

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5809
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012
INFECTION CONTROL STANDARDS IN HOSPITALS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has evolved a coherent and stringent patient safety and infection control standards for all Government and private hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the standards followed by the Indian hospitals are in accordance with that of the internationally recognised standards;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (e): Health' is a State subject and it is the primary responsibility of the concerned State Government to take all necessary actions regarding patient safety and infection control standards of the hospitals in the State.

In so far as the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi namely, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Harding Medical College & associated hospitals are concerned, stringent patient safety and infection control standards are followed, the details of which are as under:

Infection Control Committees and Patient Safety Committees have been constituted. The Committees hold meetings at regular intervals to review the infection control and Patient Safety issues and take measures for improvement.

Infection control guidelines have been formulated and are in practice.

Hand Hygiene is practiced as per World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines.

Check Lists have been introduced for Surgical Safety in Wards and Operation Theatre (Modified version of WHO Surgical Safety check list), patient safety evaluation, Patient Safety monitoring and Adverse Event reporting.

A standard "Do not Use" List from Joint Commission informational listing symbols to be avoided while writing prescriptions has been made available to prevent mistakes in the reading of prescriptions.

Trainings in Patient Safety including hand hygiene, infection control and bio-medical waste management are being regularly conducted for doctors and paramedical Staff.

In addition, National Guidelines on Hospital waste Management based on Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules were developed by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and distributed to all States/Union Territories in the year 2002 for implementation.

The Patient safety and infection control standards followed by the above mentioned Central Government hospitals have taken into account, wherever considered appropriate, internationally recognized standards like World Alliance on Patient Safety, a World Health Organization initiative, Joint Commission International etc.