

Government of West Bengal
Finance Department
Audit Branch
Medical Cell

No. 796-F (MED)

dt. 31-01-2011

Notification

The West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 as promulgated under the Finance Department's notification no. 7287-F dt. 19-09-2008 took effect from 01-06-2009. The rate list for the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 was approved under notification no. 3473- F, dt. 11-05-2009. While implementing the Scheme, it is increasingly coming to notice that the present rate list is not an exhaustive and adequate one. Therefore, the Government from some time past has been considering for revision of the said list. Now, the Governor, after careful consideration of the entire rate list, is pleased to approve revised rates for specialized medical treatment/ services, procedures and investigations with detailed guidelines in connection with the medical attendance and treatment under the Health Scheme (Annexure-I).

2. The revised rates are applicable to the recognized hospitals/ diagnostic centres in the following manner:-

- (a) Class 1 Service Provider- Full rates
- (b) Class 2 Service Provider- 80% of full rates
- (c) Class 3 Service Provider- 70% of full rates

Recognised Private hospital/ diagnostic centres have to enter into an agreement with the WBHS Authority for providing services at their notified rates or scheduled rates approved by the Government, whichever is less. The beneficiaries will be charged from the scheduled rates according to the Class of Service provider as detailed hereinabove.

The revised rates may be applicable to the recognized private hospitals/ diagnostic centres which are already rendering services to the beneficiaries under the Health Scheme on the basis of Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) subject to the condition that the Health Care Organisation authorities agree to accept the rates, terms and conditions, and guidelines fully. A declaration to the effect of acceptance of the revised rate list is to be furnished. The revised rate will be effective from the date of signing of the declaration. Prior to that all the cases will be governed by the rates notified under no. 3473-F dt. 11.05.2009.

3. APPROVED PACKAGE RATES

(A) Package rate is defined as lump sum cost of inpatient treatment/day care. This includes all charges pertaining to a particular treatment / procedure including:

- i. Registration charges,
- ii. Admission charges,
- iii. Accommodation charges including diet for the patient,

- iv. Operation charges,
 - v. Injection charges,
 - vi. Dressing charges,
 - vii. All Doctor/consultant visit charges,
 - viii. ICU/ICCU charges,
 - ix. Monitoring charges,
 - x. Transfusion charges,
 - xi. Anaesthesia charges,
 - xii. Operation theatre charges,
 - xiii. Procedural charges/surgeon's fee,
 - xiv. Cost of all surgical disposables and all sundries used during hospitalization,
 - xv. Cost of all medicines,
 - xvi. Oxygen charges,
 - xvii. All related routine and essential investigations regarding fitness of surgery prior to admission and also after surgery,
 - xviii. Nursing Care and charges for its services,
 - xix. Physiotherapy charges etc.
- from the time of admission to time of discharge. The above list is an illustrative one only.

**The package rate, however, does not include expenses on:
(i) telephone, (ii) tonics, (iii) cosmetics & toiletries.**

(B) (i) The package rate quoted for a particular procedure is inclusive of all sub-procedures and all related procedures to complete the treatment.

As an illustration, for TURP, the procedures such as urethral Catheterization, Cystoscopy, etc. should not be billed separately as they are all part of the Procedure i.e. TURP.

(ii) Cost of implants/ prosthesis/ grafts will be charged in full separately in addition to package charge, as per the approved ceiling rates for implants or as per actuals whichever is less. Where there is no Health Scheme prescribed ceiling rate actual rates will be charged.

(iii) Every surgical case should be done on package rate. Where there is no package rate for a particular surgical procedure the same should be done on identical procedure "package rate".

Permission of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority under the Finance Department is to be obtained by the Health Care Organisation if any surgery is not possible following the above guideline.

(iv) Treatment charges of non-surgical cases may be calculated adding bed rent, doctor's fees, investigation charges, cost of medicines, special nursing charges, aids, etc.

(v) No additional amount shall be allowed over and above the approved rates. If there is no West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 approved rate for a particular

investigation etc. the matter is to be brought to the notice of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority for fixation of rate.

(vi) If one or more minor procedures form part of a major treatment procedure, then approved package charges would be permissible for major procedure only and 60% of charges for minor procedures.

(C) The package rates of Indoor treatment are of following duration of hospitalization –

- i. 12 days for specialized Surgeries,
- ii. 7 – 8 days for other major surgeries,
- iii. 3-4 days for Laparoscopic/ Endoscopic Surgeries/ normal deliveries,
- iv. 1 day for day care / minor (OPD) surgeries,

Package starts from the previous day of surgery.

(D) However, if a beneficiary has to stay in the hospital for his/ her recovery for a period more than the period covered in package rate, in exceptional cases, supported by relevant medical records and certified as such by hospital, the additional charges shall be limited to accommodation charges as per entitlement, investigation charges at approved rates, and doctors visit charges (not more than 2 visits per day by specialists/ consultants) and cost of medicines for additional stay.

(E) No additional charge on account of extended period of any stay shall be allowed if extension is due to improper procedure or infection as consequences of surgical procedure done and not justified.

Notes:-

- (a) **Room rent** is applicable only for treatment procedures for which there is no West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 approved Package rate. Room rent will include charges for occupation of bed, diet for the patient, charges for water and electricity supply, sterilization, linen charges, nursing charges and routine up keeping.
- (b) During the treatment in ICCU/ ICU/ ITU/ HDU/ Step Down Unit, etc. no separate room rent will be admissible.
- (c) **Private Ward** is defined as a hospital room where single patient is accommodated and which has attached toilet (lavatory and bath). The room should have furnishings like wardrobe, bedside table as well as bed for attendant and other necessary furnishings. The room has to be air-conditioned.
- (d) **Semi-private Ward** is defined as a hospital room where two patients are accommodated and which has attached toilet facilities and necessary furnishings. The room has to be air-conditioned.
- (e) **General Ward** is defined as a hall that accommodates up to ten patients.
- (f) **Day Care/ Minor (OPD) Surgery** is defined as treatment procedure where staying in a hospital is necessary for a minimum period of four hours and where surgeries are done using Anaesthesia.

- (g) **Specialist** is defined as a medical practitioner with Post Graduate degree holder in the Speciality. (DGO, Dip. Card, DCh, Fellowship & Membership are not degrees.)
- (h) **Superspecialist** is defined as a medical practitioner holding DM or MCh specialisation.
- (i) **Specialised Surgery** is defined as surgery done by MCh qualified surgeons.

4. A hospital empanelled under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008, whose normal rates for treatment procedures/ investigations are lower than the Health Scheme prescribed rates shall charge as per the rates charged by them for that procedures/ investigations for non-Health Scheme beneficiary and will furnish a certificate to the effect that rates charged from Health Scheme beneficiaries are not more than the rates charged by them from non-Health Scheme patients.

5. The beneficiary shall have the option of availing specific treatment/ investigation from any of the empanelled hospitals of his/her choice provided the hospital is empanelled for that treatment procedures/ investigations.

6. In emergency, the hospital shall not refuse admission or demand any advance payment from the beneficiary or his family member and shall provide treatment facilities to the patient under the Health Scheme on production of a valid card issued by the competent authority under the Scheme. The final bill shall be settled and paid by the patient or family members prior to discharge.

7. The beneficiary shall pay the costs of medical treatment to the recognised hospital/ nursing home prior to discharge. But in the case of death of a Government employee/ pensioner, enrolled under the Health Scheme, while receiving indoor treatment in a recognised private hospital/ nursing home, if the hospital dues remain unsettled, the hospital authority may send the bills with necessary treatment papers to the concerned office for clearance of the dues.

8. Human Organ Transplantation, Cochlear implant Surgery are to be done with the permission of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority under the Finance Department.

9. Implantation of Dual-Chamber Pacemaker, more than two Stents, more than one Drug-Eluting Stents, AICD, CRT with AICD, DBS implants, Intra-thecal Pumps, Spinal Cord Stimulators, costly devices like digital hearing aid, etc. are to be done with the permission of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority.

10. Treatment of new-born baby is chargeable separately in addition to the delivery charges for mother. A baby is entitled to the treatment facilities under the Health Scheme for six months on the basis of Identity Card of parents within which a separate card is to be obtained for the baby.

11. Normally, medical treatment in higher category of accommodation than the entitled category shall not be permissible. However, in case of emergency when entitled category accommodation is not available, admission in the immediate higher category may be allowed till the entitled category accommodation becomes available. However, if a beneficiary insists treatment in a higher category ward than what the beneficiary is entitled to, the expenditure over and above the entitlement shall be borne by the beneficiary and it shall be shown separately in the bill.

12. Except room rent/ bed rent, charges for procedures/ investigations/ implants are same for private, semi-private and general ward categories.

13. No charge for sterilization over and above the room rent/ bed rent is admissible.

14. The Health Care Organisation shall submit all the medical records to the beneficiary without requiring any additional payment.

15. For non-package treatment, permission of the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority is to be taken by the recognised Private Hospital/ Nursing Home whenever the cost of treatment exceeds Rs. 2.5 Lac.

Where, in the opinion of the attending physician, prognosis of a case is limited or nil, if a patient under the Health Scheme is kept in a recognised hospital/ nursing home for indefinite period, no expenses other than bed rent is admissible.

16. Estimate

(a) For surgical cases estimate should be furnished by the recognised Hospitals following package rates. Where exact package rate is not available, estimate should be furnished following identical package rates. Doctor's note/ prescription should be furnished along with the estimate.

(b) If treatment is not possible on 'Package', estimate should be prepared for a period of 15 days calculating item-wise probable expenditure e.g. room rent, investigation charges, doctor's fees, cost of medicines, procedure charges etc. Doctor's note/ prescription should be furnished along with the estimate. A revised estimate may be furnished after 15 days for cases requiring longer stay.

(c) Costs of implants may be shown separately where the same is not included in the approved package rate.

(d) Code no. of packages, major investigations, etc. should be furnished in the estimate.

17. The revised rate list has been prepared in active consultation with the Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal. It shall continue to be valid w.e.f. 01-02-2011 till the same is revised by the Finance Department through a subsequent order.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(S.K. Chattopadhyay)

Officer on Special Duty and Ex-officio
Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

N.B. The approved revised rate list (Annexure-I) will be available in the official website of the Finance Department, Government of West Bengal:-

www.wbfin.nic.in link WB Health Scheme 2008.