

Spinal cord patients to be operated locally

By **DAILY NEWS**
Reporter

PATIENTS with spinal cord complications requiring surgical interventions can now be diagnosed and treated in the country with latest technology, thanks to Dar es Salaam-based Sanitas Medics and Diagnosis.

The Sanitas Medics' Chief Executive Officer, Murthy Venkateswaran, said the centre is currently working with visiting doctors from India who are super specialists in the area.

"The idea is to enable Tanzanians with spinal problems who can't afford the cost of travelling overseas to receive proper diagnosis and surgery, if required, here at home at a fraction of the cost

of getting it done overseas," he said.

Mr Venkateswaran noted further that the health facility seeks to provide more services locally, doing away with the trend where Tanzanians have to seek such services abroad.

A visiting surgeon at Sanitas, Dr Suboth Shetty noted that there have been spinal complication incidences worldwide, adding further that the problem is also very common in Tanzania.

Dr Shetty said patients in developing countries like Tanzania do not often get proper diagnosis due to lack of modern facilities, to perform surgery and lack of financial power to seek treatment abroad

"This partnership will en-

able patients to get treatment at home and will be a big push to those who could otherwise not afford the cost of travelling outside the country, to seek treatment," he said

With the new development in medical science, Dr Shetty said that the patients requiring surgical interventions can be diagnosed with modern technology which guarantees them quick recovery.

Spine surgeries are done by Dr Shetty using minimal invasive technology that leaves virtually no scar and no blood loss.

With the technology, a patient can go home after surgery in just a day or two. He/she can also get back to work within two weeks after operation.