

## Protecting our People, Protecting Our Community: HNBA Conducts a Workshop on Cancer Awareness

Taking the initial step to create awareness on the causes and prevention of cancer, HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) held a workshop for its staff recently. This workshop was conducted by Dr. Suraj Perera, Board Certified Specialist in Community Medicine and Consultant Community Physician of the College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka.

Sharing his thoughts Managing Director/CEO of HNBA and its fully owned subsidiary HNB General Insurance Limited, Mr. Deepthi Lokuarachchi stated "as a business sworn take care of our community, we believe that real protection and care truly begin with individuals taking care of themselves and leading a healthy lifestyle and thereafter by encouraging their families and friends to follow similar steps. In the backdrop of the launch of our Hope Cancer Insurance plan, we realized that a workshop of this nature will help in educating as well as in creating awareness firstly amongst our staff for the betterment of themselves and their families and as we believe that our staff would carry this message to the community as ambassadors of the brand".

Sharing his views on the Cancer Insurance Plan, Chief Operating Officer Mr. Prasantha Fernando stated, "our lifestyles, health habits even hereditary conditions contribute to the development of a cancer and cancer can touch us all at any point in our lives despite our social strata. Hence, it is up to us as individuals to take necessary measures to protect ourselves. The cost of cancer treatment could often pose a threat to family savings and the financial foundation. Considering all these aspects, HNBA launched its Cancer Insurance Plan, 'Hope' with the primary objective of providing a ray of hope through financial protection to those individuals and families to overcome this dreaded disease".

Speaking at the workshop Dr. Suraj Perera stated "this workshop was conducted with the aim of creating awareness on cancer and its prevention. Amongst many contributing factors for the development of a cancer, unhealthy dietary habits, smoking, consumption of alcohol and chewing of betel are identified as the top

causes for cancer and it is important to communicate these to individuals as prevention with no doubt is better than cure. Workshops of this nature surely help in making a lasting influence amongst responsible individuals. And we believe that heightening people's awareness on cancer and its precautions is the first step towards fighting cancer and will help in making a difference in their lifestyles which will ultimately have a positive impact on the wellbeing of our community".

