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IIT Jodhpur study reveals cost of hospitalisation under public & private sector

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The average total spending per day of hospitalisation in India was found to be Rs 2833 for public hospitals and Rs 6788 for private hospitals



A recent study by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur has given a comparative outlook on how much do government and households spend on an episode of hospitalisation during their visit to public and private healthcare facilities in India.

The result of the research states that the government and households put together spent substantially more per hospitalisation in private hospitals than public hospitals.

The average total spending per day of hospitalisation in India was found to be Rs 2833 for public hospitals and Rs 6788 for private hospitals. The results of this research were published in Health Economics Review Journal which is an international peer reviewed journal.

This study has important implications in deciding the road map of achieving universal health coverage in India. This study is one of the first in its kind which has done costing of public and private healthcare facilities for unit inpatient care in the country. Its relevance becomes even more in the context of strategic purchasing from the private sector, which has been mentioned as one of the important policy directions under National Health Policy-2017.

Highlighting the need of the research, Dr Alok Ranjan, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts, IIT Jodhpur, said, “Provisioning of inpatient care under public facilities is more cost effective compared to the private sector in India. Therefore, there is an urgent need to invest in public health facilities compared to purchasing it from the private sector.”

This survey was carried out with the support of the State Health Resource Centre, a technical agency working for the Department of Health, Government of Chhattisgarh, in 64 healthcare facilities across the state.