

Minutes of meeting held on 07.02.2019

Meeting with Director CGHS, Nirman Bhawan

List of Participants

Dr Alex Thomas, President AHPI

Dr K K Kalra, Advisor AHPI

Dr Atul Prakash, Director CGHS, MOH

Dr D C Joshi, Advisor, Ex Director CGHS

Dr Manoj Jain, Consultant, Ex CMO (Hospital Empanelment Cell) CGHS

After initial introductions, Dr Alex briefed the Director and his team regarding challenges being faced by private empanelled hospitals and urgent need for revision of CGHS Package rates. He also reminded the officials of repeated discussions that AHPI has had over the last few years. He also submitted a letter to Director in this regard. CGHS officials admitted that there is need to revise the rates and process in on since long time, due to some or other reasons revised rates could not be notified.

Dr Alex informed the officials regarding scientific Karnataka study on costing of 20 most common procedures done in collaboration with IIM Bangalore, NABH, specialty associations, ISRO under directions from Karnataka government which was published on Website also, he offered to share the study with the group which will help the officials to finalize revised package rates acceptable to all stakeholders. It is obvious that most procedures are being subsidised by the private healthcare providers. With the introduction of Ayushman scheme which is a social scheme, private healthcare providers will find it difficult to survive and as they provide 70% of services, the common man's access to healthcare will be compromised

CGHS officials highlighted concern over unethical practices of some of empanelled hospitals, adoption of conservative treatment leading to unnecessary prolonged hospitals stay resulting in excessive claims amount.

AHPI assured the officials that AHPI promotes ethical practices, now this is high time for the government to come out with revised rationale package rates. This will encourage private hospitals to join Ayushman Scheme indirectly.

Dr V K Paul, NITI Aayog also had expressed the immediate need for revision of CGHS package rates for the success of this flagship scheme.

Other issue regarding pendency of payments under CGHS scheme was also discussed, CGHS officials informed that necessary steps are being taken to streamline the timely release of payments including online approvals subject to permission form Controller Accounts. They also informed that there was some glitch in software managing claim bills, now it been taken care of.

After discussions, CGHS officials assured that very soon revised rates shall be submitted to authorities for clearance and notification is expected by end of March 2019. AHPI assured full cooperation and support for betterment of healthcare in India.

Meeting ended with thanks.