

Unspecified Surgical Packages

National Health Authority

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1.1 Unspecified Surgical Package

To ensure that AB PM-JAY beneficiaries are not denied care, for treatments / procedures that do not feature in the listed interventions, there is an exclusive provision that has been enabled in the TMS (Transaction Management System) for blocking such treatments, subject to satisfying certain defined criteria (as mentioned).

1.1.1 Using an unspecified surgical package

Criteria for treatments that can be availed under unspecified surgical package:

- Only for surgical treatments.
- Compulsory pre-authorization is in-built while selecting this code for blocking treatments.
- Cannot be raised under multiple package selection. Not applicable for medical management cases.
- Government reserved packages cannot be availed by private hospitals under this code. PPD / CPD may reject such claims on these grounds. In addition, SHA may circulate Government reserved packages to all hospitals. Further, SHAs need to establish suitable mechanisms to refer such cases to the public system – as a means to avoid denial of care.
- Cannot be booked for removal of implants, which were inserted under the same policy. Exceptions where removal of implants is not covered under any other package, to be approved by State Health Agencies or National Health Authority.
- In the event of portability, the home state approval team may either reject if a Government reserved package of the home state is selected by a private hospital in the treating state or consider on grounds of 'emergency'.
- Aesthetic treatments of any nature cannot be availed under this code or as such under any other listed codes under AB PM-JAY. Only medically necessary with functional purpose / indications can be covered. The procedure should result in improving / restoring bodily function or to correct significant deformity resulting from accidental injury, trauma or to address congenital anomalies that have resulted in significant functional impairment.
- Individual drugs or diagnostics cannot be availed under this code. Only listed drugs and diagnostics with fixed price schedules, listed under the drop down of respective specialties, are included for blocking treatments.

- None of the treatments that fall under the exclusion list of AB PM-JAY can be availed viz. individual diagnostics for evaluation, out-patient care, drug rehabilitation, cosmetic / aesthetic treatments, vaccination, hormone replacement therapy for sex change or any treatment related to sex change, any dental treatment or surgery which is corrective, cosmetic or of aesthetic procedure, filling of cavity, root canal including wear and tear etc. unless arising from disease or injury and which requires hospitalization for treatment etc.
- However, for life threatening cases e.g. of suicide attempt or accident due to excess consumption of alcohol, treatment shall be provided by the hospital till the patient's condition stabilizes.
- In case the SHA is getting multiple requests for the same unspecified package from multiple hospitals or for multiple patients, then the same should be taken up with the Medical Committee for inclusion in the package master for that SHA within a defined time frame as per the SHA.
- The same should also be shared with NHA for consideration to include such packages in national package master.

For deciding on the approval amount, the PPD may consider the rate of closest match of the requested surgery, in listed AB PM-JAY packages. It should be noted that the amount approved by the PPD would be sacrosanct, to be communicated to the hospital, and the CPD would not be able to deduct any amount or approve partial payment for that claim.

1.1.2 Unspecified package from ₹ 1 Lakh to ₹ 5 Lakhs

For any State / UT to utilize the unspecified surgical package from ₹1 lakh to ₹ 5 lakhs, it is to be ensured that the same is approved only in (a) exceptional circumstances and / or (b) for life saving conditions.

- a. Exceptional circumstances may include:
 - i. Rare disease conditions or rare surgeries.
 - ii. Procedure available under HBP in a different specialty but not available in the treating speciality.
 - iii. Procedure available under HBP in a speciality for which the hospital is not empanelled.
 - iv. Other conditions / treatments which are not excluded under AB PM-JAY but not listed in HBP.
- b. Life-saving conditions may include:
 - i. Emergencies or life-threatening conditions

While it is difficult to define all the situations where unspecified surgical package may be used or the upper limit for booking the package, but it can be allowed as long as it is approved by medical committee of SHA comprising of experts from public hospitals. Condition for booking such package should also be mentioned as described above.

The following process to be adhered:

- A standing Medical committee will be constituted by CEO of each SHA to provide inputs on requests received for unspecified surgical packages among their other deliverables.
- CEO, SHA will recommend every case for approval after taking inputs from the standing medical committee (wherever committee is yet to be constituted, opinion of 2 medical experts will suffice as recommendation in the interim period), with details of treatment and pricing that is duly negotiated with the provider. This recommendation should have insurance company concurrence, wherever applicable.
- The price should be based on the principle of case based lump sum rate that includes all investigations, procedure cost, consumables, post-op care and applicable incentive to the hospital included – preferably citing rates as ceiling from any govt. purchasing scheme like CGHS etc., if available.
- A letter or request from the SHA with approval of competent authority may be sent to CEO – NHA for approval.
- The request letter would be moved on file and the final decision will be taken at the level of the CEO – NHA, as CEO – NHA is the final authority empowered to grant approval.
- Once approved, it will be shared by State Coordinator to the technical team for backend change. The respective state coordinator will request for technical support for backend change of amount via ticket and permission to block the unspecified package \geq Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 5 lakhs.
- The turn around time for the entire activity shall be 48 hours to ensure that the beneficiary is provided prompt treatment.
- CEO – NHA will place all the approvals in the next Governing Board meeting for information.