

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE EMANELMENT IN OUR INSTITUTE; FREE DENTAL TREATMENT FOR BENEFICIARIES

1. Introduction

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Labor and Employment Govt. of India which provides social security to ESI beneficiaries. Private hospitals can tie up with ESI wherein treatment is given to ESI beneficiaries that is employees and workers. Dental treatment is expensive. These expenses are usually not covered in hospitals. This Dental Institute is empanelled with ESI to provide free treatment to beneficiaries which will be nominally reimbursed by the ESIC.

2. Objectives of practice

- To provide free dental treatment for the beneficiaries who have Employees' State Insurance.
- To provide these free dental treatment for all the patients who are referred from ESI hospitals.

3. Context

This scheme is in with Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The representative of public office is the directorate of Employees' State Insurance Medical Services, Government of Karnataka. This Institute represents the private partner. A nominal charge for dental treatment is reimbursed by ESI medical services, government of Karnataka to our dental hospital, which covers the material charges required for the treatment. All these patients are treated who came with a referral slip from an ESI hospital.

4. The Practice

The dental health is often neglected in a developing country like India due to lack of awareness and financial resources. The dental teaching hospitals can cater to the needs of these patients, if they have some kind of empanelment with insurance agency and ESIC is designed to accomplish the task of protecting these insured persons against the impact of incidence of sickness. These sick people were previously treated only at government run ESI hospitals. It was difficult to cater to the needs of all the insurers and hence the government has started outsourcing certain treatments to private hospitals. We Subbaiah Institute of Dental Sciences, being a dental teaching hospital, would always be in need of patients for upgrading the skills of trainees that is students by a regular demonstration of procedures of dental treatment. The patients who are treated under this scheme are performed by trained dentists who will be observed by trainees.

5. Evidence of Success

Steady increase in the patient's strength is a clear indication to judge the success of practice.

Total number of patients treated under this practice in past 5years:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1812 Patients | 5214 Patients | 5800 Patients | 913 Patients | 3674 Patients | 6194 Patients |

The students and faculty are continuously getting training through regular involvement.

6. Problems encountered and Resources required:

Lack of awareness regarding this scheme is a problem which was largely encountered. The ESI hospitals across the state cannot cater for all the dental needs of patients. The referral practice has to be encouraged and this can be done by staffs of the ESI hospitals. Transportation of the patient from far places is a problem; implementation of transport services would greatly enhance the footfall of the patients.