



# Aarogyasri Health Care Trust

Government of Andhra Pradesh

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**Babu .A, IAS**

Chief Executive Officer

To  
The CEO/MD/CMD of Network Hospitals

**AST/659/F25/2010-11, dated 31.08.2010**

Sir,

Sub: Selection criteria of cases for the procedures under Orthopaedics and  
Neurosurgery –New guidelines for strengthening of pre-authorization process –  
Intimation – Reg.

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Government is implementing Rajiv Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme to financially assist poor families in the state to avail the advanced medical treatment for identified diseases. The scheme is under implementation for the last three years and during this period Trust as well as Network Hospitals gained experience in dealing with Aarogyasri cases as per the laid down standard medical procedures and guidelines. However in order to streamline the selection criteria of the cases for the procedures under the Orthopedic and Neurosurgery procedures of the scheme, Trust called a meeting of Surgeons from both the specialties on 22.04.2010 at 3.00 P.M. in the Conference Hall of the Trust at Dr.Y.S.R. Bhavan. The meet discussed specific issues related to preauthorization, selection of procedure, combined procedures, multiple pre-authorizations etc. After deliberations and discussions with the specialists Trust prepared following guidelines to help hospitals in proper selection of cases and avoid unethical usage.

## **GUIDELINES IN ORTHOPEDIC AND NEURO-SURGERY PROCEDURES**

### **(A) Neurosurgery Procedures**

#### **I. Laminectomy & Discectomy**

- 1) Laminectomy shall be done only in cases of clear evidence of canal stenosis in MRI with Neurological claudication.
- 2) Evidence of having tried conservative treatment for a period of at least 6 months prior to the surgery. The Relevant documents to be uploaded. *See Clause 4.*
- 3) Discectomy being a procedure done for either an acute or sub-acute condition, clear cut clinical evidence should be submitted. Proof of at least 3 months conservative management in cases of sub-acute indication is preferable. *See Clause 4.*
- 4) The evidence for the conservative management has to be submitted as follows.



- a. For an Aarogyasri Network Hospital: The OP details captured in the Aarogyasri workflow along with case documents for respective periods of 6 months and 3 months for cases of Laminectomy and Discectomy prior to sending pre-authorization for procedure.
  - b. For Hospitals outside Aarogyasri network: Case sheet or other case documents to prove the patient has received conservative treatment prior to sending the pre-authorization will be verified.
- 5) Hospitals shall prefer telephonic approval in case of acute indication.
  - 6) All the cases of laminectomy and discectomy shall submit evidence of well informed counseling session through video recording. Video recording of pre-operative counseling of the patient with treating doctor, RAMCO and patients relative is mandatory for giving pre-authorization. The attachment shall be made in the counseling documents slot in the online workflow at the time of sending the case for pre-authorization. The consent form shall be in local language (patient's mother tongue).
  - 7) Implants shall be of titanium make and shall submit invoice with implant details during claim submission.
  - 8) Claim for all the procedures of Laminectomy and Discectomy shall be submitted at the end of 3 weeks only and submit patient satisfaction evidence in this regard in prescribed proforma annexed.
  - 9) Second opinion may be obtained before pre-authorizations for above procedures being done for subjective reasons in cases of less than 25 years of age from any hospital.
  - 10) Declaration by the treating doctor to be submitted in the form of a letter stating that other causes of low back ache have been ruled out in cases of subjective symptom of pain being the reason for surgery.

## **II. Spinal Fusion Procedures:**

- 11) The Spinal Fusion Procedure to be carried out wherever the evidence of spinal instability is established. The hospital shall submit evidence of spinal instability in the form of dynamic views of x-ray viz., Lateral view in flexion and extension and oblique view and or 3D CT in cases of doubtful indications.

## **(B) Orthopaedic Procedures**

### **I. Surgical Correction of Long bone fracture (ORIF)**

The package under ORIF is for coverage of surgical correction using Nails, Plates, Screws etc., of standard make. However if any of the surgical correction is done using K-Wire or Screws / Square nail / Rush nail, the package amount shall be reduced to Rs.5000/10000 respectively except in case of following conditions as all these procedures are technically demanding and require C-arm assistance.

- 1) Cannulated Cancellous Screws (CCS) for Intra Capsular Fracture neck of femur
- 2) Femoral Condylar Fracture
- 3) Tibial Condylar Fracture
- 4) Proximal Humerus Fracture
- 5) Distal Humerus Fracture

- 6) Distal Radius Fracture
- 7) Medial Malleolus Fracture correction with screw fixation / Tension band wiring
- 8) Isolated Lateral Malleolus Fracture with subluxation / dislocation of ankle
- 9) Fracture Olecranon correction with Screw fixation / Tension Band wiring

*In all the above cases the pre-authorization will be given for full package amount of Rs. 22,000/- . However, the claim will be settled based on the procedure done and the type of implant used.*

**II.** The following procedures to be approved under **ORIF** with a package amount of Rs.15,000 /-.

- 1) **Girdlestone excision Arthroplasty**
- 2) **Radial head excision**

### **III. Combined procedures**

1. ORIF + Bone grafting: These two combined procedures to be approved in following conditions.
  - a. All long bone fractures with significant comminution.
  - b. Non union of long bone fractures.
2. Combined Internal and External fixation (Hybrid fixation) to be approved for
  - a. Grossly comminuted long bone fractures.
  - b. Minimum gap of 3 weeks shall be observed between both the procedures.
3. Open reduction of dislocations with fractures: All these cases the approval will be for two procedures of open reduction of dislocation @ Rs.30,000/- + Rs.10,000/- for associated fracture.

All the network hospitals are requested to scrupulously follow the fresh guidelines in selection of cases and upload requisite documents as prescribed to avoid rejection of cases. They shall cooperate with the field officers when they come for verification and provide all the documents that are requested. These guidelines will come into effect from 00:00 hours of 07.09.2010.

For Aarogyasri Health Care Trust

  
Chief Executive Officer