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## INP achieves 80% survival rate in acute lymphoblastic leukemia patients

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Attends between 800 and 1,200 thousand children with the disease per year; of which 365 are new cases.

The National Institute of Pediatrics (INP) in Mexico, has achieved 80 percent survival rate in patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a major oncological illness that affects children.

Dr. Alejandro Serrano Sierra, general director, said that the institute has a modern unit to attend cancer issues, which is equipped with the latest technology for diagnosis and treatment.

"We count with a linear accelerator, scanner and the latest MRI equipment to perform tests and laboratory studies, as immunophenotype, which identifies types of leukemia," he said.

He explained that within the group of oncological diseases affecting the pediatric population, acute lymphoblastic leukemia is in first place, followed by tumors of the central nervous system.

To strengthen the quality of health care in the treatment of various cancers, the INP build a new unit for Pediatric Hematology-Oncology with an investment of more than 18 million dollars from National Healthcare.

Dr. Serrano reported that each year the INP treats between 800 and 1,200 children with this disease; of which 365 are new cases.

The general director of the INP recommended that parents bring their children to the doctor for any symptoms such as nosebleeds, red spots on the skin, bruising and frequent infectious processes, the most common symptoms of acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

He argued that with the support of the most advanced technology for diagnosis, a medical team of excellence, and patient adherence to therapeutic treatment, the INP has achieved survival standards comparable to the best hospitals in any part of the world.

The unit consists of three levels, the first has a waiting room for 75 people, 23 offices and teaching areas for medical residents, and a playground where children can perform different educational and recreational activities while waiting for consultation.

The second is aimed at performing bone marrow transplants, will have six beds, intensive care specialist in hematology-oncology and immune problems will work there.

While on the third floor focus areas are dedicated to the care of benign hematological problems such as anemia and classical hemophilia, among others.

The doctor said that with the financial support of the Fund for Catastrophic Expenses of the National Healthcare cancer treatment is covered for all under 18 years old. This, he noted, means that those affected by this condition do not have to abandon treatment for lack of economic solvency of their families. (Agencia ID)

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Source:  
Investigación y Desarrollo

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