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Date: 25-07-2024

## File No. U-16012/392/2022-SST

To,

- The Director (Med.) Delhi / Director (Med.) Noida
- Medical Superintendent's- All ESIC Hospitals.
- Dean's All ESI PGIMSR's & Medical Colleges
- Regional Directors/ States Medical Officers All States
- Director Insurance Medical Services All States through respective Regional Office.

Sub: Strict verification and scrutiny of documents for Super Speciality Treatment (SST) cases -reg Ref: Hqrs. Office OM dated 18.08.2020 regarding referral for SST to tie-up hospitals where expenditure of the treatment for reference is made outside the ESI set-up and to be directly borne by ESI Corporation. (copy enclosed)

## Sir/Madam,

This letter serves to inform and guide all ESIC user locations on the current policy regarding the provision of Super Specialty Treatment (SST) to insured persons (IPs) and their family members, in compliance with the circular dated 18.8.2020.

As per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, ESIC is mandated to provide SST treatment to IPs and their family members from the first day of their employment on a case-by-case basis. The appeal against the said order is currently pending before the Hon'ble Division bench of High Court of Delhi. Nevertheless, ESIC continues to comply with the court's directions by providing SST to IPs and their families from the first day of employment, adhering to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court.

However, in recent times, there have been instances of fraud where undue advantages of the circular dated 18.08.2020 have been exploited. Particularly in expensive and lifelong treatments such as Enzyme Replacement Therapy (ERT) & Cancer Cases involving proprietary expensive Non DG ESIC RC drugs, malafide entries have been made in the ESIC system to avail these benefits illicitly. Such activities not only burden the system but also exploit the contributions of genuine ESIC IPs.

In view of above, to ensure and safeguard the integrity of the SST provisions and mitigate fraudulent activities, the following measures are to be strictly implemented:-

1. Referring locations must conduct thorough checks, especially for High Cost Treatment cases where the diagnosis date of the disease is after the date of registration in the ESIC system.

2. Increase scrutiny of cases to identify any potential nexus between employers and pharmaceutical companies

exploiting the system.

3. Maintain stringent assessment criteria for approving SST on a case-by-case basis, ensuring only genuine cases receive the benefits.

4. Regular audits and monitoring of the cases and referrals to detect and prevent any fraudulent activities.

5. Regional Directors are requested to conduct detailed document verification for all new cases. Henceforth, justification from the competent authority must also be provided to the HQ office, ensuring the genuineness of the patient and the IP in addition to the verification proforma.

It is imperative that all ESIC user locations adhere to these guidelines to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of the SST provisions. By implementing these measures it will be ensured that the genuine IPs and their families receive the medical benefits they are entitled to, while safeguarding the system against fraudulent practices.

This is for strict compliance/adherence and is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours Faithfully,

(Dr. Anita Karanwal) Dy. Medical Commissioner (SST)

Copy to: WCM with a request to upload it on website.