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Costing of in-patient care in the department of pulmonary and sleep medicine at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

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Background & Objectives: In India, 5% of GDP is spent on health and 80% of this is out of pocket expenditure. Over 60% of total health out of pocket expenditure is on medicines, both in urban and rural India in 2011-12. Intensive Care Unit demand a great deal of financial and manpower resources. Intensive care beds account for at least 10% of the hospital beds and 20-40% of all hospital costs. They also consume 34% of hospital budgets. The objective of this study was to identify major cost centers in Pulmonary ICU and identify the gap between hospital expenditure and out of pocket expenditure towards medical care at AIIMS.

Materials & Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted. Costing methodology used combination of traditional and activity based approach. Retrospectively, records were studied of past three months and key informants interviewed to identify major cost centers. Prospectively 10 patients admitted in Pulmonary ICU were followed up for a period of two weeks until discharged to identify hospital and out of pocket expenditure. Cost was apportioned to per patient per day.

Results: Major cost centers were Manpower [40.72%, drugs and surgical consumables (27.35%)], Equipment (21.63%) followed by supportive services (9.81%) and general stores (0.49%). The hospital expenditure on drugs and surgical consumables per patient per day was (INR) 419.19, whereas, out of pocket expenditure per patient per day was (INR) 2228.87 and average length of stay was 9.5 days.

Conclusion: In this study, out of total health expenditure, 84% was out of pocket and only 16% was hospital expenditure. It is imperative for health care providers to use costing studies to understand the financial burden on household expenditure and optimize appropriate resources to avail critical care services at reasonable price to the public.

Biography

June Kakshapati is currently a Resident Doctor pursuing MD Hospital Administration at BPKIHS, Nepal. She has keen interest in healthcare economics, quality, patient safety and healthcare management.

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