DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
MUKH MANTRI PUNJAB HEPATITIS C RELIEF FUND (MMPHCRF)
Pariwar Kalyan Bhawan, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh
# 0172-2620234/2621506 hepcpunjab@gmail.com

To

1. All Civil Surgeons
   State of Punjab
2. Principal Govt. Medical College Amritsar
3. Principal Govt. Medical College Patiala
4. Principal Govt. Medical College Faridkot
5. MS District Hospital Jalandhar
6. MS MKH Patiala

Subject: Treatment of Hepatitis C Cases in the Prisons of the State

Reference subject mentioned above, this is to inform you that Deptt of Health in concurrence with Deptt. of Justice, Govt. of Punjab has devised a policy for investigation and treatment of cases of HCV in the prisons of the State of Punjab. The policy has been attached for your reference and necessary action. During the implementation of the policy, districts may undertake following steps:

1. A meeting should be held with the Jail authorities of your districts for better coordination.
2. The staff of the Jail should be sensitized about treatment as per SOPs of MMPHCRF and follow ups of the cases.
3. The treatment of HCV cases in prisons will be as per SOPs of MMPHRF.
4. The patients of HCV in prisons may not be having AADHAR no., in these cases jail number may be used in place of AADHAR.
5. The requirement of the drugs for treatment of HCV cases of Prisons should be worked out and conveyed to Joint Director Procurement PHSC.
6. For any query in treatment of the cases of HCV, medical specialists may contact Dr R.K. Dhiman, Professor, Department of Hepatology, PGIMER.

This is issued after approval of Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Health and Family Welfare

Dr H. S. Bali
Director Health & Family Welfare
Punjab
Dated.

No. HCV/PB/16/
A copy is forwarded to-
1. PS to Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Health and Family Welfare, for Information of ACS Health.
2. PS to Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Homes, for Information of ACS Home.
3. Additional Director General of Police, Deptt. of Jails for information.
4. PA to Mission Director, National Health Mission, Punjab for information of MD NHM.
5. Secretary to Managing Director Punjab Health Systems Corporation for information of MD PHSC.
6. PA to Secretary Department of Medical Education and Research for information.
8. Director Department of Medical Education and Research for information and circulation of the guidelines to the Govt. Medical Colleges.
9. Dr R.K. Dhiman, Professor, Department of Hepatology, PGIMER for information.
12. Medical Superintendent, Guru Nanak Dev Hospital, GMC Amritsar for information.
13. Medical Superintendent, Rajindra Hospital, GMC Patiala for information.
14. Medical Superintendent, GMC Faridkot for information.
15. All the Senior Medical Officers of the District Hospitals and Nodal Officers of the Govt. Medical College for strict compliance of the orders.

Dr H. S. Bali
Director Health & Family Welfare
Punjab
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This is issued after approval of Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,

Deprt. of Health and Family Welfare

Dr H. S. Bali
Director Health & Family Welfare
Punjab
Dated. 18/11/2017

No. MMPHCRF/PB/17/86-47
A copy is forwarded to-
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[Signature]
Dr H. S. Bali
Director Health & Family Welfare
Punjab
POLICY FOR TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C CASES IN PRISONS IN THE STATE OF PUNJAB

The following policy shall be adopted for treatment of Hepatitis C cases in prisons of the State of Punjab:

1. All suspected cases of Hepatitis C shall be tested by anti-HCV ELISA in the jails. The cost of the anti-HCV ELISA test will be borne by Deptt. of Health.

2. The information of the patients found positive for anti HCV ELISA will be recorded as per line list proforma under MMPHCRF (Mukh Mantri Punjab Hepatitis C Relief Fund). The information of anti HCV positive patients will be shared by Deptt. of Prisons with Civil Surgeon of the respective district.

3. The patients found positive on anti-HCV ELISA will be subjected to viral load of HCV (Quantitative). Empanelled Lab (Dr Lal Path Laboratories) shall collect the blood samples from the prisons and shall offer the test at the rate fixed under rate contract with Deptt. of Health and Family Welfare, Punjab. The cost of the viral load test will be borne by Deptt. Of Prisons.

4. The patients found positive on viral load test of HCV shall be referred to the medical specialist in the District Hospital or Govt. Medical College (if situated in the same district). The medical specialist will evaluate the patient for cirrhosis as per SOPs of MMPHCRF.
   a. The patient will be put on treatment as per protocol and algorithm in SOPs of MMPHCRF, if the patient is not cirrhotic. The test of genotype shall be optional in such cases.
   b. If the patient is cirrhotic, the test of genotype is mandatory. Empanelled Lab (Dr Lal Path Laboratories) shall collect the blood samples from the prisons and shall offer the test at the rate fixed under rate contract with Deptt. of Health and Family Welfare, Punjab. The cost of the genotype test will be borne by Deptt. Of Prisons.

5. The medical specialist will evaluate the patient as per genotype and the treatment of the patient will be initiated as per SOPs of MMPHCRF.

6. The treatment to cases of Hepatitis C as per the regimen decided by the medical specialist will be initiated from the District Hospital or Govt. Medical College of the district where the jail is, regardless of the permanent address of the patient. The treatment cost will be provided by the Deptt. Of Health and Family Welfare, Punjab.
7. The Deptt. Of Prisons will ensure the follow up of the patients after every 4 weeks (as per schedule of the treatment) for treatment of Hepatitis C in coordination with Senior Medical Officer/Medical Specialist/Nodal Officer of the District Hospital of the respective district.

8. The Deptt. Of Prisons shall inform the Deptt. Of Health and Family Welfare, if a patient on treatment of Hepatitis C is discharged, released on parole, shifted to another prison or died due to any cause to ensure completeness of records and for monitoring and evaluation of each case.
   a. Deptt. Of Prisons to ensure that there should not be a gap in treatment of Hepatitis C of the patients

9. The Deptt. Of Prisons will ensure that all the patients who complete the treatment of Hepatitis C as per protocol (SOPs of MMPHCRF) undergo viral load test (quantitative) 12 weeks after the end of treatment in order to ensure SVR (Sustained Viral Response) as per SOPs.

10. Civil Surgeon of the concerned district will be overall responsible for provision of treatment, monitoring and evaluation of Hepatitis C cases in prison of the respective district.

11. The policy will come into force in the State of Punjab with immediate effect.

12. The issues with the concurrence of the Department of Justice.

Vini Mahajan
Chandigarh Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab
Dated 9/1/2017 Department of Health & Family Welfare