

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Association for the Bladder Exstrophy Community announces first recipients of the Richard W. Grady Humanitarian award**

*Four doctors making a global impact on the treatment of bladder exstrophy receive recognition*

St. Petersburg, FL, March 16, 2018 — Association for the Bladder Exstrophy Community (A-BE-C), a global nonprofit organization providing education and support to bladder exstrophy patients and their families, today announced that it is establishing and presenting the Richard W. Grady Humanitarian Award to recognize work that elevates the standards of care for children born with the rare medical condition of bladder exstrophy.

#### **2018 Richard W. Grady Humanitarian Award Recipients:**

- [Dr. Rakesh Joshi](#), Professor and Department Head of Pediatric Surgery, B.J. Medical College & Civil Hospital - Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
- **Dr. Jaishri Ramji**, Associate Professor in Department of Pediatric Surgery at Civil Hospital and B.J. Medical College - Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
- [Dr. Mahesh Desai](#), Managing Trustee, Muljibhai Patel Urological Hospital - Nadidad, Gujarat, India & [Dr. Nalini Mahesh Desai](#), Head, Department of Anesthesiology, Muljibhai Patel Urological Hospital - Nadidad, Gujarat, India (joint recipients)

All four recipients of the inaugural award are involved in bladder exstrophy care in India, where the unmet need for treatment that is greater than anyplace else in the world.

The award is named for the late Dr. Richard W. Grady of Seattle, an internationally known expert and humanitarian in the field of bladder exstrophy. Award recipients are identified as individuals who exemplify the highest value of leadership, excellence in clinical care and research, innovation, teaching, volunteerism, advocacy, and dedication to improve the health of those living with bladder exstrophy around the world.

Drs. Joshi and Ramji were presented their awards at a ceremony on January 20, 2018 in Ahmedabad, India. On January 29, 2018, Drs. Desai and Desai received their award in Nadidad, India.

#### **About the Richard W. Grady Humanitarian Award**

Named for the late surgeon known for inspiring and leading initiatives to reduce world suffering related to the condition of bladder exstrophy, the Richard W. Grady Humanitarian award is given to recognize the work of others with this same spirit. Established in 2018, the award honors individuals for their outstanding humanitarian and volunteer work to improve the health of those affected by bladder exstrophy.

**About Association for the Bladder Exstrophy Community (A-BE-C)**

A-BE-C is dedicated to supporting people who are affected by bladder exstrophy worldwide. Founded in 1995, the organization works to ensure all who live with this rare and life-altering condition have the opportunity to realize their greatest purpose and potential. Funding for the 501(c)(3) nonprofit's work comes from contributions from members, individual and corporate donors, and sponsors. [www.bladderexstrophy.com](http://www.bladderexstrophy.com)

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