

Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 relating to clinical trials have recently been amended as follows:

- (i) Amendment *vide* Gazette Notification G.S.R. 53 (E) dated 30-01-2013 specifying procedures to analyse the reports of Serious Adverse Events occurring during clinical trials and procedures for payment of compensation in case of trial related injury or death as per prescribed timelines.
- (ii) Amendment *vide* Gazette Notification G.S.R. 63(E) dated 01-02-2013 specifying various conditions for conduct of clinical trials, authority for conducting clinical trial inspections and actions in case of non-compliance.
- (iii) The registration of the Ethics Committees has been made mandatory in the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules *vide* Gazette Notification G.S.R No. 72(E) Dated 08.02.13 specifying requirements and guidelines for registration of Ethics Committee.

Areas of concern in public health

3819. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the areas of concern in public health in the country;
- (b) whether any of our medical institutions like AIIMS, Delhi or PGI, Chandigarh have formulated research programmes to address these areas of concern;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The areas of concern in public health in the country are the traditional communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, kala azar, diarrheal diseases in children and adults; malnutrition and deficiency of critical nutrients such as iodine, vitamin A, vitamin D; and cancers. Besides, several new diseases of public health concern have emerged in the light of changing life style in India such as diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer and chronic

lungs disease, HIV/AIDS. AIIMS under guidance of the Research Advisory Committee/Council has identified all these areas and Faculty and Scientists are engaged in Research. Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, has set up a public health surveillance unit at School of Public Health which keeps a constant eye on various notifiable diseases and undertakes investigation of suspected outbreaks. PGIMER also has a Public Health Surveillance Committee with representation from various departments.

Lack of ultrasound machines at major hospitals in Delhi

†3820. CHAUDHARY MUNABBAR SALEEM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no ultrasound machines in the maternity wards at Ram Manohar Lohia, AIIMS, Safdarjung and Hindu Rao Hospitals in Delhi and pregnant ladies and infants are dying due to lack of these machines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of pregnant women and infants died in these hospitals from 2003 to 2013, hospital-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) As far as Dr. RML Hospital is concerned, one Ultrasound machine is available for pregnant patients in Maternity Nursing Home. Safdarjung Hospital has five nos. working ultrasound machines of which four have color Doppler. They are regularly performing ultrasound examination on all the patients referred from Maternity/Gynae Wards and OPDs.

In both these hospitals, no women/infant has died due to unavailability of Ultrasound Machine. In so far as AIIMS is concerned, ultrasound machines are available in the labour room which is used to for diagnosis of various conditions related to pregnancy and child birth. Pregnant women who are registered in the ante-natal clinic (ANC) are regularly sent for carrying out ultrasound tests as and when advised by treating doctors. The details of number of pregnant women and infants died in the above stated hospitals are given in the Statement (*See below*). Since Hindu Rao Hospital is under the jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation of Delhi, no such information is maintained centrally.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.