



**Draft Minutes of the zoom video call meeting held on the 20th May 2020 at 03:00 pm between AHPI State Chapters office bearers, to discuss regarding the overall situation of COVID-19 in their respective States.**

**Participants:**

Dr. S Prakash, Managing Director, Star Health and Allied Insurance Co. Ltd. (Special Invitee)  
Dr. Devi Shetty, Founder & Patron, AHPI  
Dr. Alex Thomas, President, AHPI  
Dr. Girdhar Gyani, Director General, AHPI  
Dr .V. C. Shanmuganandan, Advisor, AHPI  
Dr. Voona Murali Krishna, President, Andhra Pradesh Chapter  
Dr. Mohan Maharaj, Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Chapter  
Dr. C M Bhagat, President, Delhi NCR, Chapter  
Dr. M. I Sahadulla, President, Kerala Chapter  
Dr. Hajela, President, Madhya Pradesh Chapter  
Dr. Rahul Khare, Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Chapter  
Dr. Sujit Chatterjee, President, Maharashtra & Goa Chapter  
Dr. Ashwini Jogade, Secretary, Maharashtra & Goa Chapter  
Dr. Satyajit Singh, President, Bihar Chapter  
Mr. Santosh, Secretary, Bihar Chapter  
Dr. Bharath Gadhavi, President, Gujarat Chapter  
Ms. Neha Lal, Secretary, Gujarat Chapter  
Mr. Jogesh Gambhir, President, Jharkhand Chapter  
Dr. Naresh Shetty, President, Karnataka Chapter  
Dr. Naveen Thomas, Secretary, Karnataka Chapter  
Dr. Vikas Swarnkar, President, Rajasthan chapter  
Dr. Guru Shankar, President, Tamil Nadu Chapter  
Dr. Rajiv Singhal, President, Telangana Chapter  
Dr. Vishnu Reddy, Secretary, Telangana Chapter  
Dr. Zainab Zaidi, Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Chapter  
Dr. Saumitra Bharadwaj, President, West Bengal Chapter  
Dr. Bishnu Panigrahi, President, Odisha Chapter  
Ms. Nilanjana Mukherjee, Secretary, Odisha Chapter  
Dr. Amandeep Kaur, President, North Zone Chapter  
Mr. Joydas Gupta, Secretary, North zone Chapter  
Dr. Palin Khundongbam, President Manipur Chapter.  
Dr. Lalrintluanga Jahau, Member, Northeast Chapter.  
Dr. Sedevi Angami, Member, Northeast Chapter.  
Dr. Satish Reddy, Hyderabad

**Discussions:**

Dr V.C Shanmuganandan welcomed Dr.S.Prakash, Managing Director, Star Health and Allied Insurance on behalf of the AHPI team.

Dr Naresh Head, Insurance Committee, AHPI sort details regarding tele consultation.

Dr. Prakash informed the house that a separate email id has been created and based on electronic submission and approval dues will be cleared in am matter of 5 days.

He also informed that they are looking out for aggregators to be looped in to enable tele consultation services and that only specialists and super specialists will be allowed.

Dr. Prakash also informed that 25 to 30 percent discount will be offered on the OPD consultation charges of the empanelled hospitals.

Dr Alex thanked Dr. Prakash on taking this new step and informed that we have to take this forward immediately.

Dr.Alex requested Dr.Prakash to make a formal announcement that this is an AHPI and Star Health initiative and also hospitals could approach directly and could make it operational by Monday the 25th may 2020.

Dr Prakash told that he will discuss with the aggregators and also he confirmed that before the launch they should at least have 1000 plus centres across pan India and it should be made available throughout the country.

### **Dr Alex updated the involvement of AHPI for the last week, particularly relating to COVID 19.**

Dr. Gyani met the labour minister and appraised the current situation the hospitals are going through and requested the dues to be cleared at the earliest.

Dr. Saumitra to come up with that proposal regarding usage of PPE's while treating non covid patients.

AHPI has written Railways, ESIS & CGHS informing that we will not be able to subsidise the usage of PPE's.

Dr.Alex updated regarding the webinars conducted by AHPI.

Dr Devi requested AHPI to come up with an action plan after discussing with the large and small players with a strategy's for way forward because lots of hospitals are thinking to borrow money to sustain. AHPI to come up with an action plan and should sensitise every one and have a collective plan for survival.

### **Andhra Pradesh:**

Dr.Murali, stated that Government of Andhra Pradesh has published some packages for the private hospitals, Dr.Murali will share in the groups.

MSME sector for hospitals - Dr Alex suggested that responded that we should seriously consider getting the hospitals under the MSME sector.

Dr Guru Shankar, Chairman of AHPI legal cell was requested to look in to this.

### **Bihar Chapter:**

Mr. Santosh, Secretary, stated financial sustainability is a challenge for all the hospitals. Bihar plans to incentivize front line healthcare worker and ensure safety for healthcare workers in hospitals

### **Delhi NCR Region Chapter**

Dr.Bhagat stated that the consultants should be ready to work and everyone to follow the ICMR guidelines.

## **Gujarat Chapter:**

Dr Bharat Gadhavi, informed that they have received very low rates from the Government and also the High Court also intervened and also a notice was issued stating that the charges for the covid treatment are exorbitant and they have arrived at the rates reimbursed by Government and Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

He also mentioned about the capping of charges which cannot be worked out. He also informed that they are going to file a case against the capping.

Dr.Sujit stated that Maharashtra Government has taken 80 percent of the beds for their use and only 20 percent they can charge the rack rates.

Dr Alex stated that likewise how AHPI Central is supporting in Rajasthan for a PIL, we can take the leadership in filing this PIL in Gujarat.

Dr Alex also inform that the public and Government should be sensitized through media [digital and electronic]

Dr Gyani stated that if the rates are offered in this way, we have to fight it legally. We should quote other good rates from different states and also have Odisha example and to be replicated in other states.

## **Jharkhand Chapter:**

Mr.Jogesh, regarding the genuinity of gloves and masks Dr.Alex requested to refer to the document released by AHPI & ANBAI.

Mr.Jogesh raised a concern whether he should pay for the staff who are not reporting to work:

Dr Guru answered that that retrenchment for who are not reporting to work there is Supreme Court order not to pay the staff who doesn't report to work.

## **Karnataka Chapter:**

Dr. Naresh, President, informed the house that state government is still discussing on the pricing for the private hospitals.

## **Kerala Chapter:**

Dr.Sahadullah, President, stated that if the employee is not coming and the hospital has not met the patient foot fall they will not pay. He also mentioned about a slab service as per the minimum wages act.

Dr Sahadulla also stated the option for rotational staff, which is being followed in his hospital.

Bringing doctors to the hospital is one of the major challenge being faced for which testing is the only answer.

Dr Alex - possibility of rotating staff - is a good option to explore.  
Requested to share the strategy so that it can implemented in other states.

### **Madhya Pradesh Chapter:**

Dr.Sujit Stated that Government has issued notice that's all hospitals should start work including OPDs and in containment area they should not open hospitals. Received an order to start the routine surgeries as well.

Dr Alex informed the study which AHPI was a part with FICCI and CII - which mentions about the graded cut etc. Dr Hajela also mentioned about the smaller hospitals pay structure model.

Dr Alex stated that smaller hospitals can join hands and come up with suggestions regarding running smaller hospitals.

### **North zone Chapter:**

Dr.Armandeep, stated that Punjab Government has offered reasonable rates and also having lot of positive cases.

They wanted AHPI to help them with Multi nationals in reducing the AMC etc.

### **Maharashtra Chapter:**

Dr Sujit Chatterjee, informed that the numbers in Mumbai are rising however mortality rates are coming down. Also stated regarding the shortage of ICU beds. Larger chunk is take over by and they are equipping with oxygen support etc.

Also informed that most of the hospitals are exhausting their reserves and going in over drafts. Chief Secretary wants every hospital to maintain low rates for the common man to be treated.

Government has taken over 80 percent bed occupancy and 20 percent beds they can have the charge as per the rack rates, which the private hospitals are fighting with the Government.

100 percent of ICU beds needs to be given to the Government.

### **Rajasthan Chapter:**

Dr.Vikas, brought to the notice that ESIS dues in Rajasthan is close to 35 crores. He also stated that salary deferment is done for all the staffs in the hospitals.

He also requested AHPI to write to the Central to issue an order with rates for all the hospitals who are managing covid patients.

### **Northeast & Manipur Chapter:**

Dr.Palin, Convenor, NE & President, Manipur Chapter stated, because of the return of migrants, they have few cases in their region. He also informed about the shortage of masks and PPE's.

Dr Alex welcomed the members of the North East and briefed them about the letters written by AHPI to Union Health Minister and Union Health Secretary for asking more testing centres in North East and not to close non covid hospitals if a patient test positive.

### **Orissa Chapter:**

Dr. Bishnu stated because of the migrant labor coming in, the cases have increased in the state. The Government has given a window period up to September for customs duty, so anyone who wants to buy capital items can do so. Will try to get ESI dues and submit at the earliest.

### **Tamilnadu Chapter:**

Dr. Gurushankar, informed that for financial stability the Government has to allow doing elective cases and the hospitals with all safety protocols are in place now are prepared to do these procedures.

### **Telangana Chapter:**

Dr. Vishnu Reddy, stated that smaller hospitals are struggling. Issues of insurance to be addressed to, and the payment to reach hospitals faster. Appraise government regarding the situation faced in the hospitals.

### **UP Chapter:**

Dr. Zainab informed that one of the problem being faced by the smaller hospitals, is that the government has passed on a notification asking the hospital to open their services by filing affidavit by stating that the hospital will train the staff, ensure availability of PPE and masks and no covid patients will be admitted, and if these are not adhered to, the hospital will be held responsible.

Information is being collected on ECHS CGHS andESIS dues.

Village quarantine has also started in UP and cases are increasing.

**Dr.V.C. Shanmuganandan gave the closing remarks.**