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Call to clear misconceptions about asthma

Staff Reporter

DVD containing a short film on the subject released

The film depicts the story of an asthma patient whose life improves after she starts receiving effective treatment

— PHOTO: K.V.SRINIVASAN



SOCIAL CAUSE: Film director Vasanthabalan (second from left) presents a copy of 'Poongattru Puhidhanadhu' to director S. B. Kanthan in Chennai on Thursday. (From left) Scholar Gnanasambandan, Dr. R. Sridharan and music director Bharadwaj are in the picture.

CHENNAI: It was an evening that was both educative and entertaining. The programme, organised by Asthma -Allergy consultant Dr. R. Sridharan, on behalf of the Asthma and Allergy Resource Centre, in connection with 'World Asthma Day' here on Thursday was aimed at creating and spreading awareness of asthma.

There are several misconceptions about asthma, which needed to be cleared, Dr. Sridharan said.

The condition could be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors, he said.

With appropriate treatment, patients could lead normal lives, Dr. Sridharan pointed out.

A DVD containing a short film on the subject, which was directed by S.B. Kanthan, was released.

Titled 'Poongattru Pudhidhanadhu', the film is the story of an asthma patient whose quality of life improves significantly after she learns about the condition and gets access to effective treatment.

Recordings of short skit that emphasises the need for awareness and an interview Dr. Sridharan gave to a private television channel earlier were also screened.

Launching the DVD, film director Vasanthabalan of 'Veyil' fame said it was rare to find a doctor like Dr. Sridharan, who was always pleasant, warm and caring. "Interestingly, he has other interests such as literature and Tamil poetry," he said.

Music director Bharadwaj has sung a piece for this short film. The short film in Tamil has also been dubbed into Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi. Versions with English subtitles are also available. Noted speakers such as Prof. Gnanasambandan and Suki Sivam were present. They commended Dr. Sridharan for his efforts to spread awareness through various means.