



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Health & Family Welfare Department - COVID19 Treatment charges in Private Hospitals for the Walk in Patients (Other than KASP beneficiaries and Government referred patients) - Modified – Orders issued.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (F) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.1436/2021/H&FWD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 07/07/2021

- Read: 1. G.O.(Rt) No. 1066/2021/H&FWD dated 10/05/2021.
2. G.O.(Rt) No. 1131/2021/H&FWD dated 27/05/2021.
3. G.O.(Rt) No. 1176/2021/H&FWD dated 02/06/2021.
4. G.O.(Rt) No. 1289/2021/H&FWD dated 16/06/2021.
5. Interim Order of Hon'ble High Court in RP No. 379 of 2021 in W.P. (C) No. 10659/2021(S) dated 23/6/2021.
6. G.O.(Rt) No. 1389/2021/H&FWD dated 29/06/2021.
7. Interim Order of Hon'ble High Court in RP No. 379 of 2021 in W.P. (C) No. 10659/2021(S) dated 30/6/2021.
8. Note No. SHA/262/2021-MGR(AC) dated 06/07/2021 from the Executive Director, State Health Agency.

ORDER

The State Government as per the Government Order read as 1st paper above, have fixed rates to be charged by Private Hospitals and private nursing homes in providing quality care to directly Walk in COVID19 Patients (Other than KASP beneficiaries and Government referred patients) in the State of Kerala. Later as per Government Order read as 3rd paper above, the rates of all 15 medical items specified in Government Order read as paper 2nd above have been made applicable to COVID19 treatment charges in Private Hospitals for the Walk in Patients (Other than KASP beneficiaries and Government referred patients).

2) As requested by Secretary, Kerala Private Hospital Association, the State Health Agency, Kerala had submitted a proposal with the suggestions of the State Medical Board to the Government regarding specific clarification, on the Government Order read as 1st paper above and based on this, certain clarifications were issued as per

Government order as the 4th paper above.

3) As per the Interim order read as 5th paper above, the Honorable High Court of Kerala has suspended the Government Order read as 4th above and directed the Government to address all the issues raised by the Kerala Private Hospital Association.

4) Now, as per Note read as 8th paper above, the State Health Agency has submitted a proposal regarding COVID-19 treatment charges in private hospitals, with the following methodology:

Methodology adopted by SHA Kerala for arriving at rates for various rooms

- a. Various private hospitals have different infrastructures, and their expenses, facilities and services provided also vary. There is no structured standardisation of the private rooms in private hospitals in the available literature. There is a wide range of rates between various categories of hospitals.
- b. Private hospitals can be classified into two broad categories based on their accreditation (since commitment to quality and infrastructure available is ensured for the accreditation process) and total bed available (as investment into the hospitals increase with more bed availability and with more specialities).
- c. The following categories are proposed by SHA Kerala.
 - i. **Category 1: Based on NABH Accreditation.**
 1. Type A: Non-NABH Accredited Hospital
 2. Type B: NABH Accredited Hospital
 - ii. **Category 2: Based on the Total Number of Beds available at the Hospitals.**
 1. Type A: Less than 100 Beds
 2. Type B: 100 – 300 Beds
 3. Type C: More than 300 Beds
- d. The private hospital rooms can be defined into five broad categories for ease of understanding by the common public. The categories are:

- i. **General Ward:** Rooms in which there is a facility to treat more than two patients.
 - ii. **Twin Sharing Room - Non-A/C:** Rooms that do not have air conditioning and facility to treat only two patients.
 - iii. **Twin Sharing Room - A/C:** Rooms that have air conditioning and facility to treat only two patients.
 - iv. **Single Room Private - Non-A/C:** Rooms that do not have air conditioning and facility to treat an individual patient only.
 - v. **Single Room Private - A/C:** Rooms that have air conditioning and facility to treat an individual patient only.
- e. SHA Kerala collected the existing room rents of the room from 10 random hospitals each with less than 100 beds, 100-300 beds and more than 300 bed categories. The rates shared from the hospital was only for the room rents. The average rent for each type of room was calculated since there was a range of rates. The total treatment cost were categorised into three parts for the convenience of calculations, as mentioned below which also mentioned as the inclusions in the Government Order read as 1st paper above.
 - i. Room Rent.
 - ii. Doctor and Nursing charges, Monitoring and Basic interventions charges.
 - iii. Essential drugs and investigations, consumables, and room disinfection charges.
- f. Considering the above, SHA had done an analysis of the AB PMJAY KASP rates and the available claims. It was reported that the treatment rates for a particular condition are on an average three times the room rent occupied by the patient. Hence calculated the average treatment cost incurred at three times the average room rent.
- g. The rates in the general ward as per Government Order read as 1st paper above is taken as the base rates for calculations.
- h. The arrived treatment rates were compared at base rates, and the following percentage hike were proposed for each category of room over the actuals. 3% hike over the base rates for Twin sharing rooms Non-A/C, 20% hike

over base rates for Twin sharing rooms – A/C, 40% hike over base rates for Private Room Non-A/C and 100% hike over base rates for Private room A/C.

- i. As per the above calculations, the rates arrived upon each room category was taken as the base rates for ‘Less than 100 bedded hospital’ over the actuals. This was compared to the rates arrived in other categories to calculate the percentage hike. An average hike of 35% was proposed over base rates for ‘100-300 beds hospital’ category, and a 68% hike was proposed for 'more than 300 beds hospital' category.
- j. A 10% hike is proposed for NABH hospitals in all categories, which is in continuation from Government Order read as 1st paper above.

5) Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to approve the methodology proposed by SHA Kerala for calculation of treatment rates in private rooms and the rates recommended as mentioned below. The rates are on a per day basis. It is also decided that the private hospitals may charge rates as per their discretion up to the maximum indicated rates. The rates for the treatment in the general ward in all categories of private hospitals will be as defined in the Government Order read as 1st paper above.

Bed Category	Hospital Category	General Ward	Twin sharing room Non-A/C	Twin sharing room A/C	Private room Non-A/C	Private room A/C
Less than 100 beds	Non NABH	2645/-	2724/-	3174/-	3703/-	5290/-
	NABH	2910/-	2997/-	3491/-	4073/-	5819/-
100-300 beds	Non NABH	2645/-	3678/-	4285/-	4999/-	7142/-
	NABH	2910/-	4046/-	4713/-	5499/-	7856/-
More than 300 beds	Non NABH	2645/-	4577/-	5332/-	6221/-	8887/-
	NABH	2910/-	5035/-	5866/-	6843/-	9776/-

Private hospitals can charge rates as per their discretion but up to a maximum of rates indicated above.

6) The inclusions and exclusions to the treatment charges as detailed in Government Order read as 1st paper above reproduced below will be applicable. These exclusions shall be governed by the MRP rates of the manufacturer of the drugs and consumables wherever applicable, and the rates for the diagnostics and investigations shall be as per the Hospital rates.

Inclusions	Exclusion
a. Registration Charges b. Bed Charges c. Nursing and Boarding Charges d. Surgeons, Anesthetists, Medical Practitioner, Consultant Charges e. Anesthesia, Blood Transfusions, Oxygen f. Medicines and Drugs g. Pathology and radiology tests: Medical procedures include essential Radiological imaging and diagnostic tests such as X-ray, USG, Hematology, pathology etc. h. Pre and Post Hospitalization expenses: Expenses incurred for consultation, diagnostic tests and medicines before admission of the patient in the same hospital and cost of diagnostic tests and medication up to 15 days after discharge from the hospital for the same ailment	a.High-End Investigations like C.T. Chest / HRCT Chest b. PPE Kits c.Costly Medications like i. Remdesivir ii. Tocilizumab

7) If patients treated in the private rooms are shifted to other categories like HDU, ICU without Ventilator or ICU with Ventilator, their rates as per Government Order read as 1st paper above, as reproduced below, will be applicable.

Bed Category	Rate in INR per day (Non NABH)	Rate in INR per day (NABH)
HDU	Rs. 3795/-	Rs. 4175/-
ICU	Rs. 7800/-	Rs. 8580/-
ICU WITH VENTILATOR	Rs. 13800/-	Rs. 15180/-

8) The private hospitals have asked for clarifications regarding patients having private insurance. As insurance is a private contract between patients, insurance companies and empanelled hospitals and since the patients/corporates have already paid the premiums, they are entitled to the services at those specified rates and the insurance companies should pay the hospitals accordingly. It is envisaged that, in this way, the private insured patients should be provided treatment and the concerned hospitals should process claims with insurance companies/corporate insurance bodies accordingly.

9) Regarding the preexisting co-morbidities clarification - the treatment of Covid-19 patients with preexisting co-morbidities will be covered in the treatment packages. Two scenarios are detailed as examples to clarify.

- a. Patient presenting with symptoms of Covid-19, who has pre-existing co-morbidities such as diabetes and hypertension. The treatment for correction of blood pressure and glycemic levels during the hospitalisation will be covered under the current treatment rates since these two conditions are directly connected to the management of Covid-19 patients.
- b. A patient presenting with acute coronary syndrome/polytrauma and was tested positive for Covid-19 during the screening at the hospital. Treatment of such ailments will not be covered under the Covid-19 treatment rates. The package rates are only for treating Covid-19 and not for other ailments.

10) The Government Orders read as 1st and 4th papers above stand modified to this extent.

(By order of the Governor)
Rajan Namdev Khobragade
Principal Secretary

To:
The Advocate General , Ernakulam (with C/L)
The State Mission Director, NHM
The Executive Director, State Health Agency , Thiruvananthapuram.
The Director of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram.
The Director of Medical Education, Thiruvananthapuram.
The Managing Director, Kerala Medical Services Corporation Ltd
The Secretary, Kerala State Council for Clinical Establishment
Principal Accountant General (Audit/A&E) of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
All District Collectors
All District Medical Officers
Disaster Management Department
Information & Public Relations (Web & New Media) Department
Stock File/ Office Copy to file F2/257/2021-HEALTH

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer

Copy to : PS to Hon'ble Chief Minister
PS to Hon'ble Minister (Health, Women & Child Welfare)
PA to Principal Secreatry (Health & FW)

