

Tele: 21411817/35004

Integrated HQ of MoD (Army)  
Adjutant General's Branch  
Dte Gen of Medical Services (Army)  
Defence Office Complex  
'A' Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, KG Marg  
New Delhi - 110001

B/76782/Medical Entitlement/Ruling/DGMS-5B

18 Oct 2023

HQ Southern Comd (A)	HQ Southern Comd (Med)
HQ Eastern Comd (A)	HQ Eastern Comd (Med)
HQ Western Comd (A)	HQ Western Comd (Med)
HQ Central Comd (A)	HQ Central Comd (Med)
HQ Northern Comd (A)	HQ Northern Comd (Med)
HQ South West Comd (A)	HQ South West Comd (Med)
HQ ARTRAC	

**INTERIM MEDICAL ENTITLEMENT CARD FOR SERVING PERSONNEL DEPENDENTS  
BENEFICIARIES ENTITLED TO MEDICAL/ DENTAL TREATMENT  
FROM SERVICE HOSPITALS**

1. The Armed Forces through its med est provides comprehensive curative and preventive health care to the Service personnel & their dependents. The Army Medical Corps has its primary role of combat medical care through the Mil Hosps, Fd Hosps and unit MI rooms.
2. An ASEC review of AH (R&R) and BHDC had observed steep rise in number of dependents being treated and recommended to review the process of issue of dependent cards. The Dte Gen has also received complaints of fraudulently prepared dependent cards which have been utilised to avail medical services by several non-entitled members/relatives of Service personnel.
3. Currently the card in use by dependents is as per appx 'B' of AO 74/75 which only governs the Travel Concession in Indian Airlines and not as per the authorised format given in AO 120/80, which is specific for medical attendance.
4. Henceforth, **the Dependent Card as per AO 74/75 in vogue will not be accepted as dependent card for Medical Entitlement in hospitals wef 01 Feb 2024.** Any dependent producing dependent card as per this format will be denied medical treatment wef 01 Feb 2024. The authorised format is as per AO 120/80 and Indian Navy & Indian Air Force hosps are also requested to accept this new format & reject the old one as above.
5. Apropos, comprehensive revision of AO 120/80 is under process, encompassing the procedure for issue of cards, actions to be taken on loss of cards, checks and balances to ascertain dependency, etc. However, in the interim the Appx A of AO 120/80 has been amended. The format of the amended **Medical Entitlement Certificate (MEC)** is at **Appx A** to this letter.

6. The following aspects pertaining to issue of the MEC by the units/ Stn HQs is enumerated for strict implementation on priority:

(a) Issuing Auth

- (i) CO/ Comdt of units not below the rank of Col will be the issuing auth of MEC.
- (ii) Stn Cdr/ Adm Comdt of Stn will be issuing auth for pers of smaller units commanded by Lt Col and below.

(b) Criteria of Dependency

- (i) The definition for family of oftrs and JCO/ OR is enumerated in Defence Service Regulations - Regulations for the Medical Services of the Armed Forces-2010 (RMSAF-2010) (**Copy at Appx B**).
- (ii) Income Criteria for parents The current income limit from all sources of parents to be deemed as dependent is ₹ 9000/- per month as specified vide this Dte Gen letter No B/76785/Policy/Income Limit/DGMS-5B dt 18 Sep 2017 (**copy at Appx C**). Service personnel will deposit the Income Certificate of parents issued by **Revenue Dept of District or Annual Income Certificate (AIS)** as issued by the Income Tax Dept, which will be used to ascertain the income limit of parents.

(c) Procedure for issue of MEC

- (i) Personal Application will be submitted by Service personnel to the issuing auth.
- (ii) Requisite Part II orders or Field Service Documents ascertaining the relationship and dependency will be submitted with the application.
- (iii) A self attested copy of Aadhar Card will also be submitted alongwith original during initial registration and issue of MEC.
- (iv) The issuing auth will scrutinize the submitted documents. OC of minor units will check for all documents of unit pers and will fwd the documents to issuing auth in the Stn HQ.
- (v) The issuing auth will issue the MEC on ascertaining correctness of documents as per Appx A, where details of all dependents will be endorsed in a legible manner.
- (vi) The number of original MEC cards will be equal to the number of dependents endorsed on the MEC, so that each dependant has an indl card.
- (vii) Any submission of falsified info by the Service personnel and failure to check for correctness by the issuing auth, is liable for administrative action as per Section 57 of Army Act 1950. Hence due diligence be followed during the issue of MEC.

(d) Validity The validity of the MEC will be for **three years** from the date of issue or till the date of promulgation of the Army Order on the subject, whichever is earlier.

7. HQ Comd (A) only

(a) Necessary instructions be issued to all units in the AOR for immediate implementation of issue of MECs by issuing auths. Zone of responsibilities for Minor units be assigned accordingly. No representations/ complaints with respect to failure to produce MEC after 01 Feb 2024 and denial of treatment to the clientele will be entertained.

(b) However, treatment of emergency cases reporting to Mil hospitals will not be denied. Such cases will be admitted and treated. Hospitals will info the unit about such admission, which will process the MEC and fwd a copy of same on ASIGMA to the hospital. Fmn Cdrs should be instructed to take appropriate Adm action against non-complying units.

(c) Dependents will be required to carry the MEC along with a copy of Aadhar for verification by the hospital authorities, till such time that the Aadhar biometric terminals are established at the hospitals.

(d) Aadhar Biometric terminals for identification of the individuals will be introduced in due course.

8. HQ Comd (Med) only

(a) Necessary instructions be issued to hospitals in the AOR to stop accepting the existing dependent card with effect from 01 Feb 2024. Wide dissemination in the Stn/ AOR be carried out repeatedly.

(b) However, medical attendance, admission and treatment in emergency cases will not be denied to dependents. Units of such cases will be given a signal for forwarding the MEC at the earliest by ASIGMA.

(c) Dependents will produce their MEC along with the copy of Aadhar card for verification (Aadhar card on Digilocker will also be accepted) till such time that the Aadhar Biometric terminals are installed by the Stn HQ authorities.

(d) Aadhar Biometric terminals, when made available, will be placed at hosp reception to verify the particulars as endorsed in the MECs produced at the time of admission.

9. Necessary instructions as deemed appropriate be issued to units in the AOR for strict implementation of issue of MEC in a time bound manner.

10. Relevant AO 120/80 is being amended.

11. This has the approval of competent authority.



(VS Grewal)  
Col  
Col Med (Health)  
For DGMS (Army)

**MEDICAL ENTITLEMENT CERTIFICATE (MEC) – VER 2.0**  
**(TO BE PRODUCED ALONG WITH AADHAR CARD)**

CARD 1/5

1. This is to certify that No. \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Corps \_\_\_\_\_ has a family with  
dependent members, details of whom are as given below: -

Ser No	Relationship	Name	Age	Identification Marks	Aadhar Number
(a)					
(b)					
(c)					
(d)					
(e)					

2. Certified that the children and/ or parents are directly dependent on the serving soldier.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Issuing Auth

(Not below the rank of Col)

Name:

Rank:

Appt:

ASCON :

Office civ tele No:

Stamp of the Office Seal with date  
Date of Issue:

**Note:**

1. Validity of this MEC is **THREE (03)** years from date of issue.
2. Original copy to be kept with indl/ dependent. Hence, No of copies ink signed will be as per No of dependents (i.e. 04 dependents will be issued 04 ink signed MECs) and numbered 1/5, 2/5 etc.

## DEFINITIONS

1. **Civil Surgeon** means a doctor in civil employ appointed as such or his authorized substitute by the central or a state government.

2. **Armed Forces Personnel** means Officers, Nursing Officers, JCOs, PBOR of the Army and equivalent ranks of the Navy and Air Force, whose emoluments are debitable to the Defence Services Estimates.

3. **Family Officer's** means, for the purpose of medical attendance, his wife/her husband, wholly dependent parents and the officer's unmarried children, including step children adopted children and widowed daughters who are dependent on the officer. It also includes the officer's servants. It does not include children adopted by an unmarried officer, nor an officer's children given away in adoption, nor children adopted by an officer widower/widow, unless the child was adopted before the officer became a widower/widow or, unless the officer has other children who are entitled to medical attendance. The children of a divorced officer are not included unless the officer has been made their legal custodian, even though the officer may contribute to their maintenance. The wife of an officer legally separated from him and his children (under 18 years) in her custody will also be included, so long as the officer is responsible for their maintenance.

(a) **Wholly dependent parents** means parents who normally reside with the officer and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs 3,500/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs 3,500/- as on the date of consideration.

4. **Family JCOs, PBOR and equivalent ranks in the Navy and Air Force** means, for the purpose of medical attendance his wife, wholly dependent unmarried children, which include step children or adopted children who are dependent on him. It does not include children adopted by an unmarried JCO, PBOR etc., nor a JCO, PBOR, widowers unless the child was adopted before he became a widower or unless he has other children of his own who are entitled to medical attendance. The children of a divorced JCO, PBOR, NCE's etc are not included unless he has been made their legal custodian, even though he may contribute to their maintenance. It also includes his wife legally separated from him and his children (under 18 years) in her custody, so long as he is responsible for their maintenance.

(a) **Wholly dependent parents** means, parents, who normally reside with the JCOs, etc. and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs 3,500/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs 3,500/- as on the date of consideration.

5. **Family civilian's** (in Defence Services employ) means, for the purpose of medical attendance a Government servant's wife or husband, as the case may be, and parents, children and step-children wholly dependent upon the Government servant. It does not include children adopted by an unmarried civilian or an official's children given away in adoption, or children adopted by a civilian widower/widow, unless the child was adopted before the civilian became widower/widow, or unless the official has other children who are entitled to medical attendance. The children of a divorced civilian are not included unless the official has been made their legal custodian, even though the official may contribute to their maintenance. It also includes the official's wife legally separated and the children (under 18 years) in her custody, so long as the official is responsible for their maintenance.

6. **Extras** means extra articles of food and drink that may be issued to patients on a hospital/diet.

7. **Medical comforts** means certain articles of food and drink that may be issued to a patient treated in a non-dieted Hospital/sickbay/station medicare center from the list of medical comforts in accordance with the orders in force.

### 8. Nursing

(a) **Ordinary Nursing** means nursing provided by members of the Military Nursing Services, Army Medical Corps, Medical assistants of the Navy and Medical assistants of the Air Force.

(b) **Special Nursing** means nursing provided in a hospital of the Armed Forces or in quarters by the employment of private nurses.

9. **Causes within an individual's control** means disease or injury caused by misconduct, neglect or carelessness and certified as such by a medical officer of the Armed Forces.

10. **Hospital unless otherwise specified** means Armed Forces hospitals/Sick Bay/ Station Medicare Centers;

11. **Unit unless otherwise specified** means Units/Ship/ Establishment.

12. **Dental Centre unless otherwise specified** means Dental Centre/ Dental unit.

13. **Navy** means Indian Navy and **Air Force** means Indian Air Force.

B/76785/Policy/Income Limit /DGMS-5B

18 Sep 2017

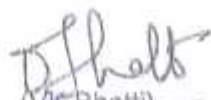
Headquarters  
Southern Command (Med)  
Eastern Command (Med)  
Western Command (Med)  
Central Command (Med)  
Northern Command (Med)  
South Western Command (Med)

INCOME LIMIT FOR DEPENDENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
MEDICAL ATTENDANCE

1. Ref Govt of India, Min of Defence letter No 18840/DGAFMS/DG-3A/1662/17/D(Medical) dt 04 Sep 2017 (copy encl).
2. A case with regard to revision of income limit for dependency for the purpose of medical attendance was processed with MoD/D(Med) through O/o DGAFMS. Accordingly, MoD/D(Med) vide its sanction letter has revised the income limit for wholly dependants parents of Officers and JCOs/OR.
3. The following has been directed:-
  - (a) The Definition in Para 3(a), Page xxiii (Definition) in RMSAF-2010 (copy encl) is amended to read as:-

"Wholly dependent parents means parents who normally reside with the officer and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs. 9000/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration".
  - (b) The Definition in Para 4 (a), Page xxiii (Definitions) in RMSAF-2010 (copy encl) is amended to read as:-

"Wholly dependent parents means parents who normally reside with the JCOs etc and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs. 9000/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration".
4. The contents of the letter may please be disseminated to all med units in your AOR for strict compliance.

  
(VK Bhatti)  
Col  
Dir MS (Health)  
for DGMS (Army)

Encl: As above

Copy to:-

- |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| AG's Br      | - | for info and dissemination to envt through 'A' channel along with a copy of Govt sanction letter. |
| DGAFMS/DG-3A | - | for info wrt your note No Approv/CC/Rev of Income Limit/18840/DGAFMS/DG-3A dt 07 Sep 2017.        |

To,

The Director General  
Armed Forces Medical Services  
New Delhi

Subject: Definition of term 'family' of Armed Forces Personnel for the purpose of medical attendance/treatment.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to say that:-

(a) The Definition in Para 3(a), Page xxiii (Definitions) in RMSAF-2010 is amended to read as:-

“Wholly dependent parents means parents who normally reside with the officer and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs. 9000/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration.”

(b) The definition in Para 4 (a), Page xxiii (Definitions) in RMSAF-2010 is amended to read as:-

“Wholly dependent parents means parents who normally reside with the JCOs etc and whose total monthly income does not exceed Rs. 9000/- plus the amount of dearness relief on basic pension of Rs. 9000/- as on the date of consideration.”

2. This letter issues with the concurrence of the Ministry of Defence (Finance) vide their U.O. No. 336/AG/PD/2017 dated 30.8.2017.

Yours faithfully



(A.K. Tewari)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Tele: 2301 9546

Copy to:

The CGDA, New Delhi

The DADS, New Delhi

The CDAs (SC) Pune, (EC) Patna, (WC) Chandigarh

The Chief of Army Staff, the Chief of Naval Staff, The Chief of Air Staff

AFA(AF/PD), AFA(Navy), AFA(Air)

DGMS(Army), DGMS(Navy), DGMS(Air)

DGAFMS/DG-3A