Growing health sector will create jobs over 7,000 in health management

AMRITSAR: The growing health care sector in India will require 1,00,000 health management professionals, in both private and public health sectors by 2020. Punjab alone will need over 7,000 hospital management professionals by 2020, according to India’s leading health care management and research institute, International Institute of Health Management Research, New Delhi, IIHMR Delhi.

This surge in the health sector will in turn boost the Indian private health care industry which is expected to grow from around US$40 billion to $280 billion in the next five years. From estimated 5,000 private hospitals in India, barring small and medium clinics, about 9 per cent are located in Punjab.

Dr A K Khokhar, Director of IIHMR Delhi, said, “According to WHO guidelines, nearly 80 countries are working towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) including India and China, which are the most populated countries. Compared to 3 per cent of GDP spent on healthcare in China, India is just spending 1.2 per cent of its GDP on healthcare. And, Punjab spends merely 0.46 per cent of GDP which is even lesser than national spent. This spends is expected to be at least 1.8 per cent in Punjab and 3 per cent for the whole country by 2022. With this positive step, the per capita spending health in Punjab may reach Rs 953 by 2019-20 with an estimated 40 per cent share of state and 60 per cent share of Central government according to the report.”

At present, there is a dearth of 1,000 to 1,500 health management professionals in Punjab. With the changing scenario in the health sector, the need for qualified health care professionals will only increase.

He said that there are around 1,1 trained doctors in Punjab against per 1,000 population, compared to the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended guideline of 2.5 per 1,000 population.

Dr Khokhar further added, “In Punjab, most hospitals are plagued with the problem of vacant posts of medical, paramedical and support staff. The vacancy position ranges from 26 per cent (general doctors) to 38 per cent (specialists), and 31 percent posts were lying vacant for nurses.”
By 2020, Punjab will need 7,000 medical professionals: Expert

Tribune News Service

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 15

“Punjab alone will need over 7,000 hospital management professionals by 2020,” according to Dr AK Khokhar, Director, International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR), New Delhi.

Addressing mediapersons here today, Dr Khokhar said the growing healthcare sector in India would require 1,90,000 health management professionals in both private and public health sectors by 2020.

Surge will boost health care industry

Dr Khokhar said, “This surge will in turn boost the Indian private health care industry, which is expected to grow from around US $40 billion to $280 billion in the next five years. From the estimated 3,800 private hospitals in India, barring small and medium clinics, around 9 per cent are located in Punjab.”

“As per the WHO guidelines, nearly 80 countries are working towards universal health coverage (UHC), including India and China, which are the most populated countries. Compared to the three per cent of the GDP spent on healthcare in China, India is just spending 1.2 per cent of its GDP on healthcare,” added Dr Khokhar.

GDP component of health care spending will rise

Punjab spends merely 0.48 percent of the GDP, which is even less than the national spending. The minimum amount expected to be spent on health care by 2022 will be at least 1.8 percent of the GDP in Punjab and three per cent for the whole country. With this positive step, the per capita spending on health in Punjab may reach Rs 963 crore by 2019-20 with an estimated 40 per cent share of state and 60 per cent of central governments as per the report.

One doctor per 1,000 persons

At present, there is a dearth of 1,000 to 1,500 health management professionals in Punjab. And with the changing scenario in the health sector, the need for qualified health care professionals will only increase. There are around 1,100 trained doctors in Punjab per 1,000 persons, compared to the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended guideline of 2.5 per 1,000 persons.

Posts lying vacant in hospitals

Dr Khokhar adds, “In Punjab, most hospitals are plagued with the problem of vacant posts of medical, paramedical and support staff. The vacancy position ranges from 26 per cent (general doctors) to 38 per cent (specialists), besides 31 per cent posts of nurses.”

He said, “At least 12 per cent posts for paramedics involving pharmacists, lab technicans, radiographers and operation theatre technicians are also lying vacant. Looking at these challenges in the healthcare sector, we at IIHMR foresee that over 7,000 hospital management professionals will be needed by 2020 to meet this growing gap.”
| PUBLICATION NAME | TARUN BHARAT |
| CITY WHERE IT APPEARED | RATNAGIRI |
| DATE | 28 - 10 - 2015 |
| PAGE NO. | 09 |
आरोग्यासाठी ७४ अन्जून रुपयांची गरज
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आरोग्यासाठी ७४ अन्जून रुपयांची गरज असतील. आत्मनी विभागाच्या आरोग्य सेवेशील खर्च हे तेजस्वी केसरे केसरे (७४) टकऱ्या, आत्मनीच्या विभागाच्या आरोग्य सेवेशील खर्च हे तेजस्वी केसरे केसरे (७४) टकऱ्या असतील. आत्मनीच्या विभागाच्या आरोग्य सेवेशील खर्च हे तेजस्वी केसरे केसरे (७४) टकऱ्या असतील.