GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2007/H/6-1/Policy (I). **New Delhi, Dated:- 05.01.2016.**

General Managers,
All Indian Railways including PUs & RDSO.

Sub: - Guidelines regarding Cochlear Implantation in non-Railway Hospitals for Railway beneficiaries.

Ref:- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's letter No. 6-469/2003-CGHS/R&H dated 12.06.2009.

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A copy of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's letter No. 6-469/2003-CGHS/R&H dated 12.06.2009 is enclosed herewith. The competent authority in the Ministry of Railways has decided to adopt the policy of CGHS mutatis-mutandis for Railway beneficiaries also in supercession of existing policy of Railways dated 31.12.2009. However, Medical Board for assessing the suitability of the beneficiary for the implant will comprise of MD/CMS/MS as head and one ENT Specialist with one Sr. Physician/Sr. Surgeon as members of the Committee. All other provisions of CGHS guidelines will be adopted without any deviation.

2) These instructions will be applicable from the date of its issue.

3) This issues with the concurrence of Finance Directorate of Ministry of Railways.

(R.S. Shukla)
Joint Director/Health,
Railway Board.

No. 2007/H/6-1/Policy (I). **New Delhi, Dated:- 05.01.2016.**
Copy forwarded to:-

I. The Chief Medical Director, All Indian Railway including PUs & RDSO.
II. FA&CAO, All Indian Railway including PUs & RDSO.
III. Chief Personnel Officer, All Indian Railway including PUs & RDSO.

(R.S. Shukla)
Joint Director/Health,
Railway Board

No. 2007/H/6-1/Policy (I). **New Delhi, Dated:- 05.01.2016.**
Copy forwarded to:-

I. The Principal Director of Audit, All Indian Railway including PUs & RDSO..
II. Dy. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Railways), Room No. 224, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.

For Financial Commissioner/Railway Board.

Copy to:-

I. F(E) Spl. Branch/Rly. Board.

No.2007/H/6-1 (Policy) **New Delhi, Dated:-05.01.2016.**

Copy to:-

1. Chief Personnel Officer, All Indian Railways/PUs including RDSO.
2. Chief Medical Director/CMOs, All Indian Railways/PUs including RDSO.
3. Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety, Lucknow.
4. Advisor (Safety), Railway Board, New Delhi.
5. Computer of facilitation Centre, Room No.5, Near Fate No.1, Rail Bhawan.
6. Directors of CTIs, RSC/Baroda, IRICEN/Pune, IRIEEN/Nasik, IRISET, Secunderabad, IRIMEE/Jamalpur and IREITEM/Lucknow.

(R.S. Shukla)
Joint Director/Health
Railway Board.

No.2007/H/6-1/ (Policy) **New Delhi, Dated:-05.01.2016.**

Copy to:-

1. The General Secretary, AIRF, Room No.253, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The General Secretary, NFIR, Room No.256-E, Rail Bhawan New Delhi.
3. All Members of Departmental Council and National Council and Secretary, Staff Side, National Council, 13-C, Ferozshah Road, New Delhi.
4. The Secretary General, FROA & IRPOA, Room No.256-A & 268, Railway Board.
5. The General Secretary, All India RPF Association, Room No.256-D, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary, RBSS Group 'A' Officers Association, Room No.256-D, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. The Secretary, RBSS Group 'B' Officers Association, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. The Secretary, RBMSA, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. The Secretary, Railway Board Group 'D' Employees Association, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. The Secretary, Railway Board Promotee Officers Association, Room No.341-C, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
11. The General Secretary, All India SC/ST Railway Employees Association, Room No.8 Ground Floor, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. General Secretary, Retired Railway Employees Welfare Association (Regd.), 490A/16, Gurudwara Road, Gurgaon.

For Secretary, Railway Board

(76)

Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Department of Health & Family Welfare
Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road
New Delhi 110 108

F. No: 6-469/2003-CGHS/R&H Date: 12 June, 2009

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: **Reimbursement of the cost of cochlear implant to beneficiaries under CGHS / Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944.**

The undersigned is directed to state that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has been received requests from CGHS beneficiaries and beneficiaries under Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944, requesting for permission to be given for a dependant family member to undergo cochlear implant surgery. Each request for considered 'on merits' of each case and permission granted by the Central Government Health Scheme in each case. This was mainly because there were no guidelines for for considering requests for cochlear implant surgery. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, therefore, had thc matter considered the matter by a Committee of specialists and it has been decided to permit the beneficiaries under CGHS and Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 undergo cochlear implant surgeries, as per the guidelines outlined below:

GUIDELINES FOR COCHLEAR IMPLANT SURGERY

1. **Selection criteria for cochlear implant:**

(i) Prelinqually deaf children (severe to profound B/L, S. N. H. loss)

(a) Age group between 1 to 16 years. However, children using hearing aids and getting auditory training from age 1 years of less may be considered at higher age also on a case to case basis;

(b) No appreciable benefit from hearing aids after 6 months of trial with hearing aids. No speech formation seen;

(c) No mental retardation;

(d) No active middle ear cleft disease. Perforation of the TM should be closed at least three months prior to implantation;

(e) No cochlear aplasia and / or agenesis of cochlear nerve;

(f) No retro cochlear lesion or central deafness; and

12/6/2009

(g) Good family support for post op rehabilitation.

(ii) Post-lingually deaf candidates (B / L profound S. N. H. loss)

(a) There should be no appreciable benefit from hearing aids (both ears);

(b) No active middle ear cleft disease;

(c) Perforation of the TM should be repaired three months prior to the implantation;

(d) Deafness should be due to cochlear lesions; and

(e) Post meningitic labyrinthitis osscificans of the cochlea is a contraindication. However, cases like post inflammatory ossification of cochlea, cochlear dystrophies and cochlear otosclerosis with visible perilymphatic shadow in MRI are relative indications and can be done on case to case basis.

2. ***Type of implants:***

Only multi-channel cochlear implant duly approved by appropriate authority should be recommended.

3. ***Implant Centres and Standing Committee:***

Cochlear implant surgery should be allowed only in Government hospitals / Centres having proper post operative rehabilitation. These centres should have well trained speech therapist related to cochlear implant.

The reimbursement for cochlear implant surgery will be permitted only after the request has been approved and recommended by a standing committee, comprising of the following:

(1)	Addl DG, CGHS / DDG (M) (as the case may be)	...	Chairman
(2)	HOD, ENT, Dr. R. M. L. Hospital	...	Member
(3)	HOD, ENT, Safdarjung Hospital	...	Member
(4)	HOD, ENT, LHMC & Smt S. K. Hospital	...	Member

The request for cochlear implants should be accompanies by complete clinical details and report of relevant investigations as below and independent opinion from two ENT specialists of Government Hospitals undertaking cochlear implant surgery about indications for cochlear implant surgery.

12/6/2006

4. ***Basic pre-op Investigations for Cochlear Implant:***

(a) ***Audiological:***

(1) OAE
(2) BERA / ASSR
(3) Impedence (in children)
(4) Audigram / Aided audiogram

(b) ***Radiological:***

(1) HRCT temporal bone for bony cochlea and middle ear cleft;
(2) 3D NRI for membranous cochlea, Neural Bundle and brain; and

(c) IQ / Psychiatric evaluation in children with prelingual deafness.

5. ***Ceiling Rate:***

The ceiling rate for cochlear implant shall be Rs. 5,35,000/- (Rupees Five lakh thirty five thousand only) for reimbursement of cost of cochlear implant with 12 channels / 24 electrodes with behind the ear speech processor.

The best results are achieved if cochlear implants take place between the age of 1 – 5 years. Hence, it is, therefore, proposed to permit reimbursement in a graded manner. In the pre-lingual deafness, total reimbursement of the ceiling rate or actuals, whichever is less, for cochlear implant will be allowed in respect of implants carried out on children aged between 1 and 5 years. For children between the age of 5 and 10 years, 80% of the ceiling rate for implant will be reimbursed. For children above the age of 10 years, but below 16 years of age, only 50% of the ceiling rate for the implant will be reimbursed.

50% of the cost of the wearable components, e.g. Speech Processor, Microphone, etc. (excluding cords, batteries) for the purpose of up-gradation and / or replacement due to wear and tear may be allowed, after a period of three years, to be considered on the basis of advice of two ENT surgeons of Government sector and on the recommendations of the standing committee.

6. Only Unilateral implantation will be allowed.

7. As Cochlear implant surgery is a planned surgery, prior permission has to be obtained before the surgery is undertaken.

8. Pensioner CGHS beneficiaries and serving employees, who are CGHS beneficiaries, may submit their requests for permission for cochlear implant to the Director, CGHS. Central Government employees who are beneficiaries under Central

12/6/2001