Corporate Office Admin & PR Branch 1st Floor, Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, H.C.Mathur Lane, Janpath, New Delhi-110001. Ph: 011-23734157, Fax: 011-23718288



Dated:02.01.2023

No: BSNLCO-ADMN/76/1/2021-ADMN

Office Memorandum

Sub.: Guidelines under BSNLMRS for reimbursement of cost of appliances-Reimbursement of cost of Hearing Aids.

Ref.: I. Order No. BSNL/Admn./1 dated 23.12.2003

II. O.M. No. BSNL/Admn.I/15-5/13 dated 03.04.2013.

After revision of rates and guidelines for reimbursement of expenses of purchase of Hearing aids under CGHS/CS(MA) vide Department of Health and Family Welfare OM No. S11011/37/2019/-EHS dated 01.12.2020 (enclosed).

The revised ceiling rates fixed for various types of hearing aids (for one ear) are notified under BSNLMRS as below:

Type of Hearing Aid

Maximum Ceiling *

1. Digital BTE*

Rs.8000/- [Eight Thousand Only]

2. Digital ITC/CIC**

Rs.9000/- [Nine Thousand Only]

*Including all taxes

** including cast of ear mould

***including cost of customized shell

Note: The hearing aid shall carry "3" year warranty

Body worn/pocket type category and analogue BTE category with ceiling rates Rs.3000/- per ear and Rs.7000/- per ear have been excluded, since these have been obsolete.

BSNLMRS beneficiaries shall be eligible to obtain hearing aids as per the following guidelines.

- a. Cost of hearing aids mentioned at S, No. 1 & 2 above may be reimbursed within the annual ceiling of outdoor limit under BSNLMRS.
- Cost of Digital hearing aids are reimbursable on the basis of recommendation of Government/ empaneled hospital ENT expert with Audiometric and Audio-logical assessment.
- c. Replacement of hearing aids shall be allowed after five years.

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- d. Maintenance and repair and cost of batteries will be the responsibility of the beneficiary.
- e. In case of a child below 12 years Hearing aid may be replaced, if damaged after 3(three) years of its purchase on the basis of condemnation certificate from technical expert and on approval of ENT Specialist of a Govt. Hospital.
- f. The claim shall be furnished under outdoor medical claims along with original bill and empty box/boxes.
- g. Reimbursement shall be limited to the ceiling rate or the actual cost of the hearing aids, whichever is less.
- h. The benefit is not extendable to the optees of without voucher as it is the case of reimbursement under BSNLMRS outdoor treatment.
- The revised rates and guidelines shall come into force from date of issue of this letter and will be valid till further revision and shall supersede all the earlier orders issued on the subject.

(S K Agarwal) 02 01 2023 AGM (Admin-I)

To

- 1. All the CGM's, BSNL
- 2. PPS to CMD, PPS/PS to all Directors of BSNL Board, CVO BSNL.
- 3. All CGMs/PGMs/GMs/CS&GM (Legal), BSNLCO

Copy to:

- 1. DG Audit (P&T)
- 2. All recognized Unions

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No. S.11011/37/2019-EHS
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Department of Health & Family Welfare
[EHS Section]

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 1st December, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Revision of rate & guidelines for reimbursement of expenses on purchase of Hearing Aids under CS(MA) Rules, 1944 and CGHS.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Office Memorandum No. S.14025/10/2002/MS dated 26th May, 2015 on the above mentioned subject and to state that on the basis of recommendations of an Expert committee, it has been decided to revise the rates and guidelines for hearing aids reimbursement under CS(MA) Rules, 1944 and CGHS.

2. The revised ceiling rates fixed for various types of hearing aids (for one ear) are as under:-

Digital BTE

Rs.8,000/- [Eight thousand only]

Digital ITC/CIC

Rs.9,000/- [Nine thousand only]

The above revised cost of hearing aids shall include all taxes, including GST and shall carry three years' warranty. The cost of BTE type hearing aids shall also include the cost of hearing mould. The cost of ITC/CIC type hearing aids shall also include the cost of customized shell.

Body worn/pocket type category and Analogue BTE category with ceiling rates Rs.3000/- per ear and Rs.7000/- per ear have been excluded, since they have become obsolete.

- 3. Beneficiaries covered under CS(MA) Rules/CGHS shall be eligible to obtain hearing aids as per the following guidelines:
 - i. Patients/beneficiaries should be properly referred to ENT Specialist

- of CGHS/Government Hospital/CGHS empanelled Hospital by Medical Officer of CGHS from CGHS wellness centre/AMA in case of CS(MA) beneficiary.
- ii. It would be mandatory to carry CGHS beneficiary's Identity Card (in original) whenever the CGHS beneficiaries visit the CGHS/Government ENT Specialist/Specialist of CGHS /CS(MA) empanelled Hospital for consultation and Audiometric test.
- iii. The ENT specialist of CGHS/Government hospital/CGHS/CS(MA) empanelled hospital shall then recommend a hearing aids on basis of Audiometric and Audio-logical assessment, specifying the type of hearing aids most suited for the beneficiary. The 'Audiogram Report' shall be authenticated by the ENT specialist. The recommendation shall be as per the categories approved under CGHS and not as per any Brand name.
- iv. The permission to procure hearing aids shall be granted by the Additional Director(Zonal) of CGHS-Zonal Office in case of CGHS pensioners beneficiaries, and by the Head of Department/Office in case of serving employees and CGHS beneficiaries of Autonomous bodies on the basis of recommendation of a CGHS/Government ENT specialist/ ENT Specialist of CGHS/CS(MA) empanelled hospital, and an 'undertaking' that the beneficiary has not been reimbursed the cost of hearing aids in the preceding five years.
- 4. Reimbursement claim shall be submitted to CGHS Zonal Office through the CMO, In-charge of the Concerned dispensary by CGHS pensioner beneficiaries and to concerned Ministry/Department/Office in case of serving employees and to concerned Autonomous Body(AB) in case of beneficiaries of ABs in the prescribed medical reimbursement claim form along with the following documents:
 - a. Permission Letter for purchase of Hearing aids in original.
 - b. Copy of CGHS Card.
 - c. Bill / Receipt (in original) carrying details of the hearing aids seller.
 - d. Empty Box/boxes or the carton (s) with label showing details of the hearing aids supplied.
 - e. Reimbursement shall be limited to the ceiling rate or actual cost of the hearing aids, whichever is less.

- 5. Records of permission granted for procurement of hearing aids shall be maintained by CGHS in respect of pensioner CGHS beneficiaries and by the concerned Ministry / Department / Office in respect of other beneficiaries.
- 6. Replacement of hearing aids may be permitted after five years. Henceforth, there will be no requirement of submission of condemnation certificate by the beneficiary at the time of requesting the replacement of a hearing aid that has completed its five years' mandated life.
- 7. Maintenance and repair and cost of batteries will be the responsibility of the beneficiary.
- 8. The revised rates and guidelines shall come into force from the date of issue of this O.M. and shall be valid till further revision and shall supersede all the earlier orders issued on the subject.
- 9. This issues with the approval of Integrated Finance Division (CD No.1486 dated: 29/09/2020) of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

[Dr. Anil Ranga]
Director [CGHS-Policy]

2: 23061669

To,

- 1. All Ministries/Departments, Government of India
- PPS to Secretary (H&FW)/Secretary (AYUSH)/Secretary (HR)/ Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- PPS to DGHS/AS&DG (CGHS)/AS&FA/AS&MD, NRHM/AS(H), MoHFW, New Delhi
- 4. Addl.DDG(HQ), CGHS, MoHFW, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
- 5. AD(HQ), CGHS, R.K.Puram, Sector-12, New Delhi
- 6. All Addl. Directors/Joint Directors of CGHS cities outside Delhi
- 7. Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi
- 8. Registrar, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi