PROCEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE SUVARNA AROGYA SURKSHA TRUST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR. E.V. RAMANA REDDY, IAS,
SECRETARY, DEPT. OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, HELD IN ROOM
NO: 212, 2nd FLOOR, VIKASA SOUDHA, BANGALORE ON 25th January 2010

Members Present:

1. Dr. E. V. Ramana Reddy, IAS, Secretary, H&FW Dept. - Chairman
2. Sri. D. N. Nayak, IAS, Commissioner, H&FWS - Member
4. Representative of Principal Secretary, Finance Dept. - Member
5. Representative of Principal Secy., Medical Education Dept. - Member
6. Dr. Sumedhi R. Desai, Director, H&FWS - Vice Chairperson
7. Dr. H. Sudarshan, Hon. Secretary, Karuna Trust - Member
8. Dr. N. Devadasan, Director, IPH - Special Invitee
9. Sri. A.P.V. Reddy, Managing Director, FHPL - Special Invitee
10. Sri. J.E. Prasad, Vice President, FHPL - Special Invitee

Officers Present:

1. Dr. Pandurang T. Pujari, J.D. SAS Trust
2. Smt. Bharathi V.M., Manager, FHPL
3. Sri. Chetan Mahajan, SAS Trust

Sri. G. Kumar Naik, IAS, Executive Director (ED) of Suvarna Arogya Suraksha (SAS) Trust and Member Secretary of the Executive Committee (EC), welcomed members at the Executive Committee Meeting and provided opening remarks.

1. Assessment of Action Taken Report:

Action taken report as per the minutes of the 6th EC Meeting held on 29.12.2009 was presented for EC’s perusal and approval. The actions taken thus far were ratified by EC.

2. Updates on activities of Empanelment & Disciplinary Committee and Proposed Empanelment of Hospitals:

EC was appraised on the progress of the empanelment process thus far. District wise report of empanelment of hospitals including details of all 142 applications received, such as name of
hospital, total number of beds, status of inspection, assigned inspection team consisting of at least one EDC member, a qualified ISA personnel and a representative of the Trust, was presented to the EC for perusal and approval on the empanelment process. Further, the EDC’s recommendations to approve 40 hospitals for empanelment and reject 24 hospitals on various measures were presented. EC perused the report on the status of empanelment and approved the recommendations of the EDC. ED was permitted to initiate the agreement process for the hospitals approved for empanelment.

3. Approval on MOU between Network Hospitals and Trust

In the empanelment process, the agreement between Network Hospitals and the Trust, i.e. MOU, will serve as a platform for transparent and satisfactory conduct between the parties. The document shall clearly depict the salient features of the Scheme, compliance under Benefit Package, criteria for empanelment, roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, transactional flows, ramifications of misconduct, etc.

The main body of the draft MOU, without annexure, was presented for EC’s consideration and approval. EC authorized ED to sign the MOU immediately with Government Hospitals. EC also arrived at the consensus that the EC members shall vet the presented document and recommend any changes to the SAST Team by Jan 27th, 2010, beyond which the MOU shall be signed as a temporary agreement until final vetting is attained from the Law Dept. It was also suggested that the ISA shall attain legal advice from its internal resources. EC permitted ED to invite prospective Network Hospital for signing the agreement at the soonest.

4. Approval on Health Camp Guidelines:

For the purpose of setting particular guidelines and ensuring meaningful conduct of the camps, Health Camp Guidelines are proposed to be annexed to the MOU to enact the
guidelines under the same agreement with Network Hospitals. EC gave various suggestions on arriving at the guidelines, such as location of the camps shall be at the PHC of the designated Taluka, and the prescribed roles of the Network Hospital, ISA, District Administration and local Government doctors at the camp. EC permitted ED to present the Health Camp Guidelines to the EC members once it is completed for approval within 2-3 days of its receipt. ED was also permitted to include the approved Health Camp Guidelines as an annexure to the MOU.

5. Approval on Benefit Package of SAS Scheme:

In the 6th EC meeting held on 29th Dec 2009, a total of 402 procedures with benefit package rates were approved and it was decided to freeze the benefit package rates for the next financial year, i.e. till 31.03.2011 or until further orders.

Further EC had permitted additional time for finalizing a) “Follow-up Packages” and b) “Pre-operative and Post-operative Procedures and Investigations” to be done in order to facilitate the preauthorization and claims settlement processes.

In this regard, EC was informed that the Benefit Package Committee met on 13/01/2010 to discuss Follow-up Benefit Packages for covering the cost of follow-up, i.e. consultation, medicines, investigations, etc., for specific surgical procedures which would require follow-up treatment from the 11th day after discharge up to one year. In the process, the committee also took the Follow-up Packages of Rajiv Aarogyasri of Andhra Pradesh into consideration. Subsequently, the Committee agreed to freeze the list of 50 Follow-up Packages and arrived at the consensus that Rajiv Aarogyasri Follow-up Package rates are reasonable and thus the same rates were proposed to be adopted for the Vajpayee Arogyashree Follow-up Package rates. The Benefit Package Committee also discussed and finalized the pre-operative and
post-operative procedures and investigations to be required during the pre-authorization and claims settlement processes.

The list of 402 procedures along with benefit package rates, essential pre-operative and post-operative investigations along with the list of 50 follow-up packages and their rates were presented for perusal and approval of EC. The same were approved by EC, with two days given to the members for any comments and recommendations. EC arrived at the consensus that claims settlement shall commence with the frozen rates and a review of the packages can be taken up after six months.

6. Gulbarga Mega Health Camp Preparations

EC was informed that the Vajpayee Arogyashree Mega Health Camp has been rescheduled to be held on Feb. 1st, 2010 in Gulbarga. In this regard, SAST Team had attended a meeting held on Jan. 19th, 2010 with the District Administration under the Chairmanship of Regional Commissioner of Gulbarga Division. Preparations made thus far by the District Administration and the requirements for the Mega Camp were discussed. EC was also informed that the venue for the Feb. 1st, 2010 Mega Camp was decided to be Nutan Vidyalaya Ground, Gulbarga and according to the District Administration, thus far about 1736 patients have been screened and a register is being maintained. Additionally, it was proposed that local ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, other volunteers, etc. shall be given incentives to mobilize potential patients within their localities and bring them to the camp.

EC was requested to approve the incentive amount to be given to local ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, volunteers, etc. EC was also requested to consider the proposal submitted by District Administration for an additional Rs. 5 lakhs for the execution of the Mega Camp. EC arrived at the consensus to approve the additional Rs. 5 lakhs for the
execution of the Mega Camp, which would also include the incentives to be given to ASHA/AWW, other volunteers, etc.

7. **Discussion on IT platform**

It was discussed that we have yet to receive the agreement document from Aarogyasri Health Care Trust of Andhra Pradesh for sharing their IT platform. In light of the upcoming Mega Health Camp and the expected inflow of patients into Network Hospitals, it was confirmed that SAST Team shall proceed with manual operations through prescribed formats to be used by the Network Hospital and exchanging the required patient information via fax. It was also suggested that it would be advisable to initiate the tender process for selection of suitable IT service provider to develop an IT solution as per the Trust’s requirements at the soonest.

8. **Announcement of Expansion of Scheme within BBMP Jurisdiction**

Secretary, H&FW Dept. informed EC of the impending decision regarding implementation of a scheme similar to Vajpayee Arogyashree within BBMP jurisdiction. It was mentioned that BBMP will fund the programme and set the criteria for identification of beneficiaries. In turn, SAS Trust would implement the programme as per its norms.

Secretary, H&FW Dept. and Chairman of SAS Trust provided closing remarks. ED extended thanks to the Chairman and the EC members for active participation at the 7th Executive Committee Meeting.
Copy to:

1. Secretary to Government, Health & Family Welfare Department Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore.
2. Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
3. Principal Secretary to Government, Medical Education Department, Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore.
5. Mission Director, National Rural Health Mission / Project Administrator, KHSDRP. Sheshadri Road Bangalore.
7. Dr. K.V. Raju, Economist, Advisor to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
8. Dr. H Sudarshan, Karuna Trust. #686, 16th main, 39th cross, 4th ‘T’ Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore.
10. Chief Finance Officer, SAS Trust/ KHSDRP/ NRHM.