## CGHS - IMPORTANAT PLEASE FORWARD TO YOUR GROUPS AND FRIENDS

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Advisory from the Additional Director, CGHS, Bengaluru to the Pensioner beneficiaries and others

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Dr.Revathi M,

A D, CGHS, spoke to me over the phone today.

Expressing her great concern towards the welfare of beneficiaries, specially the senior and very senior beneficiaries, in view of the present alarming Pandemic Covid - 19 situation in the city, with the number of virus infected people increasing by the day, which includes many CGHS beneficiaries also, she made an impassioned appeal to all to take utmost care in their health and stay home unless needed to go out for reasons of health requiring immediate medical attention in case of an emergency.

The following are some of the advices given by the AD and information given on facilities available under CGHS.

1) Beneficiaries above the age of 65 years, need not visit the CHHS Wellness Centre's for collecting repeat medicines. They may send a member of the family or any one authorised by them who is young to collect the medicines.

Medicines for 3 months will be issued

- 2) Routine Tests which are not of urgent nature may be postponed for the present.
- 3) It is noticed that old couple are attending WCs together for collecting medicines which is not at all advisable
- 4) Telemedicine facility has been started as a pilot project in CGHS Bangalore for beneficiaries above 60 years of age.

WC - 6, Jayanagar and WC - 10, C V Raman Nagar, have been identified for Telemedicine. This facility will be extended to other WCs if feasible.

Beneficiaries can consult doctors at the two WCs by seeking appointment online.

The doctors will respond to the queries online and the beneficiary will get the prescription online to his registered email id.

The medicines prescribed can be collected in person or though any one authorised by the beneficiary within 4 days.

- 5) If they cannot send some one to fetch medicines for them, they can purchase the medicines locally and claim reimbursement of the cost of OPD medicines.
- 6) The last date for local purchase of medicines has been extended up to 31st July,2020.

So, medicines required for the months upto September 2020 can be purchased locally before this month end.

- 7) Time limit for submission of claims for reimbursement has been increased to 6 months now. Further,in deserving cases, the time limit can be extended by another 6 months under the discretion of the AD.
- 8) The validity of CGHS cards of those pensioner beneficiaries who contribute the subscription on annual basis, cards valid upto 31.3.20 and thereafter is extended up to 31.7.2020.

Similarly, the validity of the cards of serving employees who retired on 31.3.20 and thereafter will be extended up to 31st July, 2020 on their request.

Therefore, they need not rush to CGHS Office for getting a new CGHS Pensioner card.

## ON COVID-19 TREATMENT

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On my request to her, to enlighten us about the facilities available under CGHS, for treatment of beneficiaries afflicted with the virus Covid-19, she stated as below.

- A) Beneficiaries having symptoms of Covid-19 infection, like fever, cough etc. need not go to the CGHS WC but must directly report to the fever clinic identified by the State government/local body for advice and allotment of bed in the hospital providing treatment for Covid-19 infection.
- B) Beneficiary or their wards need not go to the CGHS WCs for getting a referral for admission in a private hospital identified by the State government for Covid-19 treatment.
- C) On allotment of a bed in any of the private hospitals EMPANNELLED under CGHS, the beneficiary will be provided with CREDIT FACILITY by the empannelled hospital as per the existing CGHS norms. Necessary instructions have been issued to Empannelled private hospitals in this connection.
- D) If a bed is allotted in a private hospital NOT EMPANNELLED UNDER CGHS, and the beneficiary is admitted there for treatment, the

case will be treated as 'medical treatment in emergency 'and the beneficiary will get breimbursement of the medical expenditure at the rates approved by the government.

E) Beneficiaries, in case of any difficulty faced for admission in private hospitals, may contact the Sr CMO I/C of their Wellness Centre over the phone or the Nodal officer, Dr Ravindra at CGHS Addl. Director's office.

Difficulty arises only if they go to the hospitals on their own. If they go through the designated fever clinics it would be easy for them to get the required medical attention.

## **GENERAL**

- a) Seniors should avoid going out for purchase of groceries, vegetables, fruits etc. One member of the family can get the essential items from the market instead of many shopping together. Daily outgoings for purchases should be avoided .
- b) Strict social distancing must be ensured when there is absolute necessity of going out .
- c) Hand hygiene is very important to ward off any infection.
- d) Use face cover if you step out of your house.
- e) Prevention is always better than cure.

STAY HOME STAY SAFE