

What's up, Doc?

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DR NGUYEN VAN THO JOINS PULMONOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF FV HOSPITAL



Dr Nguyen Van Tho graduated from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in 2000, and obtained a Masters of Medicine from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy City, HCMC in 2008. Following that, Dr Nguyen Van Tho continued his training and became a Doctor of Medicine at Shiga Medical University, Japan in 2015. In addition, Dr Tho has also participated

in an advanced training course on Respiratory and Special Care in Singapore in 2007 and joined the Japan Respiratory Association, Shiga Medical University of Japan from 2009 to 2010.

Dr Tho has over 20 years of experience as well as strong expertise in the treatment of asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, respiratory diseases and function imaging in the treatment of thoracic diseases. Beginning in 2003, Dr Tho previously worked at the Department of Lung Function Studies at the University of Medicine, Ho Chi Minh City. Here his role was as a Senior Consultant supporting the Obstructive Lung Diseases Department, Non-Tuberculosis Lung Diseases Department, Lung Cancer Department, and Tuberculosis Department of Pham Ngoc Thach Hospital (2004-2016). In his career he has assisted many patients to overcome and recover from their conditions and helped them maintain a high quality of life.

Additionally, Dr Nguyen Van Tho has also worked as a lecturer for the Department of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy City, HCMC, from 2017. In November, 2020, Dr Nguyen Van Tho decided to join the FV team and began working in FV's Department of Pulmonology.



To make an appointment with Dr Nguyen Van Tho, Pulmonology Department, **please contact:**
028 5411 3333, ext: 1541

DR HOANG QUANG MINH JOINS FV'S CARDIOLOGY DEPARTMENT



Dr Hoang Quang Minh graduated from the University of Medicine, Ho Chi Minh City in 2007. Since graduating, Dr Quang Minh has attended numerous advanced training courses in the cardiovascular medical field in Vietnam and abroad. Such courses include echocardiography, Holter ECG, ECG stress test, Tilt test, heart echo stress test, abdominal ultrasound, cardiology intervention, coronary angiogram; foetal echocardiography, congenital heart disease, electrophysiology and pacing procedures, cardiac electrophysiology pacing procedures and patient management; and catheter ablation of the atrial fibrillation.

Dr Quang Minh is highly specialised and experienced in the treatment of cardiology diseases. These range from general cardiology and arrhythmia; catheter ablation of atrial arrhythmias; catheter ablation of ventricular arrhythmias; and pacemaker implantation.

During his 13 years of experience, Dr Hoang Quang Minh has worked at Tam Duc Cardiology Hospital (2008 – 2014), the University of Medicine (2014 – 2020), and in November, 2020, Dr Hoang Quang Minh joined FV Hospital's Cardiology Department



To make an appointment with Dr Hoang Quang Minh, Cardiology Department, **please contact:**
028 5411 3333, ext: 1216/1165

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LAPAROSCOPIC METHODS USED TO SUCCESSFULLY TREAT CERVICAL CANCER

Due to early detection of the disease and appropriate treatment methods, FV's Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department successfully treated Mrs N.T.T.H., a 47 year old patient living in Binh Duong, who was suffering from cervical cancer.

The patient's initial symptom was abnormal bleeding after she had sexual intercourse. Being concerned, she decided to visit a clinic near her home for an examination. The doctor there suspected an abnormality and referred her to a hospital which specializes in obstetrics and gynaecology treatment.



Patient N.T.T.H

After undergoing cervical apical removal surgery at another hospital based in Ho Chi Minh City, the biopsy results showed that the patient was suffering from cervical cancer. As a result, she was asked to transfer to a hospital specializing in oncology to continue the treatment

Ms N.T.T.H. then decided to see Dr Sophie Sanguin, Acting Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department at FV. Dr Sophie Sanguin advised the patient to undergo an additional pelvic MRI scan to determine the stage of the cancer. The result found that the patient's cancer was in its early stages and after a multidisciplinary oncology meeting with fellow doctors at FV, Dr Sophie Sanguin decided to perform surgery.

The patient underwent general anaesthesia and laparoscopic surgery. Doctor Sophie Sanguin performed a radical hysterectomy with bilateral adnexectomy and pelvic lymphadenectomy, according to the guidelines for treatment of this early stage of cervical cancer. After three hours, the operation was successful and the patient, being almost fully recovered, was discharged several days later.

According to Dr Sophie Sanguin, Mrs N.T.T.H. was lucky to have had a diagnosis and surgery in good time. Detecting and acting this early helps provide a cure rate of over 90%. Following the procedure, the patient will now have to periodically undergo a re-examination every 4-6 months for the first five years, and then once a year for further check-ups. FV is one of the few hospitals in Vietnam that uses laparoscopic methods for this kind of surgery. This method offers a much faster recovery compared to open surgery, with less pain, and better aesthetic results for the patient. For the surgeon, it requires high professional skills and experience.



To make an appointment with Dr Sophie Sanguin, Acting Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, **please contact: 028 5411 3333, ext: 1102**

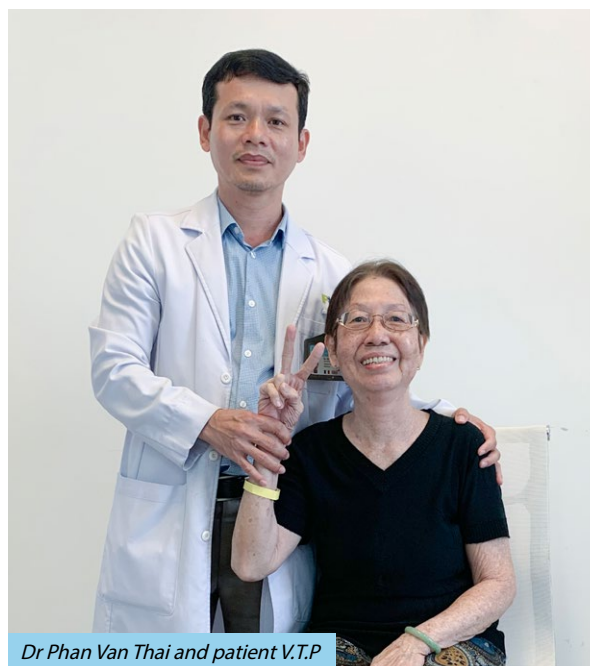
NEW ADVANCED RECTAL CANCER SURGICAL TREATMENT AT FV AVOIDS NEED FOR ARTIFICIAL ANUS

Patient V.T.P., a 74 year old man from Ho Chi Minh City, came to FV suffering from bloody stools. He was previously diagnosed at another hospital in Ho Chi Minh City as having a lower rectal tumour. There, the doctor suggested that the patient should have his anus removed and an artificial anus should be used instead.

At FV Hospital, through examination, endoscopy, biopsy and a MRI scan, it was found that the patient's tumour in his rectum was the size of a lemon, with the base of the tumour being 4cm, located at the edge of the anus. The biopsy results of the sample taken from the tumour showed that it was cancerous, while the MRI scan determined that the tumour was in stage 3 (the tumour had invaded the rectal area but not expanded to other organs). With the collaboration between the Imaging Department, General Surgery and HyVong Cancer Care Centre, the parameters of the tumour were measured accurately and in detail. The patient then underwent VMAT radiotherapy to minimize the size of the tumour over a 5-week period. Following that, Dr Phan Van Thai, Head of General Surgery carried out a surgical procedure to remove all parts of the tumour, as well as keep the anus through "Cutting the anal sphincter – connecting the colon – anal canal".

The patient was completely anesthetized and a laparoscopic approach was used in combination with anal surgery. Dr Thai created four holes through the abdomen in collaboration with an ultrasonic scalpel to cut accurately, which ensured less bleeding and that the cutting area was away from the tumour to bring the best effect. Through the anus, the surgeon then cut a part of the inner sphincter of the anal canal, continued to move to the location of the dissection by laparoscopy, removed the specimen, and performed the stitching of the colon to the anal canal. The results of the surgical pathology of the surgical specimens verified the standard cut sections were far from the tumour.

The surgery finished after five hours and with attentive post-operative care, the patient was discharged after one week. He now eats with no issues and has recovered well. According to Dr Phan Van Thai, choosing between two methods to remove or preserve the anus in the case of low rectal cancer is a difficult decision. If the decision is to preserve the anus, there is concern that the tumour will not be removed completely. If the decision is to instead remove the anus, patients would have to use the artificial anus throughout their life. In recent years, the medical sector has developed considerably, with the support of imaging diagnostics, especially the pelvic MRI scan, which helps to measure accurately the position of the tumour, calculate the exact position and ensures safe removal of the cancer (remove the full tumour, cross section less than 10mm), as well as preserve the functions of organs. In addition, the development in preoperative chemotherapy and radiotherapy helps to reduce the size of the tumour before the operation. Moreover, the new advanced approach and modern equipment helps the surgery to be performed accurately, and reduce the rate of recurrence.



Dr Phan Van Thai and patient V.T.P



To make an appointment with Dr Phan Van Thai, Head of General Surgery, **please contact: 028 5411 3333, ext: 1250**