

Dr. Ashok Gupta had shown high levels of leadership quality in social and community work, education, research and publications. His zeal to reach out to the downtrodden and underprivileged patients, who required major reconstructive surgery was well supported and undertaken during his tenure, initially as Reader in the Dept. of Plastic Surgery, Sir J. J. group of Hospitals, Mumbai and thereafter as Asso. Professor of Plastic Surgery at the Gokaldas Tejpal Hospital, Grant Medical College, Mumbai continued despite all the odds.

- a. After obtaining the higher specialized training in Reconstructive Microsurgery at few of the best-known Centers of Learning like The Nuffield Research Centre and the Department of Plastic Surgery at the **Stoke Mandeville Hospital**, Aylesbury (Oxford Region), the **Accident Hospital**, Birmingham (Midland Region), the **Royal Marsden Hospital** and the **St. Georges Hospital**, London at United Kingdom between 1979 to 1982, he returned to India and establish the specialty of Reconstructive Microsurgery.
- b. He was credited for performing the first ever successful complex surgical procedure of micro surgical reconstruction of the face in a two year old child in 1983 at the Grant Medical College and Sir J. J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai. The same patient has been followed up for 28 years and has excellent results. The case report was published in Annals of Plastic Surgery (first report of English Literature) and the technique of intra-thoracic placement of extra-thoracic Lat Dorsi Flap for esophageal reconstruction.
- c. The technique of intra-thoracic placement of extra-thoracic Lat Dorsi Flap laid the foundation for use of Lat Dorsi Flap for Myocardium Reconstruction as well the exp. Work of placement of Pace Maker to educate the skeletal muscle to behave like the smooth muscle (confirmed by Dr. Tobins of Louisville, USA)
- d. During the ASRM meeting at Kansas City and then ISRM meeting at Los Angeles, Dr. Harry Bunke and was very much impressed with the technique of technique of intra-thoracic placement of extra-thoracic Lat Dorsi Flap. He requested for the complete set of operative slides and as a goodwill, had send the complete set of first case report of toe to Thumb Transfer done by Dr. Bunke in 80.
- e. Later, recognizing the contributions made by Dr. Ashok Gupta in the fields of Reconstructive Microsurgery, he was awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, UK
- f. In the following years, Dr. Ashok Gupta developed and established a strong section of the specialty of Reconstructive Microsurgery at interacting in close association with the ENT, Head & Neck Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, Neuro Surgery and the Orthopedic Surgery departments at the Grant Medical College, Sir J. J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai and undertook a number of complex life saving microsurgical procedures as well developed a number of surgical techniques (being referred as Mumbai Technique).
- g. Dr. Ashok Gupta was recognized in 1983 as the **Post Graduate Teacher and the Examiner** for the post doctoral degree of M. Ch. (Plastic Surgery) at the Grant Medical College and at the Bombay University, Mumbai. Thereafter at the Bombay Hospital Institute of Medical Sciences, Mumbai, Dr. Ashok Gupta continued with the extensive life threatening / life impairing surgical reconstructions achieving excellence through microsurgery.

- h. Dr. Ashok Gupta conducted hands on training session in Microsurgical technique, cadaveric flap dissection course as well didactic lectures in reconstructive microsurgery from 1982 to 1987 at the Grant Medical College, the Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur and the Dayanand Medical College and Hospital, Ludhiana respectively.
- i. Dr. Ashok Gupta travelled across the neighboring countries and the subcontinent and conducted several hands on training workshops, operative demonstrations and participated in seminars / CME programs to teach the potentials of reconstructive microsurgery.
- j. Founded the **Micro Surgery Group of India** and the Founder Member of the **Indian Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery** and then was elected as the President of the said group for the year 2000 – 02.
- k. Founder Member of the **World Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery**.
- l. In the year 1990 - 91 had undergone advanced post doctoral training in microsurgery at the **Micro Surgical Research Centre, Eastern Virginia Graduate school of Medicine, Norfolk, Virginia, USA**, under **Prof. Julia Terzis**.
- m. Awarded “**Ethicon Travelling Professor of Microsurgery**” and “**Ethicon Travelling Professor**” of **Plastic Surgery**” instituted by the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India and conducted numerous workshops as well CMEs in the field of Reconstructive microsurgery.
- n. Founder Member of the **Brachial Plexus Surgery Group of India** and then was elected as the **President** of the said group for the year 2007 - 2009.
- o. Dr. Ashok Gupta two world records in the fields of reconstructive microsurgery i.e.
 - a. Maximum number of major microsurgical / flap procedures in a single patient (totaling to seven flaps).
 A middle aged man was run over a speeding truck. The extent of injury to his Abdomen, Urinary Bladder, Scrotum, Testes, Phallus and Thighs (R + L) was so extensive, that his life was in danger. After admission, he was being looked after by a **Team of Surgical Specialists**, including General Surgeon, Orthopedic Surgeon, Urosurgeon, Thoracic Surgeon and Neuro Surgeon. With continuous efforts and dedicated care, his condition improved. This patient had to be operated upon on more than 26 occasions, out of which 5 were supra-major procedures, lasting over 16 - 30 hours. This patient’s details were projected as the **Maximum number of Microsurgical Reconstructive surgical procedures done on an individual**.
 - b. Successful replantation / Longest warm / cold ischemia time for proximal replantation:
 A young engineer, whose Left **Arm** was amputated above elbow following an industrial accident. Following an **unusual microsurgical procedure, spreading over 18 hours** his arm could be **successfully re-planted**.
- p. Founded the Reconstructive Surgery Foundation to serve under-privileged people in the remote / tribal belt of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab. Under the leadership of Dr. Ashok Gupta “**Reconstructive Surgery Foundation**” during last 25 years, has successfully performed complex to very complex reconstructive micro surgeries over 1500 patients dealing with congenital defects, birth trauma, burn injuries, accidents and other deformities.