

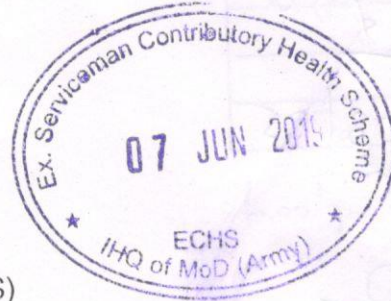
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Central Organisation ECHS
Adjutant General's Branch
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Delhi Cantt – 110 010

B/49701-PR/AG/ECHS/2019

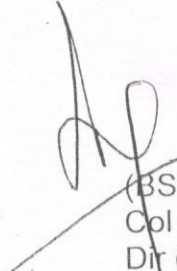
06 Jun 2019

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)
Air HQ (VB)/DPS
HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)
All Regional Centres ECHS



**ENTITLEMENT TO MEDICAL ATTENDANCE FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN
OF EX-SERVICEMEN PENSIONERS AT SERVICE HOSPITALS**

A copy of DGAFMS letter No 16307/18(c)/ESM/DGAFMS/DG-3A dt 04 Jun 2019 is fwd herewith alongwith its encls for info and necessary action please.


(BS Sisodia)
Col
Dir (Ops & Coord)
for MD ECHS

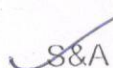
Encls : Four pages.

Copy to :-

MoD (DoESW)	-	for info pl.
AG Cord	-	for info of AG pl.
DG DC&W Sectt	-	for info of DG (DC&W) pl.
Coast Guard HQ, New Delhi	}	- for info pl.
HQ DG (SFF), New Delhi		
DG Assam Rifle		
AMA ECHS, Embassy of India, Nepal		
Director General NCC		
ADG TATA-3		
DIAV		
Army Hosp (R&R) Delhi Cantt	}	- for info & implementation pl.
Base Hosp Delhi Canttt		

Internal

All Secs (Less S&A)

 S&A

- for uploading on our website.

33081

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16307/18(C)/ESM/DGAFMS/DG-3A

04 Jun 2019

DGMS (Army)DGMS (Navy)DGMS (Air)ENTITLEMENT TO MEDICAL ATTENDANCE FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN
OF EX-SERVICEMEN PENSIONERS AT SERVICE HOSPITALS

1. Ref item No 1 of Minutes of the PPOC Meeting 02/2019 held on 13 Mar 19 forwarded vide PPOC Sectt letter No PPOC/02/2019 dated 16 April 19 (copy enclosed).

2. The entitlement to medical attendance for Ex-Servicemen (ESM) pensioners and their dependents in AFMS hospitals is as per provisions of Para 296(O) of RMSAF 2010 (Revised Version) and is reproduced as under:-

Para	Classes	Medical attendance admissible	Remarks
296(O)	Retired Defence personnel granted status of 'Ex-serviceman' as per notification issued by the Department of Personnel and Training from time to time for the purpose of recruitment in central civil service & posts; their families and the families of deceased service personnel drawing pension of some kind.	(i) Free out-patient treatment in nearest Armed Forces hospital including the supply of medicine necessary for their treatment. (ii) In-patient treatment in Armed Forces hospital subject to the following conditions:- (aa) That the disease is not incurable. (ab) The hospital accommodation could be made available within the authorized number of beds & without detriment to & needs of serving personnel. (ac) That the treatment will be limited to the facilities available locally. (ad) No conveyance will be provided for journeys from the residence to the hospital and back. (ae) No special nursing would be admissible. (af) For inpatient treatment, hospital stoppages will be as per Appendix 5 of RMSAF 2010 (Rev Ver).	(i) The scope of the above concessions will not include treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis, leprosy, mental disease, malignant diseases or any other disease for which treatment is not ordinary available from local military sources. (ii) These concessions will not be admissible to the service pensioners who are re-employed in Government or semi-government departments or other public or private sector undertaking which provide medical facilities to their employees. (iii) For this purpose family includes wife and unmarried children/ step children/ adopted children under 18 yrs of age are dependent on the pensioners.

3. RMSAF 2010 (Revised Version) is under review and inputs have been sought from all stake holders by this Dte Gen. A case has also been processed with the MOD/D(Med) to amend Para 296(O) of the RMSAF 2010 (Revised Version) to increase the age of dependent unmarried children/ step children/ adopted children from the present limit of under 18 years to 25 years.

Contd...2/-

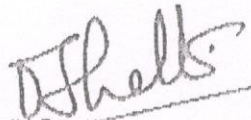
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4. Formal revision of the RMSAF 2010 (Revised Version) and issue of a Govt Sanction Letter for revision of Para 296 (O) therein will take time. In the interim, with immediate effect, entitlement of medical attendance for children of ESM Pensioners in AFMS hospitals will be as under:-

(a) Unmarried and unemployed children/ step children/ adopted children dependent on ESM Pensioners will be provided treatment upto the age of 25 years.

(b) Unmarried and unemployed children/ step children/ adopted children dependent on ESM Pensioners will be issued disability certificate as applicable, upto the age of 25 years.

5. This has the approval of the DGAFMS:


 (VK Bhatti)
 Col
 Col AFMS (Health)

Encl: As above

Copy to:-

MoD/D(Med)

COAS Sectt

CNS Sectt

CAS Sectt

PPOC Sectt

AG Sectt

COP Sectt

AOP Sectt

Central Org ECHS

for info please

for info w.r.t your letter No 18232/PPOC/IDS dt 15 May 19

for info please

Internal:-

Addl DGAFMS (HR) & Secy MSAC

DGAFMS/DG-3B

for info please

DGAFMS/DG-1C

For info of units under DGAFMS

EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF PPOC MTG 02/2019 HELD ON 13 MAR 19

ITEM-I: MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR ESM AND THEIR DEPENDENTS UNDER
ECHS AT SERVICE HOSPITALS & ISSUE OF DISABILITY CERTIFICATE
BY SERVICE HOSPITAL

1 to 2. X-x-x-x-x-x

3. **References.** Before the matter was taken up for discussion in the PPOC meeting, a brief was sent to all the SHQs vide this Sectt. note PPOC/02/2019 dated 27 Feb 19 and their views were obtained.

4. **Attendance.** The following were present for discussion of the Agenda point: -

- (a) DGMS (Navy), IHQ MoD (Navy)
- (b) ADGMS (IS, H&PS), IHQ MoD (Army)
- (c) ADG (PS), IHQ MoD (Army)
- (d) ADG AFMS (HR) & Secy MSAC, O/o DGAFMS
- (e) ACAS (Med), Air HQ (VB)
- (f) Dy MD, Central Organisation, ECHS
- (g) Cmde ECHS, IHQ MoD (Navy)
- (h) Col AFMS (Health), O/o DG AFMS
- (j) Cdr ECHS, IHQ MoD (Navy)

Discussion

5. Dy MD, Central Organisation, ECHS presented the agenda point. He highlighted the dichotomy as to how currently, only the wife and unmarried children 'below the age of 18 years' are treated as dependents at ECHS for ESM, whereas, for dependents of 'in-service' personnel, there is no age restriction for dependent children. He exhibited the RMSAF-2010 letter as per which, as on date for dependents of "In service" personnel, there is no age restriction. As per norm, medical facilities at service hospitals needed to be optimized for ECHS facility as well. He suggested for a case to reconcile and align as per the current practice.

6. Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) directed ADG DGAFMS (HR) & Secy MSAC, O/o DGAFMS to take up a case for modification of the RMSAF letter to which, Addl DGAFMS (HR) & Secy MSAC, O/o DGAFMS confirmed that the case has been already taken up for the same and is under review. Dy MD, Central Organisation, ECHS then went onto the second issue which is corollary of the same i.e. issue of Disability certificate. It was clarified that, once the recommended modification is carried out to the RMSAF letter quoted *ibid*, the issue of disability certificate would automatically get resolved.

7. COP, IHQ MoD (Navy) suggested a policy letter may be issued for the same and Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) recommended that an interim policy letter be issued to resolve all ambiguity whilst RMSAF is under revision. Col AFMS (Health), O/o DGAFMS highlighted the age of dependent children of current ex-service personnel who are ECHS members as that of 'upto 25 years for sons and daughters'. Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) advised the same may be included in the recommended interim policy letter. It was corrected that there is no age limit for 'unmarried daughters'. At this juncture, Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ

MoD (Army) clarified that as of now, only spouse and unmarried children and not brothers and sisters are authorised treatment whilst in service. However, once one becomes an ESM under ECHS, then the ECHS cover is applicable to brothers and sisters also but the same does not need to be carried forward.

8. COP, IHQ MoD (Navy) brought out that if CGHS permits treatment of brothers and sisters whilst in service then why isn't it applicable to Armed Forces personnel whilst in service as ECHS is based on the CGHS model itself. Col AFMS (Health), O/o DGAFMS clarified that Armed Forces haven't adopted the definition of CGHS which is also considering revision of categories to be included for the purpose of 'Family'.

9. **Recommendation.** The following recommendations were made by the Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army):-

(a) Contravention / interpretation of Para 296(O) of RMSAF 2010 needs to be amended for treatment to dependents of ESM above 18 yrs of age.

(b) Case be taken up through O/o DGAFMS.
10. Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) recommended that case be taken up by ECHS to bring in the collegiance of dependent brothers/ sisters on the same lines as being done for ESM as well as CGHS employees, for all "In service" personnel. It was highlighted by Dy MD, Central Organisation, ECHS that a decision had been given by PPOC in 2017 as to how brothers & sisters of ECHS members are entitled for treatment only for empaneled hospitals and not from AFMS hospitals. It was again clarified that the definition of **Family** as issued by the Govt in 1962 is very clear. It is the service personnel himself, spouse and dependent children upto the age of 18 years. In 1969, Govt amended it that parents wholly dependent are also entitled in case of service personnel. For ESM, it was only for the ESM himself if he was disabled. In 1966 it was brought in for non-disabled ESM also, with the same definition of family. So, as per Govt policy, its been this for AFMS alone and not as per the CGHS policy.

11. COP, IHQ MoD (Navy) again highlighted the disparity as to how a civilian avails CGHS for the entire family even whilst in service, unlike Armed Forces. Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) suggested the case be taken up separately to broaden the category for service personnel on similar lines as that of a civilian availing CGHS.

12. **Decision.** Chairman PPOC & AG, IHQ MoD (Army) directed that the case for amendment of Para 296(O) of RMSAF 2010 to extend treatment of dependents of ESM over 18 years be taken up through the O/o DGAFMS.

Action : DGMS (Army), IHQ MoD (Army)
Info : DGMS (Navy), IHQ MoD (Navy)
DGMS (Air), Air HQ (VB)
ADG AFMS (HR) & Secy MSAC,
O/o DGAFMS