



# Sanchar Nigam Pensioners' Welfare Association

Reg. No: SOCIETY/WEST/2021/8902564

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SNPWA/ CHQ/ Secy M.O H& FW/2/2024

dated8/11/2024

To

Sh Punya Salila Srivastava,

Secy/ MOH & FW,

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

**Subject: Urgent Revision of Diagnostic and Treatment Rates & Inclusion of Robotic Surgery Under CGHS**

Respected Sir,

We write to you with deep concern regarding two significant issues that require your immediate intervention to enhance the quality and inclusivity of healthcare services for CGHS beneficiaries.

## 1. Revision of Rates for Diagnostic Tests, Consultations, and Treatments

It is a matter of pressing urgency that the revision of rates for diagnostic tests, consultations, and all treatment procedures be carried out without any further delay. Despite concrete assurances, at the highest level, that these rates would be reviewed/revised by the end of 2023, **this significant and badly required revision of rates continues to be unfortunately delayed for incomprehensible and inexplicable reasons.** The current rates, which have not kept pace with inflation and the rising costs of healthcare, are proving inadequate and burdensome for both the beneficiaries and empanelled healthcare providers, which themselves are very few and far between. Modern diagnostic and treatment costs have surged significantly, making it imperative that the CGHS aligns its reimbursement rates to reflect present-day realities. This alignment is essential to ensure that beneficiaries do not face limitations in accessing quality healthcare services and that participating hospitals and clinics remain incentivized to provide services under the scheme.

**It is not that we are advocating the cause of healthcare providers but are reflecting the fact that existing rates for various diagnostic tests/ procedures do not reflect the market realities and this largely contributes towards healthcare providers huge reluctance in providing these services and thus holding beneficiaries to ransom.**

**Thus revision of rates for diagnostic tests/various procedures etc which was categorically assured more than a year before must be carried out without any further delay**

## **2. Inclusion of Robotic Surgery in CGHS Coverage**

The healthcare landscape is evolving rapidly, with technological advancements such as robotic-assisted surgeries becoming a standard of care for numerous complex procedures. Robotic surgery offers unparalleled precision, reduced recovery time, and minimized risk of complications. To deny CGHS beneficiaries access to such advancements is to deny them optimal care. **The inclusion of robotic surgery under CGHS coverage is not just beneficial but necessary to uphold the principle of providing the best possible healthcare to those who have dedicated their service to the nation. Many reputed healthcare schemes now include robotic surgery due to its proven efficacy and long-term cost benefits through reduced hospital stays and quicker patient recovery.** For CGHS beneficiaries, adopting this advancement will not only enhance the quality of treatment but also align the scheme with contemporary medical practices.

**In conclusion, we urge you to consider and initiate action towards implementation of these much needed measures with the kind of seriousness they deserve. The revision of rates for diagnostics and treatments and the inclusion of robotic surgery under CGHS coverage are undoubtedly measures that will profoundly improve the quality and scope of healthcare available to all beneficiaries. We trust that your office will take prompt and decisive action on these priority matters to ensure CGHS continues to serve as a benchmark for comprehensive, high-standard healthcare**

Thank you for your attention and anticipated prompt response.

Warm Regards

Sincerely yours



G. L. Jogi

General Secretary

Copy to

1. MS Roli Singh, DG/ CGHS, for immediate n/ a please
2. Dr Satheesh Y. H., Director/ CGHSHQs, for immediate n/ a please

3. Dr Manashvi Kumar, Joint Secretary/ Training, for information PI

4. ADG HQs for n/ a please.