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Central Organisation, ECHS  
Adjutant General's Branch  
Integrated Headquarters  
Ministry of Defence (Army)  
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B/49773/AG/ECHS /Rates/Policy

18 Jul 2014

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)  
Air HQ (VB)/DPS  
HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)  
HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)



**GUIDELINES AND CEILING RATES FOR PERMISSION / REIMBURSEMENT  
FOR BARIATRIC SURGERY PROCEDURES**

1, Bariatric Surgery procedures shall be allowed in respect of ECHS beneficiaries/patients with 'morbid obesity' as per the guidelines outlined below:-

**GUIDELINES FOR BARIATRIC SURGERY**

(a) **Selection criteria**

Factor	Criteria *
Weight (Adults)	(a) Body Mass Index (BMI) $\geq$ 40 with no comorbidities (b) Body Mass Index (BMI) $\geq$ 35 with obesity associated comorbidity

(b) **Exclusion criteria**

Factor	Criteria *
Exclusion	(a) Reversible endocrine or other disorders that can cause obesity. (b) Current drug or alcohol abuse. (c) Uncontrolled, severe psychiatric illness. (d) Lack of comprehension of risks, benefits, expected outcomes, alternatives and lifestyle changes required with bariatric surgery.

\* NIH guidelines 1991 will be used for selection and exclusion criteria.

(c) **Type of Bariatric Surgery procedures allowed**

- (i) Laparoscopic Gastric Banding Surgery
- (ii) Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy
- (iii) Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass (GBP)
- (iv) Other cases-as per examination and recommendation of an Expert committee.

(d) **Hospitals/Centres approved for Bariatric Surgery:** Government Hospitals, Hospitals run by PSUs, Private hospitals empanelled under ECHS Rules. However, Bariatric Surgery shall not be allowed in private non-empanelled hospitals.

(e) **Permission for Bariatric Surgery :** Bariatric Surgery procedures are planned/elective procedures and hence, not regarded as emergency procedures. Prior permission has to be obtained from the competent authority on the basis of recommendation given by a Service/Government Specialist before the surgery is undertaken. No ex-post facto approval for reimbursement shall be given. For those Bariatric Surgery procedures that falls within Para 1(c)(iv), requests for prior permission in such cases shall be examined by an Expert Committee on a case to case basis.

(f) **List of documents required for seeking permission/reimbursement :-**

- (i) Recommendation by Service/Government Specialist/Surgeon/Govt. GI Surgeon.
- (ii) BMI report.
- (iii) Reports documenting obesity associated comorbidities should be certified by the concerned Government Specialist/Service Spl.
- (iv) Reports of tests for endocrine disorders and relevant reversible conditions that can cause obesity.
- (v) Proforma **Appendix-I** to be duly filled by the recommending Service/Government Specialist with signature and stamp.
- (vi) Proforma at **Appendix-II** to be duly filled by the ECHS beneficiary and submitted along with the relevant documents.

(g) **Submission of application :**

- (i) All applications for such requests shall be submitted at ECHS Polyclinics at Regional Centres who will forward them to their Regional Centres. The application will be scrutinized by Jt Dir (Med) for their correctness and forwarded to Central Org ECHS.
- (ii) Permission shall be granted by the Central Org ECHS after obtaining the necessary approval of HoD Deptt of GI Surgery Army Hosp (R&R) for all the types of Bariatric Surgery Mentioned in Para C (iv).

(h) Ceiling rates for reimbursement of Bariatric Surgery procedures :-

(a) The ceiling/package rate for all bariatric Surgery procedures as listed at Para 2(c), shall be –Rs.2,25,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Twenty five Thousand Only) or actual, whichever is lower, for Semi-Private Ward eligibility. The package rate is to be increased by 15% in case of private ward eligibility and reduced by 10% in case of general ward eligibility.

(b) The package rate for Bariatric Surgery procedures includes the following:-

(i) Five days stay as per ECHS entitlement and accommodation charges including ICU/ICCU/HDU/Surgical ICU/Post-Operative Care Unit etc. charges if required, and inclusive of patient's Diet.

(ii) Registration and admission charges.

(iii) Cost of all surgical disposables, consumables, instruments including Laparoscopic instruments and consumables, guns, clips, trocars, bands and implants etc. and all sundries used during hospitalization.

(iv) Pharmacy and cost of all medicines used during the package period.

(v) Surgeon's fee/procedure charges.

(vi) Pre-anesthetic consultation (PAC) & anesthesia charges.

(vii) Operation Theater charges, OT gases and consumables charges.

(viii) Investigations- including all pre-operative and post-operative investigations including post-operative Gastrograffin test.

(ix) All In-house Doctor consultation/visit charges.

(x) Dietician consultation, physiotherapist consultation, Injection Charges, dressing charges, monitoring charges.

(xi) Transfusion charges, cost of all medicines.

(xii) All pre-operative, pre-operative and post-operative physiotherapy procedures and exercises.

(xiii) Nursing care charges and RMO charges.

(xiv) Any other incidental charges like CSSD, linen charges etc.

2. However, if additional stay beyond the period covered in package rate is required, in exceptional cases, it may be reimbursed after providing adequate justification by the treating specialists in this regard with supporting documents. The reimbursement for additional stay beyond package rate period shall be as per ECHS guidelines in vogue. In case additional stay is because of complication arising due to surgery or nosocomial infection, the hospital shall be responsible for such overstay and action as per MoA shall be initiated against the hospital.

3. This policy shall come into effect from the date of its issue.

*Vijay Anand*  
(Vijay Anand)  
Col  
Dir (Med)  
for MD ECHS

**Encls: Appendix – I & II**

**Copy to**

✓ DGAFMS (DG-3A)  
DGMS (Army) / (DGMS-5B)  
DGMS (Navy)/ Dir ECHS (Navy)  
DGMS (Air Force ) (Med-7)

( )  
All Regional Centre, ECHS

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Karnataka-560 008

**Internal**

Ops & Coord Sec  
P & F C  
Claim Sec

Stats & Automation Sec --

for uploading on ECHS website alongwith soft copy of said letter.

Proforma to be attached with application for permission to undergo Bariatric Surgery

(a) To be filled by the recommending Government Specialist/Service Spl.

1.	Name of Patient/Age/Sex	
2.	Name of Bariatric Surgery Procedure	
3.	Name of Recommending Govt Specialist	
4.	Hospital	
5.	Date	
6.	BMI	
7.	Comorbidities	
8.	Presence of Reversible Endocrine Disorders causing Obesity	
9.	Controlled Drug or Alcohol Abuse	
10.	Uncontrolled Psychiatric Illness	
11.	Lack of comprehension of risk, benefits, expected outcomes, alternatives, and lifestyle changes required with bariatric surgery	
12.	Signature of Recommending Government Specialist	

Appendix- II

(a) To be filled by the ECHS beneficiary..

1.	Name of Cardholder with ECHS Card No	
2.	Name of Patient with ID Card No	
3.	Relationship with cardholder	
4.	Name of Parent ECHS Polyclinic/Regional Centre	
5.	Residential Address	
6.	Name of Procedure which has been advised	
7.	Name of Hospital where treatment is proposed to be undertaken	
8.	Name of Govt Specialist and Hospital who has advised	
9.	Signature of Cardholder	
10.	Date	
11.	Remarks of OIC Polyclinic with signature and stamp	