

ECHS SMART CARD

1. Refer our following letters :-
 - (a) B/49711/AG/ECHS dated 07 Sep 2005.
 - (b) B/49711/AG/ECHS dated 08 Nov 2005
 - (c) B/49711-SC/AG/ECHS dated 04 Jan 2006.
 - (d) B/49711/AG/ECHS dated 13 Mar 2008
 - (e) B/49711/AG/ECHS dated 14 Aug 2008.

2. ECHS is constantly striving to improve the quality of service being provided to the beneficiaries. For this purpose complete automation of polyclinic process is being undertaken. Further there is a need to strengthen the verification process both at polyclinic and empanelled hospital level. For this purpose the existing smart card needs to be upgraded to have good quality photograph and adequate storage space for data capture (minimum 32 KB chip).

3. Veterans during the annual ECHS Seminar had desired that each member should have an individual card to provide flexibility of treatment across the country as per their requirement.

4. The matter has been deliberated upon and it has been decided to introduce individual ECHS smart card per beneficiary having good quality colour photograph and a 32 KB memory chip. The upgraded smart card will be mandatory for new members joining the scheme with effect from 01 Jun 2010 to facilitate recording of complete medical history in the chip, authentication of beneficiary at polyclinic/empanelled hospital and other **IT** enabled services. With introduction of one card per beneficiary there will be no requirement of remanufacturing the card on change of parent polyclinic. The same will be done online.

5. Existing members will have the option of continuing with the current card albeit with limited facilities or to opt for the new card. The dependant cards of parents and children will have to be reactivated after two years for the purpose of strengthening verification and vigilance.

6. The above contents may please be disseminated to all concerned.

7. The letters as mentioned at Para 1 (a) to (e) above are hereby superseded.

Offg Dir (Ops & Coord)
for MD ECHS