

A Study about Hospital Structure in India

OPEN ACCESS

Volume: 6

Issue: 3

Month: July

Year: 2018

ISSN: 2320-4168

Received: 16.07.2018

Accepted: 27.07.2018

Published: 30.07.2018

Citation:

M. Radhamani, and
M. Ponniah. "A Study
about Hospital Structure
in India." *Shanlax
International Journal of
Commerce*, vol. 6, no. 3,
2018, pp. 44–47

DOI:

[https://doi.org/10.5281/
zenodo.1323074](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1323074)

M. Radhamani

*Guest Lecturer, Department of Commerce
Government Arts College for Women, Nilakottai, Tamil Nadu, India*

Dr. M. Ponniah

*Associate Professor, Post Graduate and Research Department of Commerce
GTN Arts College, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India*

Abstract

Human beings make a society. Healthy human beings make a healthy society. However, every society has its share of unhealthy human beings. Illness, disease and invalidity may be a curse for society; but their victims certainly are not. They are as much a part of society as the healthiest of individuals. In the past, an individual affected by a wound or disease was condemned to suffer and fend for himself. In those primitive days, the healthy never assisted or looked after the affected. The practice was to consider such an affected person a spent-force and no longer useful to society. Thus complete isolation from society was the tragic lot of one who fell ill. No attempt was made to ascertain the causes and suggest cures for ailments. The belief, then was that illness was caused either by evil spirits or was a punishment for one's misdeeds. Later, the 'tribe' assumed the responsibility of looking after the sick who were considered victims of a magic spell, by appeasing or scaring away the evil spirits with a counter-curse. Illness creates dependency. The sick need medical treatment, nursing care and shelter. With the advent of the modern society, the institution developed to cater to the needs of the sick was the hospitals.

Keywords : Hospital, Patient, Health, Hospital System, Hospital Classification

Introduction

A hospital is an institution providing medical and surgical treatment and nursing care for sick or injured people. A hospital is a health care institution providing patient treatment with specialized medical and nursing staff and medical equipment. The best-known type of hospital is the general hospital, which typically has an emergency department to treat urgent health problems ranging from fire and accident victims to a heart attack. A district hospital typically is the major health care facility in its region, with large numbers of beds for intensive care and additional beds for patients who need long-term care. Specialised hospitals include trauma centers, rehabilitation hospitals, children's hospitals, seniors' (geriatric) hospitals, and hospitals for dealing with specific medical needs such as psychiatric treatment (see psychiatric hospital) and certain disease categories. Specialised hospitals can help reduce health care costs compared to general hospitals. A teaching hospital combines assistance to people with teaching to medical students and nurses. The medical facility smaller than a hospital is generally called a clinic. Hospitals have a range of departments (e.g., surgery and urgent care) and specialist units such as cardiology. Some hospitals have outpatient departments and some have chronic treatment units. Common support units include a pharmacy, pathology, and radiology.

Hospitals are usually funded by the public sector, health organizations (for profit or nonprofit), health insurance companies, or charities, including direct charitable donations. Historically, hospitals were often founded and funded by religious orders, or by charitable individuals and leaders.

Hospital System and Function

When a patient enters a hospital, many groups are involved inside and outside the hospital. Inside, the patient is concerned with admission, doctors, nurses, dietetics, the business office, and housekeepers, to name only a few. Externally, the patient is involved with relatives, friends and (sometimes) a third party- the payer, and is influenced by government regulations, accreditation and community, to name a few. The key input of the hospital is the patient- the other important inputs are the skill and knowledge of the doctors, nurses, support staff, the level of sophistication of the equipment utilized, etc. Six such stages are given below:

1. Admission
2. Diagnosis
3. Treatment
4. Inspection
5. Control
6. Discharge

These stages do not exist separately, but are interlinked. The three major components of the internal hospital system are:

1. The medical staff who diagnose, admit and treat patients, and perform quality control procedure through their para medical staff organization.
2. Programmes for the detection of illness and direct care and cure of patients such as nursing, x-ray and laboratory.
3. Support and administrative services such as record keeping finance and administration.

Some of the main functions of hospitals are:

1. Patient Care Function: It is important to remember that, besides treatment, the attitudes and behavioral pattern of health professionals are known to have an important influence on patient care as they are directly related to the quality of care.

2. Providing a Workshop for Physicians: It has to be understood that the physician is not so much a part of the hospital, as the hospital is part of the physician's practice.
3. Working As Community Health Centre: Hospitals have increasingly taken up a proactive role to improve the health of the population they serve. Rather sticking to the reactive role of crisis care.

Serving the institution itself by achieving perpetuation, growth and prestige for an institution, its staff and community.

Classification of Hospitals

Hospitals have been classified into many ways. The most commonly accepted criteria for the classification of the modern hospitals are; (a) ownership control basis. (b) length of stay of patients and (c) clinical basis

Classification According to Ownership/Control

By ownership or control, hospitals can be divided into four categories, namely, public hospitals, voluntary hospitals, private nursing homes and corporate hospitals.

Public Hospitals

Public hospitals are those run by the Central Government, state governments or local bodies on non-commercial lines. These hospitals may be general hospitals or specialized hospitals or both. General hospitals are those who provide treatment for common diseases, where as specialized hospitals provide treatment for specific diseases like infectious diseases, cancer, eye diseases, psychiatric ailments, etc.

Voluntary Hospitals

Voluntary hospitals are those which are established and incorporated under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or Public Trust Act, 1882 or any other appropriate Act of the Central or state government. They are run with public or private funds on a non-commercial basis.

A board of trustees, usually comprising prominent members of the community and retired high officials

of the government, manages such hospitals. The board appoints an administrator and a medical director to run such voluntary hospitals. These hospitals spend more on patient care than what they receive from the patients. However, the main sources of their revenue are public and private donations, and grants-in-aid from the Central Government, the state government, and from philanthropic organizations, both national and international. Thus, voluntary hospitals run on a 'no profit, no loss' basis.

Private Nursing Homes

Private nursing homes are generally owned by an individual doctor or a group of doctors. They admit patients are suffering from infirmity, advanced age, illness, injury, chronic disability, etc., or those who are convalescing, but they do not admit patients are suffering from communicable diseases, alcoholism, drug-addiction or mental illness.

These nursing homes are run on a commercial basis. Naturally, the ordinary citizen cannot usually afford to get medical treatment there. However, these nursing homes are becoming more and more popular due to the shortage of government and voluntary hospitals. Secondly, wealth patients do not want to get treatment at public hospitals due to long queues of patients and the shortage of medical as well as nursing staff leading to a lack of medical and nursing care.

Corporate Hospitals

The latest concept is of corporate hospitals which are public limited companies formed under the Companies Act. They are normally run on commercial lines. They can be either general or specialized or both.

Classification According to Length of Stay of Patients

A patient stays for a short-term in a hospital for treatment of diseases such as pneumonitis, appendicitis, gastroenteritis, etc. A patient may stay for a long-term in a hospital for treatment of diseases such as tuberculosis, cancer, schizophrenia, etc. Therefore, a hospital may fall either under the category of long-term or short-term according to the diseases and treatment provided.

Classification According to Clinical Basis

Some hospitals are licensed as general hospitals while others as a specialized hospital. In a general hospital, patients are treated for all kinds of diseases such as pneumonitis, typhoid, fever etc., at in a specialized hospital; patients are treated only for those diseases for which that hospital has been set up, such as heart diseases, tuberculosis, cancer, maternity, ophthalmic diseases, etc.

Classification According to Directory of Hospitals

The Directory of Hospitals in India-1988 lists the various types of hospitals and the types of management.

Types of Hospital

1. General hospital. All establishments permanently staffed by at least two or more medical officers, which can offer in-patient accommodation and provide active medical and nursing care for more than one category of medical discipline (e.g., general medicine, general surgery, obstetrics)
2. Rural hospital. Hospitals located in rural areas (classified by the Registrar General of India) permanently staffed by at least one or more physicians, which offer in-patient accommodation and provide medical and nursing care for more than one category of medical discipline (e.g., general medicine, general surgery and obstetrics.)
3. Specialized hospital. Hospitals providing medical and nursing care primarily for only one discipline or specific diseases (e.g., tuberculosis, ENT, eyes, leprosy, orthopedic, pediatrics, gynecological, cardiac, mental, cancer, infectious disease, and venereal diseases)
4. Teaching hospital. Hospital to which a college is attached is attached for medical/dental education.
5. Tertiary hospital. States and Central Government set up tertiary hospitals in their capitals where referred patients are treated such as AIIMS, New Delhi, P.G.I. Chandigarh, Sanjay Gandhi, P.G.I. Lucknow, etc.

Types of Management

1. Central Government/Government of India. All hospitals administered by the Government of India, viz, hospitals run by the railways, military/ defense, mining/ESI/Post & Telegraphs, or public sector undertakings of the Central Government.
2. State government. All hospitals administered by the state /UT government authorities and public sector undertaking operated by states /UTs, including the police, jail, canal departments and others.
3. Local bodies. All the hospitals administered by local bodies, viz the municipal corporation, municipality, Zila parished, panchayat.
4. Private. All private hospitals owned by an individual or by a private organization.
5. Autonomous body. All hospitals established under a special Act of Parliament / State legislation and funded by the Central / State government / U.T., e.g., AIIMS (New Delhi) PGI, Chandigarh.
6. Voluntary organization. All hospitals operated by a voluntary body /a trust / charitable society registered or recognized by the appropriate authority under Central/State government laws. This includes hospitals run by missionary bodies and co-operatives.
7. Corporate body. A hospital run by a public limited company. Its shares can be purchased by the public and dividend distributed among its shareholders.

Conclusion

The Hospital personnel is required to employ a qualified administrator to keep accurate records, to provide facilities consistent with community needs, to determine fair policies, to set professional standards and to provide protection to the patients during their stay in their hospital. There should be neither solicitation for patients nor undesired publicity of any kind whatsoever. Similarly, personnel of the various professions and avocations are required to maintain the dignity and honor of their profession of discharging their responsibilities to ensure that all patients receive the best care without any unnecessary delay; secrecy about their diseases is maintained and

they are not harassed in any way-neither by soliciting favors nor by accepting monetary rewards

No one including the treating physician and the nurse has the right to expose the patient unnecessarily. Violation of this rule means the loss of confidence of a patient in the hospital staff. Therefore, each and every hospital personnel including the physician, nurse, laboratory and X-ray technicians, physiotherapists, and others should avoid all those acts which would lead to the loss of trust of the patients because whatever a patient tells, he does so in good faith and expects that all the information will be kept secret and used only for treatment purpose. Therefore, it is for practical reasons that sincerity, reliability, sobriety and calm/balanced temperament are required of those who are caring for the sick and injured, otherwise, the hospital may lose its respect not only in the eyes of the patient but also of the community because each patient belongs to one community or the other.

References

- Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary, W.B.Saunders Co., Philadelphia, 1961, p.629.
- Stone, JE., (1939). "Hospital organization and Management", *Faber & Faber*, London, p.98.
- Washington, DC., (1954). "A Report of the Commission on University Education for Administration in Hospitals". *American Council on Education*, pp.10-11.

Websites

- http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/40985/14/14_chapter%203.pdf
- <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/513551163732596415/>
- <https://www.myqbd.com/qatar-categories/9415/hospital>
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hospitals>
- <https://vdocuments.site/documents/mrinali-baburao-tikare.html>
- <https://www.slideshare.net/arokiamanojkumar/demand-forecast-of-hospitals-in-india>
- <https://www.qries.com/What-are-the-Types-of-Hospital-according-to-Directory-of-Hospitals>