



EVOLUTION OF HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA

Healthcare

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ABSTRACT

Health is a State Subject and is the responsibility of the Government. To measure the socio-economic development, Health is one of the most important indicator.

In the past decades the healthcare services of India has been increased manifold. Ayurveda medicines were used in the ancient time which works on Thridhosha (vata, pitta and kapha) theory of disease. Other non-modern systems of medicine in India were Unani and Homeopathy and the use of modern medicines was commences after the arrival of European missionaries in 16th century.

India is a country with a rich old heritage of medical science and the ancient Indian medical system was a holistic treatment. As the medical science advances the need of healthcare administration also emerged. Healthcare administration encompasses the technical aspects of healthcare delivery in hospitals and the social and public policy issues related to access to care. India is having a largest health sector in the world. The private sector has become a vibrant force in India's healthcare industry, as it accounts for almost 74 percent of the country's total healthcare expenditure.

As the needs of the society have been emerged, the importance of the need for an established healthcare industry and the presence of skilled healthcare workers and administrators are more evident now. The strategic planning is required to make the healthcare services affordable, accessible, effective and efficient.

KEYWORDS

Healthcare, Healthcare administrator, Evolution, Healthcare manager.

INTRODUCTION

Health is a State Subject and is the responsibility of the Government. Health plays vital and significant role for the economic development of the country. To measure the socio-economic development, Health is one of the most important indicators.

Historical Background Of Indian Healthcare System

India is a country with a rich old heritage of medical science and the ancient Indian medical system was a holistic treatment. Hospitals do exists from the ancient era.

INTRODUCTION

As the medical science advances the need of healthcare administration was emerged. The first hospital administration degree program was started in 1922 at the Marquette University. The healthcare administration / healthcare management in India has evolved as an "hidden career" in the healthcare sector under various job titles, "Health manager, Healthcare administrator, etc."

The establishment of various hospitals, medical colleges and dispensaries occurred while British were ruling the India. After the British rule, various amendments were done in healthcare sectors to fulfill the societal needs.

The first Masters Degree Program in Hospital administration was started in 1961 by AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences).

Transition Of Traditional Healthcare System Into Modern Medicine

Ayurveda medicines were used in the ancient time which works on Thridhosha (vata, pitta and kapha) theory of disease. Other non-modern systems of medicine in India were Unani and Homeopathy and the use of modern medicines was commences after the arrival of European missionaries in 16th century.

In the past decades the healthcare services of India has been increased. The doctor to population ration balanced, the infant and mother mortality rates are decreased. Smallpox and other deadly diseases eradicated and the modern system of medicine is having good prognosis over other communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Ancient Era

The ancient era included the Vedic period, Buddhist period, Muslim period and Christianity.

The Vedic period includes the Ayurveda and the Aryan culture. In

Buddhist period, Lord Buddha took initiatives to serve the mankind and support the science of medicine and they created the monasteries in different places to care the sick and to impart the medical education. 10th century onwards, the impact of Muslim dominance was more. The most impact was on medical education, translation of medical education was done into Arabic then into Persian and later into Urdu. During 1100-1300 healthcare practices were the part of religious practice.

The gradual progress of healthcare sector was continued and after independence there were 7400 hospitals and dispensaries in the India with 1, 13,000 beds. There were 47,000 doctors and 7000 nurses, 19 medical schools, and 28 medical colleges.

In 1950, Indian Government prepared a plan to utilize the country's resources effectively. Healthcare sector was the major part of all the plans. The community development programme and national extension movements were started. Various primary health centres, community health centres, sub centres and hospitals were established with the aim to control the communicable diseases and to reduce the crowds in the hospitals.

After the implementation of three five years plans results were not appropriate. The Ministry of health and Family planning, Government of India set up the study group on hospitals. The recommendations made by study group on hospitals were; establishment of speciality wise regional, district and peripheral hospitals. Integrated approach, availability of resources, availability of manpower and family planning were also recommended.

In Independence era the Government of India formulated various health committees to contribute into the improvement of the healthcare standards in India. Among them, Bhore committee (Also known as the Health Survey & Development Committee with Sir Joseph Bhore as its Chairman) recommended the upgrading of healthcare services and also anticipated that the bed population ratio can rise in future. As the bed population ratio rises, the decentralization of healthcare administration occurred in the country. Thus to manage the entire medical system, healthcare administration strengthened in the country.

The Department of Health implemented the various National health programs to combat the various communicable and non-communicable diseases. The Government hospitals were encouraged and directed to provide good quality of care with accountability and transparency.

On 20 November 1997 National Population Policy was approved by

Cabinet to promote the reproductive and child health.

Healthcare Administration

Healthcare administration encompasses the technical aspects of healthcare delivery in hospitals and the social and public policy issues related to access to care. Traditionally, administrative work was practiced by medical professionals, which lead in conflicts in the roles of medical professionals. As the medical science advances and the healthcare needs of the society are increased, now these days healthcare facilities are managed and administered separately by the healthcare managers and healthcare administrators.

Growth of Indian Healthcare Industry

India is having a largest health sector in the world. According to **India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF)** during 2008-20, the industry has recorded approximately a compound *annual growth rate (CAGR)* of 16.5 per cent and total industry size has touched the \$280 billion in 2020.

The healthcare industry includes hospitals, biomedical equipment and devices industry, pharmaceutical industry, clinical trial industry, outsourced health services, telemedicine, medical tourism and health insurance.

The private sector has become a vibrant force in India's healthcare industry, as it accounts for almost 74 percent of the country's total healthcare expenditure. Out of various business models, Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) models are being encouraged. The Government of India is trying to develop the country as a global healthcare hub and is also providing policy support in the form of reduced excise and customs duty and exemption in service tax to support growth in healthcare.

In India, providing quality health care services to the poor is often contemplated as sheer impossibility. The life time savings are used to get quality treatment for self and their families. To overcome the issue of overwhelming health costs leading to in indebtedness of the poor, the Indian Government launched various schemes for Below Poverty Line families.

The Finance Minister of India, On 1st February 2018, has announced a flagship 'National Health Protection Scheme' under which Rs 5 lakh cover is provided per year to 10 Crore poor and vulnerable families in the country. And during the run-up of the 17th Lok Sabha elections, the manifesto of the Congress party promised to enact Right to Health-Care Act, guarantee in every citizen free access to out- patient-care, medicines, diagnostic tools and hospitalization.

The ruling BJP-lead government had in the previous year announced the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana or the Ayushman Bharat Yojana (ABY) that aimed to provide a health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year, seeking to cover 10.74 lakh families irrespective of the family size. The government plans to expand the cover to primary healthcare by establishing Health and Wellness Centers, but presently it is limited to cost of secondary and tertiary care.

In India, only 22% hospitals are run by State. In developing countries where millions are living in poverty, affordable healthcare is the need of hour. On one side, we have developments in every field including medicine but still these facilities are out of reach of most. In such a situation, it is important that the state should take this matter seriously and try to increase the stakes in healthcare.

CONCLUSION

After independence India has made prominent progress in healthcare sectors. As the needs of the society has been emerged the importance of the need for an established healthcare industry and the presence of skilled healthcare workers and administrators is more evident now.

The strategic planning is required to make the healthcare services affordable, accessible, effective and efficient.

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