



Editorial



Council's Empowerment of Ayurveda Surgeons: A Toothless Act.

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In past few decades, the surgery in Ayurveda was limited to Anorectal surgery and minor wound care. Recently permission granted to Ayurveda Surgeons to perform surgery as per notification issued by Central Council of Indian Medicine, New Delhi, 19th November 2020.

F. No. 4-90/2018-P.G. Regulation (Ayurveda).—In exercise of the powers conferred by clauses (i), (j) and (k) of sub-section (1) of section 36 of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 (48 of 1970), the Central Council of Indian Medicine, with the previous sanction of the Central Government, hereby makes the following regulations further to amend the Indian Medicine Central Council (Post Graduate Ayurveda Education) Regulations, 2016, namely:- 1. Short title and commencement - These regulations may be called the Indian Medicine Central Council (Post Graduate Ayurveda Education) Amendment Regulations, 2020.

Ayurvedic surgeons have been performing minor and medium level surgeries in reputed institutions for decades safely and effectively. There are several documented case studies and peer reviewed research which shows the successful surgical outcomes by Ayurvedic surgeons.

Recently, Dr. Prashant Nagpure filed a writ petition no. 7311/2024 at the High court Mumbai bench regarding Ayurvedacharya and Shalakya practitioners have been given the permission of the ophthalmic surgery under the registration (amended 2021) to conduct ophthalmic surgery. Dr. Prashant Nagpure has been denied permission to perform ophthalmic surgeries as per the decision taken under hospital establishment. If the CCIM (now NCISM) has permitted and state establishment are denying permission to conduct surgery, is clear case of taking away the rights of Ayurvedic surgeon. NCISM must take cognizance and clarify the gazette notification and convey the same to state establishment to follow the order.

The MS (Sajnaharana- Anesthesia) are not legally permitted to practice Modern Anesthesia, may be because of legal hurdles. The surgeon who has completed 3 years and got degree if not empowered to deliver his service, then what is the use of such degree? The Ayurvedic surgeons are fearing to do all the 53 surgeries permitted by council at private practice because of fear of IMA threat or dependency on modern anesthetist.

In future there may great demand for surgeries at sub-urban and rural areas. There is a need of collaborative care models where AYUSH doctors work alongside with allopathic team, especially in rural areas. The council and AYUSH should increase the list of permitted surgeries and enhance the empowerment of Ayurveda surgeons and legally permit to do local anesthesia after getting fellowship or short-term certificate course.

I urge the Shalya, Shalakya & Prasooti associations to fight for legal empowerment of the Ayurveda Surgeons across India for effective healthcare delivery.

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