

XIII) Particulars of recipients of concessions, permits of authorities granted by CSACS.

BENEFITS TO HIV POSITIVE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

BY CHANDIGARH STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY

From Mother to Child, chances of HIV transmission from HIV positive pregnant women to her new born are 20-30%, during pregnancy, at the time of delivery and when mother breast feed her baby (through breast milk). With certain precautions and prophylaxis, this transmission can be reduced to 2 – 8%.

The following are the services provided to HIV positive Mothers and Children by Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society.

1. Counseling Services

- a. Special units named ICTC (Pregnant Women) are established at Obs. & Gynae OPDs in the Major Govt. Hospitals to provide counseling services and free HIV testing. These service centres are PGIMER, GMCH-32, GMSH-16 and other Health Facilities – Maternal and Child Health Centre (MCH)-22, Civil Hospital Manimajra, ESI Ramdarbar, Polyclinic-45 and Police Hospital.
- b. Outreach activities by Counselors of ICTCs to provide Psycho-socio support to HIV positive pregnant women.

2. Anti Retroviral Drugs (ARV) prophylaxis to positive pregnant women.

At PGIMER, this service is provided from second trimester onward. At the time of delivery Nevirapine Prophylaxis is provided at other hospitals to both mother and baby to prevent HIV transmission to the new born.

3. Free safe delivery kits:

These kits are provided to the Hospital for conducting delivery of positive pregnant women.

4. Early Infant Screening:

Through Dried Blood Spots (DBS) and Whole Blood Testing babies born to HIV positive mothers tested at six weeks onwards.

5. Replacement Feed:

Commercial Milk Formula is provided to the babies born to HIV positive mothers till the age of six months to avoid transmission of HIV virus through breast milk.

A supply of 15 – 20 kg. is given to the mother for her infant to last for 6 months. Uptill now 300 packets of milk powder have been provided to 20 mothers.

6. **Septran Prophylaxis:-** It is given to the babies born to HIV positive mothers for prevention of Opportunistic Infections (OI).

7. **Free CD4 testing** alongwith baseline investigations done at PGIMER.

8. **Widow pension scheme and scholarship scheme for Children affected/infected with HIV:-**

The Chandigarh Administration had sanctioned a scheme for providing widow pension @ ` 1000/- per month to widows affected/infected with HIV and Scholarship to children affected/infected @ ` 700 per month. In this financial year, 20 widows and 104 children are benefitted under this scheme.

9. **AAY Cards** have been issued to the beneficiaries through the Department of Food and Civil Supply.

10. Financial assistance through a donation fund to meet emergency requirements.

11. Free travel through CTU buses from residence to PGIMER.