

# Sector Specific Report (Health Sector) January 2022 Edition



### **Policies Covered In The Edition**

- 1. Conditional Market Authorization of Covid 19 Vaccines in India by National Regulator
- 1. Launch of e-Office of Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences
- 1. e-Sanjeevani Teleconsulatation Facility: A revolution in Indian Health Care Sector

### Conditional Market Authorization of Covid 19 Vaccines in India by National Regulator

India in January 2022 witnessed the much-awaited market authorization of two indigenous Covid-19 vaccines Covishield and Covaxin by the Drugs Controller General of India(DCGI) subject to certain conditions mentioned by the authorities. This means the vaccines will be used as a permitted drug for the adult population concerning certain conditions w.e.f. 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Till now, these vaccines were only available for restricted use in case of emergencies.

The conditions for market authorization stated by DCGI are governed as per the New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules 2019.

Due analysis report should be submitted by the firm on the data of overseas ongoing clinical trails in the duration of six months or as per availablity of data, whichever is earlier.

Details of all the supplies of vaccines under the programme and details of vaccinations done in the country is to be recorded on Cowin Platform and should be continuously monitored for Adverse Event Follwoing Immunization and Adverse Event of Special Interest cases.

The firms need to submit the due analysis report on safety data related to the Adverse Event Following Immunization and Averse Event of Special Interest cases in every six months or as per availability, whichever is earlier.

#### The Applicable Conditions

According to the government, the "Conditional Market Authorization" is a new category that got a frequent mention during Covid 19 pandemic. Under this category, the approval

process is fast-tracked and urgent with respect to some situations where an early response is needed to enhance the effectiveness. Through the incorporation of this category, access to certain life-saving drugs and vaccines has been enhanced and continuous evolving situations were well responded to during the different phases of the Covid 19 pandemic.

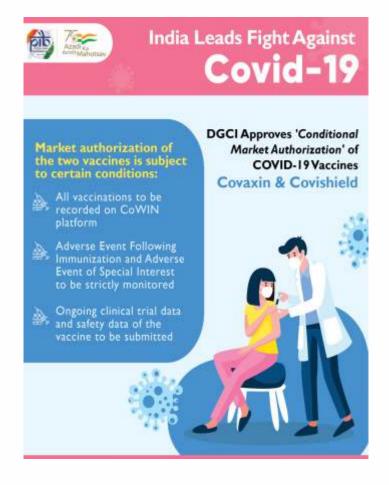


Right from the early days of the pandemic, the government has followed a proactive and responsive approach and thus has shown tremendous success in encountering the spread of this novel virus and successfully running the largest vaccination drive of the world well within the stipulated timeframe. The centrally sponsored nationwide Covid 19 vaccination program has been launched in India on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and within a year more than 160 Crore doses have been administered successfully to the eligible population.

In this way, the government along with the active people participation under this mega vaccination drive has been able to extensively manage the scenario in the third wave. While the incorporation of a new eligible population category of children between the age of 15-18 years under the National Covid 19 Vaccination Programme on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 has further strengthened India's fight against the deadly Covid 19 virus and provided a shield against the deadly virus to our young generation too.

The recent authorization will help India in expanding the availability of vaccines to the general public. It will also reduce the waiting time for the vaccine and booster doses in the coming days as the complete vaccination is the only possible solution to come out of the vicious cycle of this pandemic. After this move, the vaccine will still not be available as an over-the-counter product in the retail pharmaceutical stores of the country. Instead, it will be available for private hospitals and clinics against the payment and all the data corresponding to these vaccines should be recorded on the Cowin platform through these private entities.

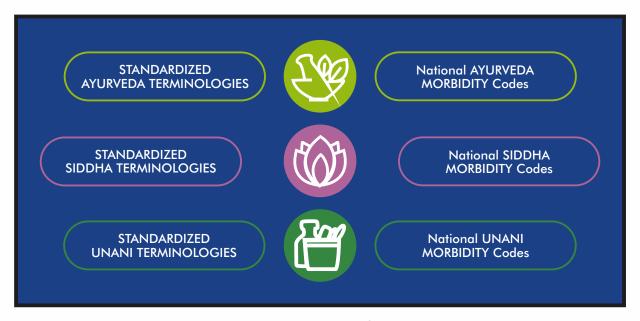
Thus, the approval by DCGI is an example of one such incremental, applauded, and prompt step taken by the drug authorities of the country which will strengthen India's fight against Covid 19 and make it much more responsive. This will make India ready to adapt to the ever-changing behavior and patterns of this fatal virus and provide protection in case of emergencies. It will provide strength to our preparedness strategy at the national level and keep us ahead in planning and encountering the health measures coming ahead in curbing its further spread and let the Indian people find their normal living back soon.



# Launch of e-Office of Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences

Recently the apex research council for Ayurvedic Sciences under the Ministry of Ayush has gone paperless by launching its e-office on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022. The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences launched its official application developed by the National Informatics Centre under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to make its official work available online to its employees and staff members.

It is not the first time that the Council has adopted the digital platform and technology for their potential working but in past also it has been worked on many technology-based initiatives such as Namaste Portal launched in 2017 that provides detailed information about different morbidities and their standard Ayurveda terminologies to the various stakeholders involved:



Source: www.namstp.ayush.gov.in Namaste Portal

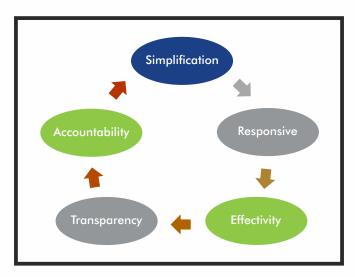
The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences is the largest autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush responsible to formulate, coordinate, develop, and promote the culture of research in the field of Ayurvedic and Sowa-Rigpa, one of the ancient Indian Medicinal Sciences on global scientific lines. The Council is working religiously to realize the vision of Ayushman Bharat on the basis of evidence and practice-based transfer of Ayurvedic knowledge to the community to nurturea healthy India.

The research Council is dynamically working to deep down explore the Ancient Indian treasure of Ayurveda and make a mark in the globe by providing the treatment of many contemporary and lifestyle-related diseases that cause a heavy burden on the healthcare system around the globe. The adoption of technology in the official working of the Council will create a vibrant model of research and help mankind at large withease and efficiency.

The e-office will include every function and procedure of the Council and will enhance transparency in the working and governance of the autonomous body to provide seamless work management. The platform will be used by the employees and staff of the Council and will cover all the functionalities of the organization. The application also has an integrated software named, Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window(SPARROW) to streamline the annual performance reports generation of their employees automatically which will help in retention and motivation of human resources.

By adopting a paperless office the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences will achieve the following objectives:

- The inclusive and exhaustive use of e-office with all its features and expertise will help the Council to enhance transparency in the governance, as the processes and development will be trackable by one and all, at the same time it will increase the accountability of each individual.
- This will speed up the decisionmaking in the process of research related to Ayurveda in the country.



**Objectives** 

- This welcome step will also re-energize the human resource and funnel out their energy in a more productive way.
- This will also help the government to develop ethical work culture in the research of the Ayurvedic Medical Science and reinstate the ancient Indian knowledge of medicine with hands-on help from technology to innovate the public healthcare system in India.



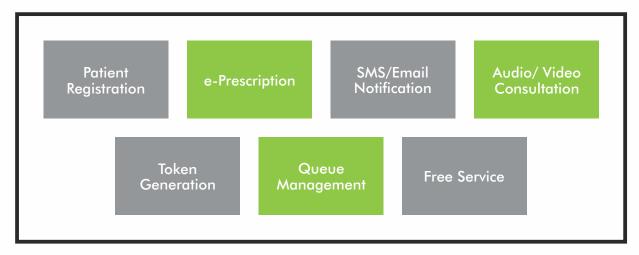
## e- Sanjeevani Teleconsulatation Facility: A revolution in Indian Health Care Sector

In the wake of the third wave of the Covid 19 pandemic, the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has in-person reviewed the facility of e- Sanjeevani Teleconsultation Facility at CGHS headquarter, New Delhi. The minister finds it appreciable, the way doctors are providing quality prescriptions through e- Sanjeevani teleconsultation and checking for their varying symptoms and test requirements for stay-home patients.

The facility has widely helped India to provide quality teleconsultation during the other two waves of Covid-19. It helped in balancing the pressure on the healthcare system to shift the burden of mild and moderate symptom patients especially during the second wave of Covid-19 when the hospitals were serving on their best capacities 24x7 to cure the critical patients on the ground.

The facility has been proved to be a boon as the stay-home OPD has provided elderlies and patients with co-morbidities, their regular check-ups, and consultation on time when the regular OPDs in hospitals were suspended pan India. It has strengthened the primary healthcare in the country during difficult times and kept a check on the additional burden of patients on our primary healthcare facilities.

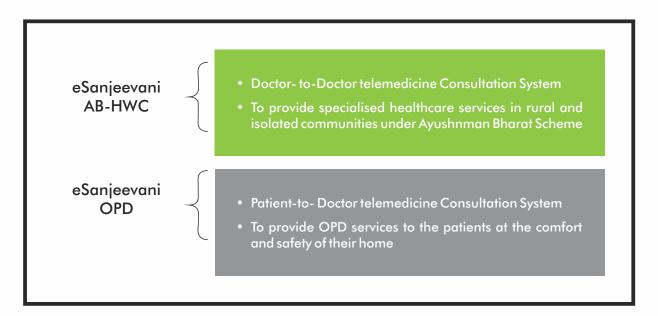
The web-based e-Sanjeevani teleconsultation Service is provided by a digital platform developed by C-DAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing), Mohali at the National level.



Features of the E-Sanjeevani Service

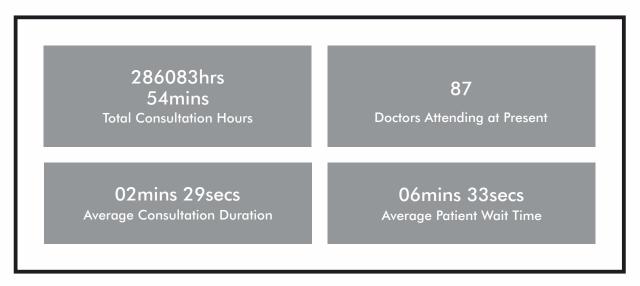
The e-consultation facility at CGHS has set a revolutionary path in the Indian primary healthcare system by providing affordable healthcare to the general public in need. As good health is one of the basic rights of human beings, the facility is thus providing value to the vision of the Government of India to create access to basic healthcare for every Indian citizen rich or poor.

This technological intervention of the Government of India is functional in two modes for the Indian masses:



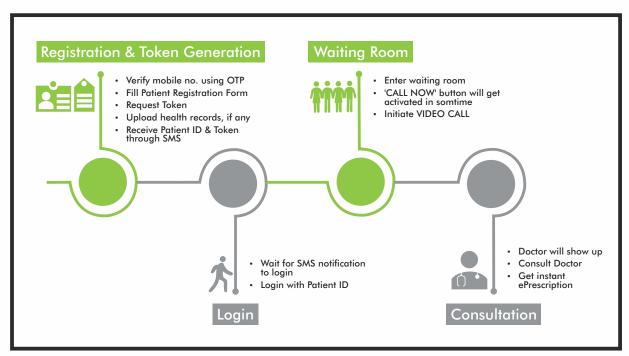
Thee-Sanjeevani AB-HWC (Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Center) is strengthening the free primary healthcare service delivery in the country and bringing it close to the isolated communities. The facility works on the hub and spoke model and serves people who are left behind but have the full right to get quality free healthcare at the remotest places of India. It puts the geographical constraints in the healthcare a tale of past during the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Indian people have also accepted and adopted thee-Sanjeevani OPD consultation facility widely and taking advantage of this digital platform across the country. The data here is witness to the success of the government's flagship telemedicine facility and its deep penetration in terms of more than 14 million consultations across the country with more than 50% of consultations were taken by women.



Source: www.esanjeevaniopd.in Output of the Facility

The adoption of the facility by the general public was quick and the response was enthusiastic because of its people-friendly simplified process:



Source: www.vikaspedia.in

How to register

The national teleconsultation facility has revolutionized the access to primary healthcare in the urban as well as rural areas of the country by providing consultation in the majority of specialties like Medicine, Psychiatry, etc. The government has also extended the services of the facility to the orphanages, old age homes, and jails to ensure the curb of the Covid 19 virus and provide good health to every Indian citizen during the pandemic irrespective of its location.

During these times, on average, more than 1 Lac consultation has been provided under the facility on daily basis and proved to be a parallel stream of healthcare delivery in the country. It has also provided a solution to the unavailability and shortage of specialist doctors at the corners of the country and well helped in sharing the burden of hospitals at secondary and tertiary levels. The service has solved many modalities of the Indian healthcare system in the challenging time of the pandemic and strengthened the public healthcare system in its best possible capacity.





### Resources

- 1. <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1792956">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1792956</a>
- 2. <a href="https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/export/sites/CDSCO\_WEB/Pdf-documents/NewDrugs\_CTRules\_2019.pdf">https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/export/sites/CDSCO\_WEB/Pdf-documents/NewDrugs\_CTRules\_2019.pdf</a>
- 3. <a href="https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/regular-market-approval-granted-for-covishield-covaxin-for-use-in-adult-population/article38333234.ece">https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/regular-market-approval-granted-for-covishield-covaxin-for-use-in-adult-population/article38333234.ece</a>
- **4.** <a href="https://www.india.com/news/india/dcgi-grants-conditional-market-approval-for-covishield-and-covaxin-bharat-biotech-serum-institute-dcgi-5208537/">https://www.india.com/news/india/dcgi-grants-conditional-market-approval-for-covishield-and-covaxin-bharat-biotech-serum-institute-dcgi-5208537/</a>
- 5. <a href="https://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/health/covishield-covaxin-get-conditional-market-authorisation/2417808/">https://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/health/covishield-covaxin-get-conditional-market-authorisation/2417808/</a>
- 6. https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1787488
- 7. http://ccras.nic.in/
- **8.** <a href="https://www.ifp.co.in/more/central-council-for-research-in-ayurvedic-sciences-goes-paperless">https://www.ifp.co.in/more/central-council-for-research-in-ayurvedic-sciences-goes-paperless</a>
- 9. <a href="http://www.namstp.ayush.gov.in/#/index">http://www.namstp.ayush.gov.in/#/index</a>
- 10. <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1789963">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1789963</a>
- 11. <a href="https://esanjeevaniopd.in/About">https://esanjeevaniopd.in/About</a>
- 12. <a href="https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1789963">https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1789963</a>
- 13. <a href="https://cghs.gov.in/CghsGovIn/faces/ViewPage.xhtml">https://cghs.gov.in/CghsGovIn/faces/ViewPage.xhtml</a>
- **14.** <a href="https://vikaspedia.in/health/health-care-innovations/how-to-use-esanjeevani-opd-portal">https://vikaspedia.in/health/health-care-innovations/how-to-use-esanjeevani-opd-portal</a>

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