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INDIA WEST

USA's Most Honored
Indian Newspaper
Published from
California

Indian American Doc Talks About Diprivan on TV

By **MICHEL W. POTTS**
Special to **India-West**

An Indian American doctor was featured toward the end of the July 8 broadcast of the Nancy Grace show on the Headline News cable channel that dealt with the death of Michael Jackson.

On the show, Dr. Panchali Dhar was given the chance to show viewers how Jackson, who died June 25, may have been intravenously administered the drug Diprivan.

Introduced as a board-certified anesthesiologist and the author of "Before the Scalpel: What Everyone Should Know About Anesthesia,"

Grace asked Dhar, "What's the advantage to taking all these medications intravenously, as opposed to by mouth?"

"You cannot take Diprivan by mouth," Dhar replied. "In fact, most people hadn't heard of this drug until this Michael Jackson

tragedy occurred. Diprivan is a liquid and it has to be given through a vein.

"Pure Diprivan can be pumped through an IV line just like this, with precision dosing through a pump, or you can regulate it with your hand," Dhar said on the show. "Give too much, and you can kill the person, stop breathing," Dhar said.

Dhar is Board Certified in Anesthesiology and Internal Medicine. She is currently an active member of the faculty in the Department of Anesthesiology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

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