



TROPICAL JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

(An International Peer Reviewed Journal)

Journal homepage: <http://informativejournals.com/journal/index.php/tjpls>



FREE DRUG DISTRIBUTION IN RAJASTHAN

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ARTICLE INFO:

Received: 4th Jan. 2021; Received in revised form: 21st Jan. 2021; Accepted: 18th Feb. 2021; Available online: 27th Feb. 2021

ABSTRACT

Rajasthan Mukhyamantri Nishulk Dava Yojana was launched on 2nd October 2011, by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan Shri Ashok Gehlot. Formally called the Mukhyamantri Nishulk Dava Yojana (MNDY), the Chief Minister's Free Medicine Scheme, this Scheme provides quality, generic drugs at no expense to all and helps to ease the significant out of pocket expenditures on health care that the current national health system demands. The Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation (RMSC) was created and given the responsibility for centralized purchasing, quality control and providing medicines to all health facilities in the state. The Rajasthan government ensured that people get free medicines for 104 serious diseases. In this review, we have seen how free drug distribution is done in Rajasthan and how it is handled and how this system is going to be done in the future.

Keywords: Drug distribution counter, RMSC, MNDY, Nishulk Dava.

INTRODUCTION

In Rajasthan, on average before MNDY, 89.4 percent of household expenditures on health care was spent on medicine. According to the World Health Organization in 2010, 65 percent of patients were unable to access the essential medicines they needed to recover from an illness. The Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation (RMSC) was created and given the responsibility for centralized purchasing, quality control and providing medicines to all health facilities in the state. Generic medicines and this centralized system of procurement allowed the efficient distribution of quality drugs. The Rajasthan government launched the free medicine scheme on October 2, 2011. Under the scheme, patients are supposed to get free medicines at the government health facilities including hospitals associated with medical colleges, district hospitals, community health centers, primary health centers and sub centers. The scheme was launched for 300 medicines with a budget of Rs 100 crore. On completion of one year of the scheme on October 2, 2012, the free medicines were increased to 600 with budget of Rs 300 crore. Govind Singh, who had come to the hospital from Jasora village in Bharatpur district to collect medicines for his grandfather Duregesh, a heart patient, said, "Doctor has prescribed seven medicines, of which four were not available. It is really a big problem. I never get all the medicines prescribed by the doctor".

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Published by Informative Journals (Jadoun Science Publishing Group India)



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The outpatient department (OPD) of the SMS hospital receives 10,000 patients daily. The hospital is often short of 30%-40% medicines. Availability of medicines is 80% and the medicines that are not in stock are purchased and given to patients. The situation has improved over last few years, as earlier there used to be shortage of 30% medicines," said Dr. DS Meena, the medical superintendent of the SMS Hospital.

Benefits of the Scheme

Historical and sensitive initiative towards providing high quality and low cost medical services, under which: -

- Free medicines are being distributed free of cost for the general public in order to provide better health services to the people of the state.
- There is a reduction in the expenditure on medicines of common class.
- Due to lack of funds, the treatment of those deprived of medical services will be possible.
- Commonly used surgical items such as needle, disposable series, IVA blood transfusion sets and swabs for stitches etc. are also being provided free of cost along with medicines and injections etc.

Beneficiary

- All outpatients (OPD) patients coming to the hospital for treatment.
- State hospitalized (IPD) patients.
- All state officials, employees, and retired state workers (pensioners). (Diary system for retired state employees will continue as before.
- The following will continue to receive benefits under "Chief Minister Jeevan Raksha Kosh" as before.
 - ✓ BPL / State BPL
 - ✓ Asset card holder
 - ✓ HIV AIDS patients
 - ✓ Old Age Pensioners (approved by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)
 - ✓ Disabled and Widow Pensioners (approved by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment)
 - ✓ Families living in four nuts and sansi settlements of Jodhpur city
 - ✓ Antyodaya Anna Yojana (APL Sahariya Family of Banra District)
 - ✓ Beneficiaries of Annapurna Scheme
 - ✓ All families of Kathodi tribe
 - ✓ Famous families of Mehrangarh Durg Jodhpur grief
 - ✓ Disabled couples of BPL / State BPL family
 - ✓ Patients suffering from Thalassemia and Himophilia (since 2 October 2011).
 - ✓ Children of orphanage, physical and mental destitute children run or approved by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, women of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment or students of their approved school and women residing in Nari Niketan, run / approved by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

The process of continuous improvement in the health of the common man is being continued by the state government by strengthening the Chief Minister Free Drug Scheme and Free Screening Scheme. The benefit of this scheme is being made available to the entire people of the state and no person of the state is deprived of medical facilities due to lack of medicines. Through Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation, free medicines are being made available in about 17550 medical institutions in the state. Essential Drug List has been prepared for the state. In which presently the following types of medicines are included in Surgicals and Suicers: - Medicines-591, Surgicals-73, Suicers-77. The list of medicines being made available at the free drug delivery centers operated in state medical institutions is displayed.

The availability of medicines for outdoor patients at the time of OPD and 24 hours for indoor and emergency patients has been ensured.

The total sanctioned posts in the corporation are 447, working positions 260 and vacant posts 187.

Local Purchase

Provision has been made to purchase 10 percent of the annual budget at the local level, if required in the hospital.

Duration of Treatment

Normally, three days free medicine is provided to the patient. If necessary, or under special circumstances, indicating the reason, the medicine is being given for 7 days. Medicines of up to one month are being made available to patients and pensioners of prolonged illness such as blood pressure / diabetes / heart disease / epilepsy / anemia etc.

Quality Testing

Drug Testing Laboratories are checking the quality of drugs. After receiving the medicine by the RMSC, it is kept in the Quarantine Area and again the laboratory examination of these medicines is done in the laboratory listed by the RMSC and after the medicines have been tested, the hospitals for distribution to the general public is issued.

Computerization

Special online monitoring (E-Aushadhi) system has been established by computerizing the district drug store for the management of medicine stocks, in which the list of all the medical institutions as well as the medicines given is also available. Through this online software (E-Aushadhi), it helps in tendering, sending tenders, knowing the status of consumption of medicines at medical institutions, transmitting information about declared medicines, etc. and ensuring proper use of medicines. Details of medicines given to hospitals are also recorded in this software, from which reports are obtained according to need.

Budget

A provision of Rs 280.00 crore was approved by the state government for the financial year 2015-16. From April 01, 2015 to December 31, 2015, the corporation received an amount of Rs 323.56 crore, out of which Rs 210.00 crore was received from the state government and a sum of Rs 113.56 crore was received from NHM. From April 01, 2015 to December 31, 2015, funds amounting to Rs. 311.88 crore were distributed to various medical institutions.

Achievement

In order to ensure uninterrupted supply of medicines, surgical and information on medical institutions affiliated to state medical colleges, separate medical college drugstore houses have been constructed and operated for medical institutions affiliated to medical colleges. At present, a separate medical college drugstore house is functioning for 5 state medical colleges and the work of construction of a drugstore store for SMS medical college is in progress.

Four strengths (30mg, 45mg, 75mg capsules and 75ml syrup) of the drug Oseltamivir used in the treatment of swine flu and vitamin K1 injection to newborns have been included in the essential drug list prepared by the corporation.

Five types of Artemisinin Combination Therapy packs have been included in the list of essential medicines for the control of malaria disease.

Barless sanitary napkins to be distributed under the sanitary napkin distribution scheme to adolescent girls have been included in the requirement drug list of the corporation. To ensure proper and effective use of medicines, the Corporation has prepared the Standard Treatment Guidelines- STG and Essential Drug List (Essential Drug List - EDL) made available to all state physicians (Medical Education Department and

Medical Health Department). Heavy duty racks, pallets, air trucks, necessary furniture etc. equipment have been made available for the maintenance of medicines at the district / medical college store houses.

Latest Statistics- At present, 34 district drug store houses and 5 medical college drug store houses are operated under the corporation.



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How to cite this article: Dev, I., Ankita, S., & Singh, R. (2021). FREE DRUG DISTRIBUTION IN RAJASTHAN. *Tropical Journal of Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences*, 8(1), 30-34. Retrieved from <https://informativejournals.com/journal/index.php/tjpls/article/view/62>

PUBLISHED BY:
INFORMATIVE JOURNALS
JADOUN SCIENCE PUBLISHING GROUP INDIA

