

ROYAL HARBINGER

Reporting Fact of the Matter

Weekly



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Remdesivir no 'Ram-ban' to cure COVID

**“Oxygen is a treatment, it's like a drug”:
Director, AIIMS on unnecessary demand to
put COVID patients on Oxygen**

Just 15% of Total COVID positives will deteriorate to moderate phase of COVID

Through a graded, pre-emptive and pro-active approach, Government of India is taking several steps along with the States/UTs under a 'whole of government' approach for prevention, containment and management of the recent surge in COVID-19 cases. These are also being regularly reviewed and monitored at the highest level. The DPIIT, in consultation with all stakeholders has issued a supply mapping plan for 12 high burden states till 30th April. The Home Ministry's advisory on unhindered movement of oxygen across states, the installation of 162 PSA Oxygen plants (154.19 MT capacity) in 32 States/UTs from PM-CARES fund, Operationalization of the IT application, 'Medsupply' which tracks site readiness, plant delivery, installation & commissioning, augmentation of Remdesivir production to around 74.10 lakh vials/month (May) from 27-29 lakh vials/month (Jan-Feb), Prohibition on the export of Remdesivir API and formulations by the DGFT, Stringent actions on black marketing and hoarding of the drug are some of the decisions taken to ease the difficulty of those affected by COVID.

There has been an unprecedented surge of daily new COVID cases across the country, with the resultant increase in the consumption of some drugs such as Remdesivir. Clinical management of COVID patients with severe symptoms in hospitals has also lead to a high consumption of oxygen. The Union Government has taken various steps to boost the supply of oxygen in the hospitals across the country, in the recent days.



Three prominent doctors of the country, Prof (Dr) Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS, Dr. Devi Shetty, Chairman, Narayana Health and Dr. Naresh Trehan, Chairman, Medanta Hospital, addressed various issues being related to the rational utilization of Remdesivir, included under the category of Investigational therapy under the National Treatment Protocol of the Health Ministry, and use of Oxygen for treatment of COVID patients in hospitals.

Vaccine - Dr. Guleria exalted the vaccine is usually associated with COVID: although it may not prevent us from getting the infection, the vaccine prevents us from getting the disease in the form of severe illness. He said that it was important to understand that even after the vaccination, we may become infected with COVID which makes it important to continue to wear a mask even after getting vaccinated.

Oxygen - Dr. Guleria reassured that healthy individuals with oxygen saturation in the range 93-94% do not need to take high flow oxygen just to maintain their saturation at 98-99%. Even those with oxygen saturation less than 94 need close monitoring (oxygen being optional).

"Oxygen is a treatment, it's like a drug" he stated to drive home the point that taking oxygen intermittently is an absolute waste of oxygen. There is no data that shows that this will be of any help to the patients and is therefore ill-advised.

Dr. Trehan echoed his observations and observed that the country has enough oxygen if we try to use it judiciously. He requested the audience not to use Oxygen as a "security blanket". Waste of oxygen will only lead to depriving someone who needs it.

Dr. Shetty noted that a saturation above 94% is no problem. A doctor may be consulted if it dips after exercise/effortful work.

Remdesivir

All the doctors unanimously requested the audience to desist from seeing Remdesivir as a wonder drug. Most of the active cases who are in home isolation or in the hospital don't actually need any specific treatment. Only a small percentage require Remdesivir.

They were of the view that as a country, if we work together, use oxygen and Remdesivir judiciously, then, there will be no shortage anywhere. In terms of the number of people who need oxygen and oxygen supply, we are well balanced, they noted. Dr. Trehan agreed and added that his hospital has now made a protocol that Remdesivir is to be given not to everyone who tests positive. It is to be given only after doctors look at test results, symptoms, comorbidities of a patient. Remdesivir isn't a 'Ram-ban', it only decreases viral load in people who need it.

General Issues - Dr. Guleria said that when it comes to COVID, more than 85% of people will recover without any specific treatment in the form of Remdesivir etc. Most will have symptoms like common cold, sore throat etc and over 5-7 days, they will recover with symptomatic treatment. Only 15% may go to moderate phase of the disease.

He advised against being in groups irrespective of somebody being infected and observed that Cross ventilation reduces the risk of infection in closed places.

Dr. Trehan echoed the sentiment that since less percentage of people require hospitalization, the hospital beds should be utilized judiciously & with responsibility which rests on all of us.

Dr. Shetty advised to see a doctor and get their opinion if one is positive. He further advised to not panic if the report is positive as the problem can be solved provided one gets the medical help at an early stage & follow doctor's instructions.

There is a possibility that patient may be asymptomatic prompting the doctors to tell them to stay at home, isolate themselves, wear a mask and check their oxygen saturation every 6 hours. He also suggested to get tested if anyone have any symptom like body ache, cold, cough, indigestion, vomiting since that is the basis of any further treatment.

Chiranjivi Bhavah CM Ashok Gehlot....

Famous as Gandhi of Rajasthan, whenever it comes to lead the government, it attracts the attention of the whole nation for its social schemes. He has always been talked about, especially, associated with public health. Gehlot has once again been in limelight with launching of the 'Chief Minister Chiranjivi Health Scheme' that covers health insurance of every citizen of state up to Rs. 5 lacs. Rajasthan is the first state to come up with this kind of scheme.

Gehlot as chief minister has been concerned in his varied tenure about the health of tailenders leading life below poverty line, common person, specially old persons, women, children etc. Gehlot kept the government exchequer open for people for treatment, especially for the people suffering from kidney, liver, transplantation of knees, open heart surgery, various kinds of cancers etc.

In his previous tenure Gehlot earned accolades to initiate to make available generic medicines in government and private hospitals for treatment of the people suffering from serious diseases from 'Chief Minister Free Medicine Scheme' besides reimbursing the cost of the treatment from government exchequer. This scheme got widely popular in the whole of the nation.

Taking a step further ahead, now Gehlot has come up with a 'Chief Minister Health Insurance Scheme' that facilitates cashless treatment at government and private hospitals and an insurance up to rupees five lacs per annum. Especially, this facility is absolutely made available free of cost for the people belonging to the poor segment and for the people of medial & higher groups at nominal premium of rupees 850/- only. In his budget declaration Gehlot said that every family of the state will be provided with an cashless insurance worth rupees five lacs. People belonging to economically weaker segment will avail the scheme without any premium, however rest of the families of the society will have to pay an annual premium of rupees 850/-.

To get associated with the scheme one has to follow a very simple process of registration being registered online from April 1st till 30th 2021. Beneficiaries of 'Ayushman Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Health Insurance Scheme' registered under National Food Security Act and beneficiaries under socio-economic census 2011 need not register themselves. Beneficiaries must have a 'Jan Adhar Card or Number' with him. For registration, all the district collectors at block and Gram Panchayat levels have been formed to look into preparations and supervision. Benefit of the scheme could be availed from May 1st, 2001.

To avail any insurance scheme the age factor is vital, but the Chiranjivi Yojana is meant for the whole family. There is no limit for the members of the family. Even there is no age limit. Right from neonates to elderly ones will be beneficiaries of the scheme. Prior to getting associated with the scheme, even if someone is already affected with any disease will also be benefited with this scheme. Diseases identified and serious diseases will be covered up to insurance for rupees 04.50 lacs and others up to fifty thousand. Besides these, a package of rupees 1576 includes it.

A state representative reveals that the economically weaker section of the society only get benefitted with the medical treatment. At the same time all the age groups of the family and income group of the society 'Chiranjivi Yojana' have been included in the 'this ambitious scheme of the Rajasthan government. However, the government of India has granted permission to treat abnormal diseases under National Policy-2021 that will lead to reduction of treatment for incurable diseases. Under CGHS (Central Government Health Schemes) a provision of financial adds to the tune of rupees 20 Lacs is also been granted. Benefit of the policy is not confined only to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, but its limits have been broadened. This will be extended to 49 percent of that population which are not eligible for 'Prandan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana'.

Although there has been some criticism passed on Chiranjivi Health Schemes, it will be apt to say that the intentions of the Gehlot government is not at all to be liberal at public health. Yes, how the implementation of these schemes will be like, its success and failures will depend on it.

It will be imperative to implement these schemes strictly with the government machinery, or else these schemes of public interest will also go in vain to the failure. At the crisis of Corona, time a few leaders of opposition have too been appreciated with their statements. Simultaneously, the common public of the state blesses Gehlot with its profound blessings that 'May Ashok Gehlot chiranjivi Bhavah (Live Long).....



-Neeti Gopendra Bhatt

Union Government takes Steps to boost supply of Oxygen to Hospitals

Special 'Oxygen Express' Trains to run through Green Corridors for Transport of Liquid Medical Oxygen

The country has been facing an unprecedented surge in the new daily cases of COVID in various States and UTs across the country. The requirement for Medical Oxygen is a critical component in the treatment of COVID affected patients. In view of the recent surge in the country of COVID19 cases, the requirement of oxygen for effective clinical treatment of COVID patients has also witnessed a manifold hike. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has conveyed that this has already reached about 60 percent of the total daily Oxygen production, and is expected to rise further. There have been reports of shortage of medical oxygen from some States and UTs. Government of India has been regularly monitoring and ensuring smooth supply of essential medical equipment including medical oxygen to the affected states and addressing challenges that arise from time to time.

The Empowered Group-II (EG-II) headed by Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) is mandated by Govt. of India to manage requisite supplies of medical equipments, drugs including medical oxygen across the country. Several immediate and timely measures have been taken in the recent days by Government of India to address the issue of adequate availability of medical oxygen across the country. While every effort is being made to meet the rising demand for medical oxygen, including augmenting daily production and stocks and States/UTs are taking appropriate steps for optimum and rationalized utilisation of available stock of oxygen, the present trend necessitates additional measures.

In another significant decision taken by the Union Government today, the supply of Oxygen for industrial purposes by manufacturers and suppliers is prohibited forthwith from 22.04.2021 till further orders. The matter was deliberated by the DPIIT with all the stakeholders and after due deliberations, it was considered prudent to restrict the industrial usage of oxygen to meet the rising demand for medical oxygen. The surplus oxygen available up as a result of this temporary restriction will facilitate its freeing up for use as medical oxygen for treatment of COVID19 patients.

This prohibition, however, shall not apply to the supply of oxygen for the following nine industries:

- Ampoules & Vials
- Pharmaceutical
- Petroleum refineries
- Steel plants
- Nuclear energy facilities
- Oxygen cylinder manufacturers
- Waste water treatment plants
- Food & water purification
- Process industries which require uninterrupted operation of furnaces, processes, etc. as approved by respective State governments.

RODE MUSEUM, GEOLOGY COLLEGE, UDAIPUR

-Ashok Mathur

Named after late Prof. K.P. Rode, the first Head of Geology College, MLSU who established the Deptt. Of Geology in 1950 the Rode Museum is the oldest such museum in Rajasthan. The other four museums are in Bangur College, Deedwana, MDS University, Dungar College, Bikaner, Maharaja Gangasingh University, J N Vyas University, Jodhpur and Rajasthan University, Jaipur. The Rode Museum has on display 300 kinds of minerals, 200 kinds of rocks, 400 kinds of fossils, 125 kinds of stones and two asteroids. One asteroid fell in the farm of Prabhulal Choudhari of Peepli village in Pali district on 20th June 1996. The second one fell in Dhanalya Ki Bhagal near Nathdwara on 25th December 2012. The special thing is that both of the asteroids are not from our solar system but from some other planet. A large number of fossils in the museum were found in Jaisalmer and Kutcha Gujarat and are crores of years old. The shape of these stones is like sea animals. That were animals at that time. They prove that there was sea there crores of years ago. Due to the structural changes in the earth, the area has now become Thar Desert. In the place called Akal near Jaisalmer have been found fossils that are crores of year old. The stone has layers as there are in a tree. The shape of layers in the trunk of a tree shows that there were several trees on the seashore. Similarly, a fossil here has the shape of the mouth of an elephant. It is believed to be crores of years old. Also on display are fossils from Himachal Pradesh. Wooden pillars that are 2500 year old and that were found in Zawar near Udaipur are also on display. They were used in absence of higher technology in mining of Zinc.

No wonder, students of geology and researchers from all over the country visit this unique museum to enhance their knowledge.

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Ashokmathuronudaipur.com" in box**

DRIL TO DEVELOP ROPEWAYAT NEEMUCHMATA

Damodar Ropeways & Infra Limited (DRIL) is coming up with rope way at Neemuchmata Temple, Udaipur, the ropeways are expected to give further boost to tourism in udaipur. The company would be investing on this project under BOOT (build, own, operate and transfer) scheme by the end of 2022.

The proposed ropeway at Neemuchmata, Udaipur will start near SCERT Hostel, Fatehsagar Lake, and end at Neemach Mata Temple at Hill Top. Lake Fatehsagar is situated in a spectacular location that provides three distinct world experiences: hills, water, and flora. It is the second-largest artificial lake in India, located to the north of Lake Pichola and directly across the Moti Magri Hill. The Neemach Mata Temple, which is situated on a hill on the banks of Fateh Sagar Lake, has both stairs and a 900-meter-long uphill slope walkway to climb. The idol of Neemach Mata Devi is enshrined there. There's also a Lord Ganesh idol and three stone lions facing west. From the temple, one can enjoy a stunning view of the entire city and its lakes. The total length of the Ropeway project would be 430 m; it will have 12 cabins with a capacity of six people in each cabin. The ropeway will alleviate the pain of climbing up to it and allow visitors to take in the stunning views of the city and lakes without running out of steam. Ropeway projects by the company are currently being established in Assam, Jammu, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Himachal Pradesh, among other states. DRIL specializes in constructing passenger ropeways, material ropeways, ski lifts, bulk material handling facilities, and real estate ventures.

Arun Misra wins CEO of the Year award

Udaipur: In a double swoop at the Business Leader of the Year Awards presented by World Leadership Congress and Awards, Hindustan Zinc won the won 'Most Innovative Company of the Year' while their CEO - Mr Arun Misra was awarded as 'CEO of the Year'.

Being at the helm of a mining giant during a time that was unprecedented, Mr. Arun Misra guided Hindustan Zinc in quite an extraordinary way. The COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown posed formidable challenges, but Mr. Misra steered the ship head-on by embracing change and enhanced focus on innovation, technology, and digitalization. Under his leadership, Hindustan Zinc achieved operational excellence and set global benchmarks in setting sustainable social solutions benefitting the business, people, and communities. The 'Most Innovative Company Award' for Hindustan Zinc displays the type of culture that the organization believes in. HZL has been at the forefront of adopting best-in-class technologies to gain and solidify a competitive edge in the mining industry, enhancing efficiencies and productivity along the way. The company has advanced well in the journey of leveraging digitalization and embracing new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and blockchain capabilities in the future. The Leadership Awards is all about Achievers, Super Achievers, and Future Business Leaders. The forum attracts the best organizations from around the world, to highlight, recognize and reward their ability to steer their businesses through turbulent times, applying the best of business modules to manage and keep their missions afloat.

Currency Man Vinay Bhanawat selected for Doctorate Honorary Degree

Udaipur: Vinay Bhanawat of Udaipur who is popularly known as the currency man in the world has been selected for doctorate honorary degree. Aipphs State Government University Delhi has selected world's famous notaphillist Mr Vinay Bhanawat for his world-famous paper currency collection in which he has been working from last so many years on excellent work, outstanding performance and remarkable role in field of study, research and collection of paper currency.