

National Urban Health Mission- Kerala

Guidelines for Operationalisation of Vision Centres in Urban Primary Health Centres

Introduction

Primary eye care is an important aspect of primary care, encompassing various aspects of eye care including refractive errors, foreign body removal, management of common eye illnesses, follow-up for chronic eye diseases like glaucoma etc. In this context, to expand the service delivery basket, vision centres as envisaged in National Program for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCB & VI) can be operationalised in all urban primary health centres in the state. This will provide urban poor with access to primary eye care services, which were hitherto available in community health centres and major hospitals alone.

Space

Suitable space with wall to wall distance of at least 3 metres shall be identified inside the UPHC for setting up a vision centre. Adequate lighting has to be provided.

Equipment

The following equipment shall be provided to vision centres in each UPHC utilizing the funds available under the financial head 'Untied Grants to UPHCs' (FMR Code U.4.1.1) and ratification of executive committee of the District Health & Family Welfare Society (DHFWS) shall be obtained thereafter.

Sl. No.	Name of equipment	Approximate Cost (Rs.)
1	Trial frame child	1000
2	Trial frame Adult	1000
3	Vision drum with number chart	15000
4	Near vision chart	250
5	Colour vision chart(Ishihara chart)	2250
6	Binocular Loupe	2500
7	Torch	1000
8	Schiotz Tonometer	10000
9	Distant vision chart (Number)	500
10	Trial set	10000
11	Streak retinoscope	30000
12	Snellen's chart (Number chart)	100
Total		73600

(Rupees seventy three thousand six hundred only)

The above articles shall be held in stock by pharmacist of the UPHC concerned in the general stock register.

HumanResources

One optometrist may be posted to urban primary health centre on fixed days in a week, preferably on Thursdays, in consultation with the district program officer (NPCB & VI) from the general HR pool of NHM.

Service Delivery

The following services shall be provided by vision centres established in urban primary health centres:

- i. Refraction testing
- ii. Tonometry (for diagnosis/follow-up of glaucoma)
- iii. Prescription of spectacles
- iv. Retinoscopy

Prescription glasses for children of school-going age and spectacles for near work for those aged >60 years shall be provided free of cost through the NPCB & VI programme.

Prescription glasses for children below school going age group shall be met from the RBSK treatment head bearing FMR 1.1.2.3

Vision centres shall be operationalised in all urban primary health centres within a period of 2 months.

Monthly utilization of services shall be reported in the prescribed format to the District Program Officer (NPCB & VI) and to the District Program Manager (NHM). Supportive supervision and monitoring shall be done jointly by the district ophthalmic coordinator and urban health coordinator concerned.

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