

New mammography unit marks breast cancer awareness month

AFIYAA Imaging and Diagnostic Centre now has one more imaging modality, following the introduction of its new mammography unit, which coincided with the breast cancer awareness month. The new unit was inaugurated in the presence of Yuthar al Rawahiya, Founder and Chairperson of Naca (National Association of Cancer Awareness).

The mammography unit will play a big role in the detection of breast cancer, which is an increasing problem today. It underscores the importance of early detection to avoid complications, and even death, and brings to fore the advice of regular check-ups from doctors and medical experts, who have, time and again, exhorted women to do a mammography and rule out the onset of the disease, especially since the risk of breast cancer is known to increase with age.

The new unit will go a long way in helping women understand the associated problems and also infuse confidence in treatment when detected early. The prognosis for breast cancer is good when it is detected early and treatment is said to be more effective in saving the life as well as the breast of the patient. And that places the onus on mammography, which has been marked as the Gold Standard for early detection.

Aafiyaa Imaging and Diagnostic Centre, con-



veniently located at the prime Al Wadi Commercial Centre, is a specialised imaging centre. In just a span of one year of operations it has earned repute in the medical circuit for its reliability in all types of ultrasonography services, including ultrasound scans of the abdomen, gynaecology scans, pregnancy scans, 4D scans, Colour doppler scans, etc.

Aafiyaa has also taken up the initiative of contributing to the continuous medical education in Oman and has co-organised an international conference titled 'Update in breast imaging' at the Institute of Health Sciences, last month. Talking about the event, Dr Hiral Jerajani Kamath, Aafiyaa's founder and operating radiologist said, "It was a great success, which proves the interest

of medical and paramedical staff in Oman in updating themselves. We hope to continue organising such conferences in the future. It will bring qualified and experienced people from Oman and other parts of the world on the same platform and use their shared experience and knowledge to benefit the medical fraternity of Oman."

Dr Hiral has over 15 years of experience in radiology and imaging and is specially trained in Mammography. She infuses a sense of confidence and comfort among her women patients, who have fewer inhibitions when checked by a lady.

Dr Hiral has been a part of the breast cancer awareness camp, organised by Naca at the Qurum City Centre this month. She has also been giving awareness lectures for groups of women to assist in the awareness programmes and is open to requests for talks to groups.

According to her, every woman, above the age of 40, must have a yearly Screening Mammogram. "We advise younger women to go in for ultrasound for any breast problems and only some selected few will go in for a Mammogram. We don't compromise on quality. We have a state-of-the-art USG machine and the best analogue mammography machine to give us very good quality pictures," she explained.