



# Turning over a New Leaf: Lailima's Story!



## 1 20 Years of Pain and Hardship



For 20 years, Lailima, a 50-year-old woman from Mazar-e-Sharif, Balkh province, suffered from palpitations and abnormal heart rate, causing chest pain, breathlessness, and difficulty speaking and walking.

## 2 Initial Treatment Pursuit



Despite visiting public and private hospitals in Mazar and Kabul, her illness remained undiagnosed for a long time, with doctors assuring her that her heart was fine.

## 3 Mounting Suffering



Lailima reported experiencing abnormal heart rate spikes of 250-300 beats per minute, occurring two to three times monthly, while typical resting heart rates for adults range from 60-100 bpm, per AHA. Her symptoms have also worsened in recent years.

## 4 Second Medical Treatment Endeavor



Lailima underwent extensive examinations at a prominent private hospital in Kabul, revealing symptomatic supraventricular tachycardia that remained unresponsive to medication. The hospital advised seeking treatment abroad as it was unavailable in Afghanistan.

## 5 Straddling Hope and Despair



Lailima's family felt sad about the untreatable illness in Afghanistan. Her lecturer husband consulted friends and reached out to FMIC doctors for solutions.

## 6 An epiphany



The newly launched service at FMIC prompted the FMIC Cardiac Electrophysiologist to invite Lailima's family for electrophysiology study and catheter ablation at FMIC, eliminating the need to go abroad. Lailima underwent the procedure, the first of its kind in Afghanistan, in the Cath Lab.

## 7 Comprehensive financial coverage



Due to the novelty of the service in FMIC and Afghanistan, Lailima was provided complete financial support for her treatment. The FMIC patient welfare program has been assisting underprivileged patients in Afghanistan since its inception in 2006.

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