SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN HEALTH SECTOR

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ABSTRACT

India has a rich, centuries old heritage of medical and health sciences. The philosophy of Ayurveda and the surgical skills enunciated by Charak and Shusharuta way back during 2000 century B.C. to our ancient tradition in the scientific health care of our people. The approach of our ancient medical system was a holistic nature which took into account all aspects of human health and disease. Over the centuries with the infusion of foreign influences and mingling of cultures, various systems of medicine evolved and have continued to be practiced wide. However, the allopathic system of medicine has in a relatively short period of time, made a major impact on the entire approach to health care and patterns of development of the health services infrastructure in the country.


INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of India envisages the establishment of new social order based on equality, freedom, justice and the dignity of the individual. It aims at elimination of poverty. Ignorance and ill-health and directs the State with regard to raising the level of nutrition and the standard of living of the people, securing the health and strength of workers, men and women, and especially ensuring that health and strength of workers, men and women and especially ensuring that children/given opportunities to develop in a healthy manner.

Haryana State was carved our of the erstwhile state of Punjab on 1 November, 1966. Haryana is one of the smallest state of union of India in terms of area. Haryana state has made
rapid progress and is placed second among the states in agriculture, the state is exporting food grains to other States It has also made rapid progress in all other fields like agriculture, irrigation, electricity production and distribution, road and transport, industrial production, education, health etc. Major infectious disease such as poliomyelitis, leprosy and blindness are steadily being defeated. The 21st century offers a bright vision of better health for all. It holds the prospect not merely of longer life, but superior quality of life with less disability and disease.

The war against ill-health in the 21st century will have to be fought simultaneously on two main fronts: (i) infectious diseases (ii) chronic non-communicable disease. The State comes under greater attack from both as heart disease, cancer and diabetes and other lifestyle conditions become more prevalent, while infectious illnesses remain undefeated. Of this latter group, HIV/AIDS continue to be the deadliest menace.

Today girls and women are still denied the same rights and privileges as their brothers, at home, at work, in the classroom or the clinic. They suffer more from poverty, low social status and many hazards associated with their reproductive role. As a result, they bear an unfair burden of disadvantage and suffering, often throughout their lives.

Of late, the emphasis of state government has been mainly on consolidation of the existing health infrastructure rather than expansion. The thrust is given to qualitative improvement in the health services through strengthening of physical facilities like provision of essential equipment, supply of essential drugs and consumable, construction of building and staff quarters, filling up of vacant posts of medical and paramedical staff and in-service training of staff.

WHO's Constitution states that The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political, economic or social condition" On two separate occasion in 1970 and 1977, the World Health Assembly has proclaimed that "health is a human right."

In the new millennium, the people are realizing and improving their health not only through government machinery but by their own efforts. It is being realized globally that health is one's responsibility and depends to a substantial extent on the life style of the people and not entirely on health intervention by hospitals. Therefore, in the new millennium, we have to find ways and means of promoting people's health through other methods as well.

SUGGESTIONS

1. The policies & programme of the organization should be periodically evaluated and even changed as and when required. The new polices & programme should be developed keeping in mind the priorities & recommendation of the community. A widespread publicity of various health care issues should be done in order to educate people regarding the same not only in urban areas but also in rural areas as well.

2. The infrastructural facilities of the health institution should also be improved. An infrastructural audit should be done after every ten years at the time of census. The staff of the hospital should be provided with proper accommodation facilities.
3. The authorities should first of all focus on filling up the vacant positions in the health institution for efficient working. A great deal of effort should be made in order to maintain healthy & harmonious relations between superior and subordinates. The staff should be provided with training & education facilities in order to enhance their skills & increase their knowledge base from time to time.

4. The state government should also take care about the nexus between the doctors and the supplier of medicines. People are bound to purchase those medicines which are available in the medical stores. It has been alleged that doctors get commission for recommending only those medicine which are supplied by the different companies.

5. There is a need to improve the financial base of the hospital and other health centres. The authorities should keep a check on the utilization of resources & maintenance on optimum level for the utilization of all the resources. The quality and quantity of resources available with the hospital needs to be improved keeping in mind the overall budget for the same.

6. ZBB is very essential to ensure the optimization of financial resources, ZBB would indirectly inject many reforms in outdated administrative health set-up to generate social change and modernization. It will also help in genuine allocation of financial resources and in controlling the expenditure. Thus to provide decent health care services to poor people government can make use of Zero Base Budgeting, Performance Budgeting, Accounting etc. to ensure usefulness of health services.

7. Training is an investment. It can give dividends only if it is properly designed. Health experts can be trained in the latest development in their area of specialization at the institutions of National importance. It will cultivate a new attitude and behaviour in human personality, which in turn will help in achieving the objectives, enshrined in various policies and programmes of the government related to health in the shortest possible time.

8. To improve understanding between public and health workers, there is an imperative need to develop inter relationship in an effective manner. This would create confidence in the minds of the people about competence, fairness, impartiality etc of the public services. So there should be harmonious relation between people and health personnel's who are appointed to serve the people.

9. The hospital authorities should pay more attention towards the ambulance facilities in the hospital and health centers instead of sharing one common ambulance with other health centers. It is very difficult to survive with one ambulance which cannot help in transporting of patients from different rural areas. Government should ensure availability of minimum two more ambulances for bringing patients to the hospital from remote areas.

10. The hospital authorities should also take care regarding the disposal of waste material management, as it creates lot of environmental problems. The authorities can bring in a public Private Partnership in helping remove the medical waste and dispose it off without causing any further damage to the environment.
11. There are many activities in the health institutions which solely survive on regular supply of electricity. In order to deal with erratic electric supply, it is suggested that government should make attentive arrangements in each health institution. Provision should be made for generator sets or these should be connected with hot lines to ensure regular and uninterrupted electric supply.

12. There is need to have adequate and modern equipment with annual maintenance contracts with the selling company, as this will help reduce expenditure incurred on heavy repairs and save the patients from the inconvenience of going to private clinics for specialized tests.

13. Availability of right quality and quantity of medicines is not only thing to be ensured by the health centres, they have to ensure that they are not stocking irrelevant and outdated medicines. Buying a lifesaving drug at heavy cost for select patients is necessary, but at the same time common drugs should also be available.

14. There is a strong need to streamline the existing multitude of government and family welfare programmes through involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions. It will also enables to achieve flexibility at sub centre, district and state levels through decentralization of programme and devolution of funds.

CONCLUSION

There is great alienation between the goals of District Health System and the personnel working in them resulting in inefficiency, tensions, conflicts and low morale Personnel system needs overhauling and reform to suit the health needs of the people. It is difficult to get the result for the existing health personnel in the district without bringing about changes in them to usher an era of hard work, ethics, responsiveness and transparency.

It is expected that suggestions offered above if implemented seriously would go a long way in enhancing the effectiveness of health policies and programmes to ensure promotion of health of people.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


