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Central Organisation, ECHS
Integrated HQ of MoD (Army)
Adjutant General's Branch
Thimayya Marg,
Near Gopinath Circle
Delhi Cantt – 110010

B/49774/AG/ECHS/2025

27 Feb 2025

(_____)
All Regional Centre ECHS

ADVISORY: APPROVAL OF UNLISTED PROCEDURE (ECHSF 'U')

1. Refer to CO ECHS letter No. B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023 dt 24 Nov 2023.

2. It is observed with concern that emp hospitals are not raising ECHSF 'U' online and/or not processing it on BPA portal. This defeats the purpose of automating online prior approvals leading to avoidable delay and harassment to beneficiaries.

3. In view of the above, it has been decided by the competent authority that henceforth all prior approvals for unlisted procedures/investigations/implants will be strictly processed on BPA portal only. OIC polyclinic of nodal polyclinic will not accept any manual copy brought by NoK or emp hospital reps or email from emp hospitals.

4. All Dir of RCs are requested to monitor emp hospital in respective AORs for strict implementation of this provision.

(Sri Kant Kumar)
Lt Col
Jt Dir (Med)
for MD ECHS

Encl:- As Above

SA

4

Tele: 25683476
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Central Organisation ECHS
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B/49770/AG/ECHS/Treat/Policy/2024 // Sep 2024

Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme
13 SEP 2024
ECHS
IHQ of MoD (Army)

O/o DGAFMS
Ministry of Defence
Defence Office Complex
Africa Avenue
New Delhi-110023

All Regional Centres ECHS

ADVISORY ON SEMO/ SERVICE SPECIALIST APPROVAL FOR UNLISTED/ LISTED PROCEDURE

1. Please refer the following:-

(a) CO ECHS letter No B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023 dated 24 Nov 2023.

(b) CO ECHS letter No B/49778/AG/ECHS/Claims/Advisory dated 25 Jul 2024.

2. ECHSF 'U' or previous Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure is raised for unlisted procedures. The hospital raised the request directly to the AFMS hospital for approval of the Cl spl/ Sr Adv/ Consultant as per financial power. On many occassions it has been observed that the service specialist has already referred the patient to empanelled hospital for the procedure/ investigation/ implant despite this empanelled hospitals ask approval on ECHSF 'U' for the same again. This is causing avoidable harrasment to ECHS beneficiaries.

3. In view of the above it is reiterated that there is no requirement of raising ECHSF 'U' in cases where the service specialist has already opined in favour of the procedure/ investigation/ implant and the procedure/ investigation/ implant is available at the empanelled hospital for the same.

4. For your info and necessary action please.

Kumar

(Sri Kant Kumar)
Lt Col
Jt Dir (Med)
for MD ECHS

Internal

S&A Section - For uploading the letter on ECHS website.

Tele: 011-25683476
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REGD BY SDS/POST

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B/49778/AG/ECHS/Claims/Advisory

25 Jul 2024

(All Regional Centres)

UTI_ITSL

ADVISORY/CLARIFICATION ON USE OF INTRAVITREAL INJECTIONS

1. Refer to the following:-

   (a) This HQ letter Number B/49778/AG/ECHS/Claim/Advisory dt 05 Jun 2024.

   (b) This HQ letter Number B/49761/AG/ECHS/2022 (i) dt 20 Jun 2022.

   (c) This HQ letter No B/49762/AG/ECHS dt 09 Aug 2018.

2. Despite repeated advisories on the subject, it is seen that there are difficulties being experienced by ESM's in the env. The matter was discussed with serving Ophthalmologists and following recommendations are issued for reducing the number of complaints from HCO's /ESM alike :-

   (a) Service Ophthalmologist irrespective of being Vitreo-Retinal Surgeon or otherwise be mandated to approve the initial **three dosage** of Intravitreal Injections where Anti VEGF (Anti Vascular Endothelial Growth Factors) is reqd as part of treatment and the same to be given in Service Hosps where available.

   (b) In case of non-availability of the said Anti VEGF injections in service hosps, recommendation of Service Opthalmologist, to endorse on ECHSF-'U' for treatment in an Emp Hosp for intial three dosages.

   (c) Thereafter, recommendations of nearest service Vitreo-Retinal Surgeons in chain of command be obtained in ECHSF-'U' for confirmation or change of Anti-VEGF Intravitreal Injections again after every 03 injections on the basis of supporting documents and the same to be obtained in online mode only.

   (d) Responsibility to obtain the recommendations of service Vitreo-Retinal Surgeon in online mode to rest with Nodal Polyclinics, who in turn will submit the ECHSF-'U' (Unlisted Approval) to Nodal PCs of Service Hosps where Vitreo-Retinal Surgeons are posted.

(e) On receipt of approved ECHS-'U' (Unlisted Approval), the same will be countersigned/ approved by SEMO and then intimated to veteran and EMP Hosps by respective Nodal PCs.

(Rajesh Batlish)
Surg Capt
OIC Claim
for MD ECHS

Tele: 25683476
Mil: 36833

Central Organisation, ECHS
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Integrated Headquarters
Ministry of Defence (Army)
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B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023

24 Nov 2023

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)
DAV, Subroto Park
HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)
(_____)
All Regional Centres

ADVISORY ON APPROVAL OF UNLISTED PROCEDURE(APPX 'A')

1. Refer CO ECHS letter No B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023 dt 11 Sep 2023.

2. It is learnt from the environment that processing of Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure implant/investigation is being misutilized by HCOs and tardily handled by service Spl/SEMO. This is causing avoidable and unnecessary delay in treatment and harassment to the ECHS beneficiaries and heavy cost to the exchequer.

3. CGHS have issued maximum ceiling rates for most of the procedures/investigations /implants. CGHS rates are region specific. Most of the procedures/investigations/implants have been given specific codes under CGHS which is valid across almost all regions. Few implants have got CGHS ceiling rates but no codes. Wherever CGHS ceiling rates are not available, AIIMS ceiling rates are applicable for claiming reimbursement. These rates are revised time to time. All the information is available in public domain accessible online.

4. It is intimated that there is no requirement of SEMO/Spl approval for any CGHS listed procedure/implant/investigation be it joint replacement surgery, cardiac surgery or organ transplant surgery except for all planned cases of Cardiology & TKR/THR for all 13 Polyclinics of NCR(as per Para 30 of SOP on Treatment Management in ECHS dt 28 Sep 2018). It is reiterated that the procedure and implant is to be reimbursed separately. If the procedure is listed but the implant is not having ceiling rate as per CGHS then SEMO will give approval for the unlisted implant.

5. It is also intimated that Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure/implant/investigation cannot be raised for CGHS listed procedures/investigations/implants based on innovatively renaming it. Latest CGHS listed procedure for that particular region is easily available online. There is requirement of awareness at HCO and Service Hospital level to further streamline the procedure.

6. Appx 'A' raised for procedure/investigation/implant, if found CGHS listed by SEMO/Service Spl, may be cancelled and along with the CGHS code/ ceiling rate be returned to the HCO and asked to proceed with management without Appx 'A'.

7. Henceforth Appx'A' will be fwd with a brief of case alongwith future course of action by treating physician/surgeon and connected investigation reports to SEMO/Service Spl.

8. Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure/implant /investigation upto 2 lakh may be approved by SEMO alone. However, SEMOs, without required Spls in their hospitals are requested to utilize telephonic facility to consult Service Spls in other hospitals in case these are required. This will reduce the processing time as patient might be already admitted and awaiting Appx 'A' approval. Spl/SEMO may avail tele conferencing facility to consult patient to clarify issues. Under no circumstances patients or their NoKs should be made to run around to get early approval. It is the responsibility of the hospital, nodal PC & concerned SEMO/Spl to facilitate early approval.

9. It is also observed that if single Appx 'A' is raised for more than two procedures/investigations/implants few SEMOs/Spls comment on one or two components leaving others in abeyance. This results in repetition of procedure and another Appx 'A' to get approval for left over component of the initial Appx 'A'. Hence it is mandatory that all components of the Appx 'A' be addressed individually by SEMOs/Spls everytime to avoid unnecessary delay and inconvenience to the ageing ECHS beneficiaries. It is again reiterated that if a particular procedure/investigation/implant among the projected list in Appx 'A' is found to be listed procedure/investigation/implant by the SEMO or the concerned spl, the CGHS code/ ceiling rate must be mentioned against that procedure /investigation/implant only by concerned Spl/SEMO. The rest of the list may be commented upon as approved / not approved (-with justification) before returning documents.

10. CO ECHS letter No B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023 dt 11 Sep 2023 may pl be treated as cancelled.

11. This has the approval of MD ECHS.

(AC Nishil)
Col
Dir (Med)
For MD ECHS

Copy to:-

BPA (echsbpa@utiitsl.com) - for your info and necessary action please.

Internal

Claim Sec

Stats & Automation Sec - for uploading the letter on ECHS website.

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Mil: 36833

Central Organisation, ECHS
Adjutant General's Branch
Integrated Headquarters
Ministry of Defence (Army)
Thimayya Marg, Near Gopinath Circle
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B/49774/AG/ECHS/Referral/2023

11 Sep 2023

(_____)
All Regional Centres

APPROVAL OF UNLISTED PROCEDURE(APPX 'A')

1. It is learnt from the environment that processing of Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure implant/investigation is grossly misutilized by HCOs and casually handled by service Spl/SEMO. This is causing avoidable and unnecessary delay and harassment to the ECHS beneficiary and hefty bills to exchequer.

2. It is intimated that there is no requirement of SEMO/Spl approval for any listed procedure/implant/investigation be it joint replacement surgery, cardiac surgery or organ transplant surgery.

3. It is also intimated that Appx 'A' for unlisted procedure/implant/investigation cannot be raised for listed procedures. Latest CGHS listed procedure for that particular region is easily available online. There is requirement of awareness at HCO and Service Hospital level to further streamline the procedure.

4. Appx 'A' raised for listed procedure, if found by PC or SEMO/Service Spl may be cancelled along with mentioning the CGHS code and HCO intimated accordingly to proceed with management without Appx 'A'.

5. Henceforth Appx'A' will be fwd with a brief of case alongwith future course of action by treating physician/surgeon and connected investigation reports to SEMO/Service Spl.

6. Appx 'A' for procedure/implant /investigation upto 2 lakh may be approved by SEMO alone. However, SEMOs without required Spl in their hospital are requested to utilize telephonic facility to consult Service Spl in other hospital in case it is required. This will reduce the processing time as patient might be already admitted and awaiting Appx 'A' approval.

7. It is intimated that comments of SEMO/Service Spl for all items of Appx 'A' is very essential at final presentation. Otherwise approval process will be unnecessary repeated causing avoidable inconvenience to ECHS beneficiary. It is again reiterated that if the procedure in Appx 'A' is found to be listed procedure, the CGHS code must be mentioned against that procedure/implant/investigation by concerned Spl/SEMO.

8. For your info and necessary action please.

(Sri Kant Kumar)
Lt Col
Jt Dir (Med)
For MD ECHS

Internal

Claim Sec

Stats & Automation Sec - for uploading the letter on ECHS website.