

## **Chai for Cancer**

## A unique awareness and fund raising programme aimed at supporting the pathway of access to treatment

Chai for Cancer is an awarenesscreating and voluntary fund-raising campaign directed at supporting patients who are coping with the two rare life-long cancers, GIST & CML. The fundraising events are called Chai for Cancer Addas and have been held over the last five years all over India and since 2015, in Singapore and USA. Begun in 2014 and best when conducted in an informal atmosphere (called adda) it is a tool to raise funds to help patients cover costs incurred by them for accessing the treatment. The money that is raised at a Chai for Cancer Adda is used in the following ways to support patients:

- -To reimburse costs of Medical Tests incurred for periodic monitoring
- -To provide need-based Nutritional support required for compliance
- -To reimburse transportation and accommodation costs incurred by patients on their visits to their treatment centers
- To compile, print and distribute information literature/booklets compiled by physicians
   And to support costs of Patient Support Group Meetings

## The Chai for Cancer Adda

wants to be a part of this awareness and fund raising campaign.

A Chai for Cancer Adda provides an informal occasion for likeminded people to come together, share conversations over a cup of tea and contribute towards the cause.

A minimum donation of Rs100/- is accepted for one cup of chai (tea).

An Adda can be hosted by anyone who

The maximum is left to the discretion of the donor.

The host can be an individual hosting an Adda in his / her home inviting friends and family, neighbors and colleagues to have a cup of chai or it can be a Corporate Office hosting one afternoon's Chai Tea Break in their workplace having associates gather together and contribute.

Historically we have had patient leaders and advocates host Addas in their homes, cancer hospitals host them in their OPD spaces, hotels in their coffee shops, and enthusiastic volunteers in public spaces like the Lodhi Gardens in Delhi, Victoria Memorial in Kolkata and KBR Park in Hyderabad.

In the last five years since the launch of this initiative we have built up a network of very supportive and encouraging partners.

Chai for Cancer is at once a Community Building Project which helps strengthen the cancer narrative in an all-encompassing manner as it brings various stakeholders in the game together. It is the brain child of FOM Founder and Management Trustee Viji Venkatesh.







## Friends of Max