



Government of Karnataka  
**SUVARNA AROGYA SURAKSHA TRUST**

(Department of Health & Family Welfare)  
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Proceedings of the 27<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of the Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust under the Chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department held on 4/9/2020 at 11.00 am in SAST Conference Hall, Bangalore.

**Members Present:**

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Health & Family Welfare Department & Chairman, Executive Committee, Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust ,VikasaSoudha, Bangalore.
2. The Commissioner, Health & Family Welfare Services, Bangalore
3. Representative from Medical Education Department, Bangalore.
4. Representative from Finance Department, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.
5. Dr. H. Sudarshan, Karuna Trust, Bangalore.
6. The Director, Health & Family Welfare Services, Bangalore
7. The Executive Director, SAST, Bangalore.

**Leave of absence:**

1. The Chief Executive Officer, Yeshasvini Trust, Bangalore
2. The Mission Director, NHM, Bangalore

**Others:**

1. Director (Finance), SAST
2. Director, MM, SAST
3. Director (Op), SAST

The Executive Director, SAST welcomed the Chairman and members to the meeting.

Subjects on the Agenda were taken up for discussion.

**Subject No. 27.1**

**Reading and Confirmation of the proceedings of 26<sup>th</sup> EC meeting held on 7/11/2019**

The Executive Committee confirmed the proceedings of the 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting held on 7/11/2019.

**Subject No. 27.2**

**Reading and Confirmation of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Empanelment & Disciplinary Committee Meeting held on 27/12/2019 and 24/6/2020**

The Executive Committee confirmed the proceedings of the 4th and 5th Empanelment & Disciplinary Committee Meeting held on 27/12/2019 and 24/6/2020.

**Subject No. 27.3**

**Action taken Report - Review of action taken on the decision of the 26th EC meeting held on 7/11/2019**

The Executive Director presented the action taken report of the proceedings of the 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting.

**Decision:**

After detailed discussion, the Committee noted ATR of 26<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting decisions and suggested that Procurement of Laptops and Desktops in Subject No. 26.7 can be done through GEM portal (reverse bidding) as per the latest amendment of KTPP Act.

**Subject No. 27. 4**

**Status of the schemes**

The Executive Director updated the Committee on the performance status of Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka Scheme, Jyothi Sanjeevini Scheme, Organ Transplant schemes up to August 2020, with reference to the monthly performance for the financial years 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21.

The Chairman enquired about the updates on the inclusion of combination of organ transplant and additional transplant procedures – Kidney and Liver, Kidney and Pancreas, Heart and Lungs, Limbs under the Organ Transplant Scheme. Executive Director responded that the recommendation of the “Expert Committee for recommendation of uniform package rates for healthcare assurance schemes in participating establishments” under

KPME Act, was submitted to the Finance Dept. The Finance Department had sought clarifications to which replies will be resubmitted to the Government at the earliest.

**Decision:**

The Committee noted the status of schemes and directed to submit the file related for including other organs transplants as per the recommendation of the KPME Committee for concurrence from the Finance Dept.

**Subject No. 27.5**

**Expenditure details from 2019-20 and 1/4/2020 to 31/8/2020**

The Committee perused the expenditure of schemes implemented under Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust.

**Decision:**

The Committee noted and suggested to write a letter to GoI for release of funds for the year 2020-21.

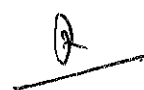
**Subject No. 27.6**

**Updates on implementation of integrated Ayushman Bharat- Arogya Karnataka Scheme – Issues**

The Executive Director briefed the Committee regarding number of beneficiaries that had availed treatment from Government & Private empanelled hospitals, no. of cards issued, empanelment of hospitals, both government and private under "AB-Ark" scheme .

The Executive Director also briefed the status of empanelment of hospitals for Covid 19 treatment, the number of preauthorizations approved, number of claims received from the hospitals, claims processed and settled details as on 1/9/2020 to the Committee.

It was also informed to the Committee that BBMP was not allotting beds in many hospitals for Covid treatment.



**Decision:**

**After detailed discussion, the Committee noted and suggested;**

- to submit the file reg. percentage of bed occupancy allotted by the BBMP for review by the Chief Secretary.
- to check the daily status of Covid patients in the daily bulletin.
- to seek funds for Covid management from Government
- to make enquiries about treatment charges in other states for Covid management

**Subject No. 27.7**

**Audit Report for the year 2018-19 of SAST**

The Executive Director placed the Audit Report submitted by the Chartered Accountants for the year 2018-19 of Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust after review by the Audit Committee.

**Decision:**

**The Committee perused the Audit Report for the year 2018-19 and confirmed the proceedings of the Audit and Finance Committee meeting held on 4/9/2020.**

**Subject No. 27.8**

**Assistant Regional Consultants to carry out the duties of District Coordinators of their Headquarters.**

The Executive Director informed the Committee that two ARCs are appointed for every division to implement and supervise the schemes of SAST. 8 ARCs and 30 District Coordinators were recruited. It was proposed that wherever District Coordinator post was vacant in the headquarters, the ARCs could in addition to their role do the job that District Coordinator performs, hence approval was sought to pay extra remuneration of Rs. 10000/- to such Assistant Regional Consultants.

**Decision:**

**The Committee suggested to recruit District Coordinators in those districts wherever vacancies exist early and prepare a distinct job chart for Assistant Regional Consultants and District Coordinators with formats for reviewing and reporting in order to review their individual performance.**

**Subject No. 27.9**

**Hiring of Vehicles to Assistant Regional Consultants**

The Executive Director informed that the Assistant Regional Consultants have to visit hospitals in 4 to 5 districts in their jurisdiction for monitoring of schemes. Approval to provide a vehicle on rental basis for touring districts allotted to them.

**Decision:**

**The Committee approved hiring vehicles on rental basis to Assistant Regional Consultants.**

**Subject No. 27.10**

**Merging of Districts: Bangalore Rural and Ramnagar, Chikkodi and Miraj**

The Executive Director explained to the Committee that there are very few private hospitals in Bangalore Rural District and Ramnagar, Chikkodi and Miraj districts. Approval was sought to post only one District Coordinator for the districts of Bangalore (Rural) and Ramnagar combined and Chikkodi and Miraj combined.

**Decision:**

**The Committee approved posting of one District Coordinator for Bangalore (Rural) & Ramnagar and one District Coordinator to look after Chikkodi & Miraj.**

**Subject No. 27.11**

**Ratification of action taken for appointment and Extension of Services of Contractual Staff appointed in Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust**

The Executive Director explained in brief to the Committee regarding (i) appointment of Assistant Regional Consultants, District Coordinators by following due procedures by SAST (ii) appointment of Assistant Regional Consultants, District Coordinators by Deputy Commissioners of the respective districts and (iii) extension of services of contractual staff for a period of one year based on PAC Committee recommendation for ratification.

**Decision**

**The committee ratified the recruitment of Assistant Regional Consultants, District Coordinators and continuation of contractual employees.**

**Subject No. 27.12****Temporary appointment of Arogyamitras in Bangalore city as per the decision of Covid-19 Task Force.**

The Executive Director informed of the appointment of additional Arogyamitras to work in Bangalore Urban District to provide service 24x7 in all empanelled hospitals for COVID in Bangalore city, as per the directions of the Task Force in its meeting held on 20.07.2020 and 21.07.2020. As the response was poor due to the scare of Covid, qualification was reduced from Any Graduate/Diploma in Pharmacy/ Paramedical with Computer Knowledge and experience of two years in the field, to P U passed on the directions of the Task force Committee. 159 Arogyamitras were appointed temporarily and deputed to different hospitals of Bangalore. Ratification for appointment of Arogyamitras and change in qualification was requested.

**Decision:**

The Committee ratified the appointment of additional Arogyamitras and change in qualification for the hospitals empanelled for COVID treatment.

**Subject No. 27.13****Correction in experience for the posts of Office Superintendent and FDA**

The Executive Director informed the Committee that in the approved Organogram in the 26th EC meeting held on 7/11/2019, the experience for the posts of Office Superintendent and FDA was interchanged. The corrections to be carried out and read as follows;

<b>Posts</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Experience</b>
Office Superintendent/ PA to ED (Office Suptd-2 & PA to ED -1)	Any degree with computer knowledge	<b>Minimum 10 years of experience in administration PAs - Minimum 7 years of experience in relevant field with shorthand</b>
FDA (Admin -2 & PA to Directors -3)	Any degree with computer knowledge	<b>Minimum 7 years of experience in administration PA - Minimum 7 years of experience in relevant field with shorthand</b>

**Decision :**

The Committee approved the correction.

## **Subject No. 27.14**

### **Incentives to Arogyamitras working on general holidays**

The Executive Director explained to the Committee that Arogyamitras are appointed for newly empanelled hospitals were placed to work 24x7 at the hospitals. Their timings are from 9.00 am to till 7.00 pm. Night duty Arogyamitras should take over from day duty Arogyamitras at 7.00 pm and hand over charge at 9.00 am in the morning and also attended work on holidays on Saturday, Sunday and other General holidays. It is proposed to provide an incentive of Rs. 800/- per day to Arogyamitras who work on holidays on Saturday, Sunday and other General holidays including week days.

The Executive Director informed that 165 Arogyamitras are deputed to work on general holidays for the months of July and August 2020 i.e, 8 days, the estimated financial implication is Rs. 11.00 lakhs. (165x8x800 = 10,56,000) and sought approval to make payment to the Arogyamitras for work done on Sundays and other general holidays as proposed.

#### **Decision:**

The Committee approved to provide additional allowance of Rs. 800/- per day to Arogyamitras who had put in work on holidays on Saturday, Sunday and other General holidays.

## **Subject No. 27.15**

### **Continuation of Ayush and Unani Doctors for one more year**

The Executive Director explained to the Committee that the 26<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting had approved the appointment of doctors with BAMS/BUMS/BHMS qualification for processing claims, for a period of 11 months through outsource agency. Due to pandemic Covid 19, there is an increase in the number of preauths and claims that have to be settled early. The Executive Director sought approval to continue these Ayush Doctors (8 in nos) on the same lines as others in the Trust with salary equivalent to that being paid to Dentists.

#### **Decision :**

The Committee approved to continue the Doctors appointed with BAMS, BUMS and BHMS qualification on same terms as other executive doctors working from office and approved their salary to be equivalent to the salary being paid to dentists.

**Subject No. 27.16****Reducing 10 work from home Doctors to appoint 10 Executive Doctors in their place, to work from office**

The Executive Director explained to the Committee that at present 95 doctors work from home and they are paid on per case basis. Of these about 28 doctors performance is low because of which preauth clearance and claims settlement is getting affected. It is proposed to appoint 10 numbers of Executive Doctors to work from office and reduce equal numbers from the work from home group.

The chairman enquired about the posts approved as per the organogram & financial implications. It was explained that the amount paid towards salaries of these 10 doctors will be lower than the pro-rata payment as work from home doctors clear tertiary cases at Rs. 100/- per case and are super specialists.

**Decision :**

**The Committee approved to appoint 10 Executive Doctors to work from office and reduce an equal number from work from home category.**

**Subject No. 27.17****Revision of Rent for Office premises**

The Executive Director informed to the Committee that the office of the SAST is rented from BMTC Shantinagar. The rental agreement license fee was for Rs.21.71 /Sft per month for 15000 sft area in 4th floor, inclusive of common area. The monthly license fee was subject to escalation by 5% over the previous year license fee from the second year onwards up to the end of six year period of contract. The rental contract agreement has come to an end on May 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019. In the previous EC meeting approval was given to enhance the rent by 10%.

After expiry of contract agreement the BMTC in its letter dated 20/5/2019 and latest on 14/7/2020 states that the KPWD has revised the rate of license fee from Rs.21.71 to Rs. 51.15 per Sft (excluding GST) per month. Accordingly BMTC has demanded payment of revised license fee from the date of expiry of the contract agreement i.e., 7.5.2019 from 8.5.2019 to 31.5.2020. and from 1.6.2020 the rate of Rs.53.70 (excluding GST). Hence the





demand is for dues of Rs.44,32,607/- from June 2019 to May 2020 and enhanced rent of Rs.9,50,623/0 per month from June 2020.

Dr. Sudarshan remarked that increasing the rent more than double of what is being paid presently was rather on the higher side.

#### **Decision**

**The committee suggested checking with other government offices that are located in the complex of the rent being paid by them and submit a separate file to the Additional Chief Secretary, H&FW to take a decision on the same.**

#### **Subject No. 27.18**

#### **Private hospitals to treat simple secondary care & Hemodialysis procedures as government hospitals declared as COVID 19 treating centres**

The Executive Director informed the Committee that many District hospitals were declared as Nodal Hospitals for treatment of suspected COVID-19 and confirmed cases. To facilitate treatment to the general public that depended on the District hospitals, alternate private hospitals were permitted to treat simple secondary cases by the respective Deputy Commissioners. As per G.O No. HFW 68 CGE 2020 Bangalore dated: 29.03.2020, private hospitals recommended by Deputy Commissioners are empanelled for simple secondary care under Ayushman Bharat – Arogya Karnataka scheme (AB-Ark) to avail services without referral. The exclusive Hemodialysis centers are empanelled with SAST and the Hemodialysis packages are released to such centers for conducting dialysis procedure for COVID negative patients of Chronic Kidney disease on maintenance dialysis, as District Hospitals are designated Covid 19 hospitals.

#### **Decision :**

**The Committee noted.**

#### **Subject No. 27.19**

#### **Fast forward/Expedited empanelment for COVID without empanelment fee and MoU and 50% of the beds reserved for COVID**

The Executive Director informed the Committee that 50% of the beds in private hospitals reserved for COVID-19 patients of the scheme, as per the guidelines issued in Notification No. HFW 228 ACS 2020 dated 23/6/2020. To enable early implementation empanelment

process was expedited with desktop review of minimum documents i.e., AERB, Pollution Control Board, KPME registration for all private hospitals registered under KPME, having facility to treat COVID 19 patients was done. Allocation of patients is done by the appropriate authority as notified. The hospitals thus empanelled only for Covid treatment are empanelled without an empanelment fee and signing of MoU. However the Terms of Reference for these hospitals has been issued and circulated to all empanelled Covid hospitals.

#### **Decision**

**The Committee noted and approved the Terms of Reference circulated to hospitals.**

#### **Subject No. 27.20**

##### **Benefit package for COVID 19 for Government/private hospitals**

The Executive Director apprised the Committee of the packages identified under Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka Scheme for COVID 19 treatment. Private hospitals have been authorized to treat COVID 19 positive patients with these procedure codes. Also 7 codes i.e, (i) 4A.M1.00072 (ii) 4A.M1.00071 (iii) 3A.M1.00070A (iv) 3A.M1.00007A (v) 4A.S4.00041A (vi) 4A.S15.00021E and (vii) 3A.S1.00231B have been unbundled and are open for the empanelled hospitals to Covid positive patients.

#### **Decision**

**The Committee noted.**

#### **Subject No. 27.21**

##### **Supply of Inj. Remedisivir to the Empanelled hospitals for treatment of COVID-19 patients admitted under Government quota of 50% beds**

The Executive Director informed the Committee that as per the Circular No. HFW 305 ACS 2020, Bangalore dated: 14.08.2020, Inj.Remedisivir is collected from the KSDLWS for Bangalore Urban and Rural by the Regional Consultant, Bangalore and for the rest of the State the respective District Coordinators collect Inj.Remedisivirials from the district warehouses. Inj.Remedisivir is issued to the empanelled hospitals for the use of moderate to severe patients of COVID-19 admitted under the Government quota of 50% beds. Batch number of the drug is attached to the prescription of the treating Physician and is enclosed

in the claims document of the hospital. 5590 vials have been supplied to the private hospitals till 31/8/2020.

**Decision :**

**The Committee noted.**

**Subject No. 27.22**

**Inclusion of 76 packages under emergency from Tertiary, complex and simple secondary care**

The Executive Director explained that as per decision of 25<sup>th</sup> EC meeting, a committee was constituted to recommend procedures to be shifted to emergency care from tertiary and simple secondary care procedures list. The report was sent to Finance Department for approval. Finance Department had sought the financial impact of such a move. The financial impact was calculated and file has been resubmitted to the Finance Department.

**Decision:**

**The Committee suggested to follow-up with the Finance Department.**

**Subject No. 27.23**

**IEC Activities carried out for implementation of SAST Schemes**

The Executive Director briefed about the IEC activities carried out for implementation of SAST Schemes including COVID19, IEC materials were printed in Kannada and English and distributed to all Districts and empanelled Covid hospitals and also informed of the advertisements published in newspapers in Kannada and English on Covid treatment and rates for private patients as per the Notification to the Committee.

**Decision**

**The Committee noted**

**Additional Subject**

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## Subject No. 27.24

### Donor package for Convalescent Plasma (CCP) Therapy

The Executive Director apprised the Committee that as per Circular No: HFW 313 ACS 2020 dated 21/8/2020 Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) was made the nodal agency for disbursing nutrition amount of Rs.5000/- for the donors of plasma to COVID patients. Some of the mandatory conditions for collecting plasma from the convalescent patients and transfusion to the infected patients are as follows;

1. SRF/ Bu/P number, Aadhar number, contact Address, Mobile number/Contact number of the donor is mandatory.
2. The collection of convalescent plasma should be between 14 to 28 days of recovery and discharge of the patient.
3. SRF and Bu/P number, Aadhar number, Contact Address, Mobile number/Contact number of the recipient.
4. One Convalescent plasma donor can donate only once.

The procedure code for CCP donor under COVID 19 treatment management for Medical Colleges, District Hospitals and Tertiary care Hospitals empanelled under SAST is included in the Covid package is as below;

Procedure code	Procedure name	Private Rates
4A.M1.00075	4A.M1.00075: COVID 19 Convalescent Plasma Therapy package for donor	5000

### Decision

The Committee noted

## Subject No. 27.25

### Submission of claims for payment by private hospitals after patient's discharge

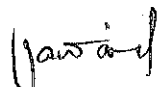
The Executive Director informed to the Committee that many private empanelled hospitals for Covid are submitting claims for payment after patient's discharge, the claims cases are about 1000-2000 in numbers and sought for decision to clear those cases.



**Decision:**

The Committee discussed in detail and suggested to verify the patient's data referred by BBMP allotment in Bangalore (Urban) and the referral of the respective Deputy Commissioners in other districts. Considering the emergency nature of Covid, the Committee directed to consider such cases for payment if they have been referred by the appropriate authority.

The Meeting concluded with vote of thanks.

  
(JAWAID AKHTAR)

**Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.,  
Health & Family Welfare Dept. &  
Chairman, Executive Committee**

