



Minutes of the zoom video call meeting held on the 6th 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. Atul Kochhar, CEO NABH, Special Invitee
Dr. Alex Thomas, President, AHPI
Dr. Girdhar Gyani, Director General, AHPI
Dr. VC Shanmuganandan, Advisor, AHPI
Dr. CM Bhagat, President, Delhi NCR Chapter
Dr. Sanjeev Singh, Secretary, Delhi NCR Chapter
Dr. Sahadulla, President, Kerala Chapter
Dr. Bishnu Prasad, President, Odisha Chapter
Dr. Joy Das Gupta, Secretary, North Zone Chapter
Dr. Saumitra Bharadwaj, President, West Bengal Chapter
Dr. Satyajit Singh, President, Bihar Chapter
Mr. Santhosh Kumar, Secretary, Bihar Chapter
Dr. Anoop Hajela, President, Madhya Pradesh Chapter
Dr. Rahul Khare, Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Chapter
Mr. Ajit Kumar, North East Chapter
Dr. Voona Murali, President, Andhra Chapter
Dr. Mohan Maharaj, Secretary, Andhra Chapter
Dr. Sachin Jawar, Secretary, Rajasthan Chapter
Dr. Vikas Swarnkar, President, Rajasthan Chapter
Mr. Jogesh Gambhir, President, Jharkhand Chapter
Dr. Zainab Zaidi, Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Chapter
Dr. Bharat Gadhavi, President, Gujarat Chapter
Ms. Neha Lal, Secretary, Gujarat Chapter
Dr. Naresh Shetty, President, Karnataka Chapter
Dr. Naveen Thomas, Secretary, Karnataka Chapter
Dr. Ashwini, Secretary, Maharashtra Chapter
Dr. Raju Sivasamy, Secretary, Tamilnadu Chapter

Brief Synopsis

1. NABH renewals have been postponed for 3 months from 30th of March
2. Online assessment is being tried for renewals, to begin with. Once this is perfected it is likely to be extended to fresh accreditation.
3. It was decided not to brand AHPI in the suppliers list (PPE's and Mask) that have been collated
4. Most of the Private hospitals role is limited in the COVID treatment.
5. Quality certification of PPE's is still an issue.
6. Regarding testing for Covid 19 in patients undergoing surgery, the GOI guidelines in this regard is to be adhered to. Testing to be carried out only for symptomatic patients.
7. Star Health Insurance has agreed to reimburse for Teleconsultation with certain criteria.
8. Regular bills are to be cleared in 5 days time.



Detailed Minutes

Dr. Alex briefed the members about the activities of AHPI in the past week.

1. AHPI communicated with IRDA regarding reimbursement to which it was suggested that we write to GIC.
2. A conference call was arranged with GIC wherein it was decided that TPA wise data is to be collected and sent to GIC for follow up and action. Dr. Alex requested that the state office bearers should pass on this message to all institution in their area, collect and collate the data, so that it can be passed on to GIC.
3. AHPI has also requested IRDA for guidelines on Telemedicine. Star Health Insurance responded that they are keen to start off with Telemedicine and have given their consent with some riders.
4. AHPI along with PHFI created a SOP titled " Post lockdown lifting - Resumption of hospital services" which is to be widely circulated for the benefit of all.
5. AHPI Have been conducting Webinar with Microlabs for Nurses and also with Healthcare Express.
6. AHPI is in touch with NITI Aayog which had asked for advice on exit strategy and the Karnataka document was sent to them.
7. AHPI is in touch with Prime Minister / Health Minister office regarding subsidy on DNB residents stipends and have also requested institutions not to seek reduction in the NBE seats.

Address by Guest Invitee Dr. Atul Kochhar

Dr. Kochhar complimented the efforts been put in by AHPI on the SOP document and also taking up issues with IRDA on telemedicine reimbursement.

He briefed about how NABH was caught unaware of COVID and how it has adapted to the situation. Dr. Kochhar briefed that before covid, NABH formed the assessor management committee, with built in security features in digital certificate.

Policy of technology shift - The virtual assessment has been approved by the board.

Revision of the New NABH standard, which is colour coded and available free of charge will be put up online.

NABH is thinking of moving to 4 year accreditation cycle which will help partner organisations, with a survey at 2 years.

NABH renewals have been postponed for 3 months from 30th of March 2020

Online assessment is being tried for renewals only, once this is perfected it is likely to be extended to fresh accreditation.



Update from State Chapters

1. Andhra Pradesh: Government is distributing the PPEs regularly in the Government setup, but the numbers has to be increased. Covid cases are increasing and hospitals are having internal committee meetings to tackle the situation. Cost curtailing on PPE's and supply to the private sector to be addressed .

2. Bihar: OPD services have resumed, Dr. Satyajit wanted guidelines regarding resumption of activities in the hospitals to which he was requested to refer to the AHPI / PHFI document.

3. Delhi: Beds are full with waitlisting patients. Many of the high end private hospital are promoting tests actively and using full PPE which is increasing the cost burden.

4. Gujarat: Have taken up the issue with the Government control on RTPCR testing before urgent surgeries. The Government have asked certain hospitals for capping of charges for treating COVID patients for which the private hospitals declined.

5. Jharkhand: Lot of asymptomatic cases seen in Ranchi. Testing are being done before the admission and before operation. RTPCR is being requested for by every 10 days by the doctors, so that they don't carry the infection back home. The Government has issued an order that pregnancy patients to be tested for COVID , this has scared the small nursing homes and stopped taking the pregnant patients which has become a issue and has also gone to the High court.

6. Karnataka: Dr. Naresh gave an update of the Insurance Committee

Star Health Insurance has agreed to reimburse for Teleconsultation with certain clauses as below.

- Payment for the charges of Tele-Consultations offered by Allopathic Specialist and Super Specialists (MD, MS, MCI recognised Diplomas and above) from Hospitals networked with star insurance.
- It is Mandatory for Tele-Consultations centres to have HIPAA compliant and should have HL7 capable, 256 Bit Encrypted proper channels.
- Patient EHR/DHR must be recorded as per the Tele-medicine Guideline issued by BOG-MCI dated 25/03/2020 and shared at request
- Reimbursement only if relevant e-prescriptions are generated. Will not reimburse for clarification or for queries.

Regarding the Covid status in Karnataka, Dr Naresh mentioned that things are going to change and we need to have standard care. Surveillance is being done, checking temperature, saturation on daily basis is being done. An App is being developed for tracing Covid patients and Dr. Naresh will share it in the group.



7. Kerala: A meeting with the Chief Minister was held with 47 hospitals and associations participated and ideas were conveyed. Hospitals have slowly started elective surgeries. Strict protocol of history, screening and saturation is being followed and very selected cases are being tested. Testing was mainly being done for Aerosol generating procedures. Private sector will be called if things are going to go out of hand.

8. Madhya Pradesh: The Government has decided to provide PPE and N95 mask at cost price for COVID hospitals. Non COVID hospitals can procure from the Govt if required. The Govt have planned more COVID care centres, as preparedness for future, they have approached colleges and that the hostels to be adopted as home quarantine centre for symptomatic patients. New cases and fatality has declined.

9. North Zone: In Punjab 500 new cases has come up and some of the orange zone has turned into red zone. Cases are increasing in Haryana and in Chandigarh.

10. North East: So far 88 positive cases. Nagaland and Sikkim have become corona free states. In Guwahati the Govt has given new order and OPD services have become normal in all hospitals. For elective surgeries the doctors are demanding for COVID test.

11. Orissa: Situation is under control. Most of the hospitals have fever clinic, where temperature and saturation is checked. Medical fraternity to convey message to not delay check up if there is symptoms.

12. Rajasthan: Flattening of curve since last 20 days. Testing have gone up dramatically and close to 1.5 lakhs people have been tested. screening all patient for temp staff have been screened. Dr. Vikas's hospital so far have received 3000 samples for testing and only 20 have tested positive. Data of the same was requested to be shared.

13. Tamil Nadu: 30000 quarantined, out of which 4000 have tested positive. The curve is going up and the number of red zone have increased. Dialysis centres have closed and portable dialysis is being done. Opd has started with fever clinics. Dr. Sanjeev suggested that a room with closed doors is enough for dialysis for covid patients. Dr. Sanjeev to share guidelines.

14. Maharashtra: More COVID beds have been created. Regarding circular and notification on restriction of charges, 1st level meeting was conveyed and a decision is yet to come.

Dr. Gyani summed up the meeting.