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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Awareness Workshop on Accreditation for AYUSH Hospitals**

**National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH)**, a constituent board of Quality Council of India (QCI), has recently launched the **"Accreditation for AYUSH Hospitals"** in association with the **Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**. Under this, NABH has released the Accreditation standards which provide framework for improving quality and safety of patient care in the AYUSH (Ayurveda, Unani, Homeopathy, Siddha, Yoga & Naturopathy) hospitals.

NABH has conducted a one day awareness workshop on Accreditation for AYUSH Hospitals in Cochin on September 18 in Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences. The objective of this programme was to bring together the various stakeholders of the AYUSH (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy) industry and sensitize them about the quality standards for AYUSH hospitals and the accreditation process. Nearly 80 doctors and hospital management professionals, from all over Kerala attended the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Anitha Jacob, Director, Department of AYUSH, Government of Kerala. Dr. Vikram Kashyap, Dr. Surekha Pai, Dr. Rajeev B among the prominent NABH speakers. Dr. Bhawna Gulati, Assistant Director from NABH who is driving the AYUSH programmes in NABH was also present.

The standards focus on all aspects of service delivery like patient rights and education, infection control practices, trained and experienced staff, infrastructure and environment safety. Accreditation is a voluntary programme and is granted for a period of 3 years to the hospital based on its evaluation on these standards.

NABH has been set up by the Government of India for running a national accreditation programme in the country. NABH is currently offering accreditation in the areas of Hospitals, Small Health Care Organisations Blood Banks and Transfusion Services, Primary Health Care Centres/Community Health Care Centres, Wellness Centres and Medical Imaging Services. Nearly 500 hospitals are in various stages of Accreditation and 52 hospitals are already accredited. This also includes both private and government hospitals.

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