatric Liver Transplant

A recent study by Mount Sinai Health System highlights an important perspective on recovery after Pediatric Liver Transplants. While medical success is critical, the study emphasizes that a child's quality of life goes beyond clinical outcomes. The research found that differences between how children and their parents perceive the child's well-being can significantly impact overall quality of life. In many cases, parents may view recovery differently than the child experiencing it. The study suggests that greater gaps in these perceptions are linked to lower overall well-being, even when the transplant itself has been successful. This insight underlines the importance of looking at recovery in a more holistic way, not just focusing on physical health, but also on emotional well-being, communication, and family understanding. Supporting both the child and their caregivers through this journey plays a key role in long-term recovery.

Source-<https://www.mountsinai.org/about/newsroom/2025/new-study-reveals-that-differences-between-parent-and-child-views-best-assess-quality-of-life-after-pediatric-liver-transplant>

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## Support us by Volunteering, Donating or Spreading the message

### Amplify

We warmly invite you to join us in strengthening and amplifying our efforts.

[www.tpaf.in](http://www.tpaf.in)

### Assistance

If you have any query, need any support or would simply like to have a conversation, reach out to us on

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