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Stanley Pinto | TNN | Aug 28, 2013, 17:46 IST

TimesPoints

MANGALORE: A large [cardiac mass growth](#), almost the size of the heart, was removed from the heart of a person from Davangere by surgeons at the [Kasturba Hospital](#), Manipal recently.

Dr Colonel M Dayananda, medical superintendent and COO, Kasturba Hospital, Manipal said: The patient, Vijay, aged about 50, from Davangere, began showing symptoms of cardiac disease though he had no cardiovascular problems. A thorough examination revealed a cardiac mass growth, almost size of heart itself on the left ventricle of the patient's heart. The COO said that often the symptoms of a cardiac mass growth develop suddenly and resemble those of other heart diseases like breathlessness. Though the diagnosis of cardiac mass growth in the heart is difficult, the cardiologists Dr Tom Devasia and Dr Hashir Karim made clear diagnosis of the mass growth in the patient's heart.

The patient was referred to Dr Vasudev Pai for the surgical removal of the cardiac mass growth. The cardiac mass growth was so long that its length was almost as that of the heart itself. The surgery was performed with cardiac anaesthesia support from Dr Nitin Patil and perfusion team of Shivshankar Pai and Kumud Lonkar.

Dr Vasudev Pai, cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, Kasturba Hospital, Manipal said: "Most people are born with heart mass the size of small pearls and most of the time they do not grow. But in this case, it grew very large." Dr Vasudev Pai added that it was the largest mass he had ever seen in a person, in India as well as abroad and that the patient was still breathing.

Cardiac mass growth causes symptoms only when it obstructs blood flow through the heart chambers. This type of growth increases the risk of stroke. Heart surgery is required to remove the cardiac mass. Removal of these mass is almost always curative and greatly reduces the risk of stroke.

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