



DR. GUDURU VENKAT RAO



Dr. Guduru Venkat Rao is one of India's foremost Surgical Gastroenterologists and the Director of AIG Hospitals, Hyderabad, a globally recognized institute dedicated to excellence in Gastroenterology, advanced surgery, research and academics. He is widely recognized for pioneering advancements in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery and therapeutic endoscopy, significantly contributing to strengthening India's global leadership in surgical sciences.

2. Born on 15th June, 1960, Dr. Rao received his medical and surgical training in India and specialized in Surgical Gastroenterology during the formative years of the discipline in the country. Over the course of his distinguished career, he has developed extensive expertise in complex gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, pancreatic and minimally invasive surgical procedures. He currently leads the Departments of Surgical Gastroenterology, Minimally Invasive Surgery and Transplantation Services at AIG Hospitals and heads an advanced surgical training program through which more than 150 surgeons have been mentored in modern gastrointestinal surgery. He has organized several national and international conferences, live operative workshops and master classes and has delivered numerous named orations while serving as faculty at major global scientific forums.

3. Dr. Rao is among the few surgeons worldwide with vast experience in both advanced endoscopy and laparoscopic gastrointestinal surgery. He has performed more than 12,000 complex gastrointestinal surgeries and nearly 16,000 advanced endoscopic procedures. He co-pioneered the Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES), commonly known as "No Scar Surgery," and is credited with performing the world's first Transoral Endoscopic Appendectomy. As a co-founder of AIG Hospitals, he played a key role in developing an integrated healthcare ecosystem combining patient care, academics, and research, while spearheading innovations including India's Islet Cell Transplantation program and several pioneering hybrid endoscopic surgical procedures now widely adopted in clinical practice.

4. Dr. Rao has held several important leadership positions in national and international professional bodies. He served as President of the Indian Association of Surgical Gastroenterology, where he introduced structured non-technical skills training for surgical postgraduates aimed at strengthening leadership and clinical decision-making abilities. He is also the Past President of the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association and the Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India. He has actively promoted indigenous healthcare innovation through collaborations with institutions such as the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, for development of a surgical simulator and IIT Hyderabad for a robotic nurse system designed to strengthen healthcare delivery in rural and underserved regions.

5. Dr. Rao has authored over 224 scientific publications and several textbook chapters and serves on the editorial boards of leading peer-reviewed journals. Through the Asian Healthcare Foundation, he has led large-scale rural outreach programs across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh focusing on early detection, treatment, and awareness of gastrointestinal diseases, benefiting over one lakh people through screening camps and telemedicine initiatives.

6. Dr. Rao is the recipient of several national and international honours including the Dr. B. C. Roy National Award, the Parliament Gold Medal awarded by the Government of India, and The Economic Times Inspiring Doctors of India Award. He has also received honorary fellowships from several international surgical societies including the Royal College of Surgeons of Glasgow in recognition of his outstanding contribution to surgical gastroenterology and healthcare innovation.