

No. F.12011/32/2014-PNDT
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(PNDT Section)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 9th October, 2014.

To
The Chairperson
State Appropriate Authorities,
All States/UTs

श्री. कल्याण कुमार शर्मा
D/O, Ministry of Health
Sub-Dir. (HC), Daman
State Appropriate Authority No. 5373
Date: 16/10/14

Subject: Clarification regarding the use of portable ultrasound machines/
portability of ultrasound machines – reg.

Sir/ Madam,

Various representations have been received in this Ministry seeking clarification on the use of portable ultrasound machines. The issue was examined in the Ministry and the following is stated in this regard:-

- (i) As per Rule 3B (1) of the PC & PNDT Rules, 1996, the use of portable ultrasound machine or any other portable machine or device which has the potential for selection of sex before conception or detection of sex during pregnancy shall be permitted only in the following conditions; namely-
- (a) The portable machines being used, within the premises it is registered for providing services to the indoor patients and
- (b) As a part of a mobile medical unit offering a bouquet of other health and medical services;
- (ii) For the purpose of this sub-rule, it is explained in the Explanation that the expression, "other health and medical services" means a host of services provided by the mobile medical unit which include curative, reproductive and child health services, family planning services, diagnostic investigation, specialized facilities & services and emergency services as specified under Explanation from (i) to (vi) under Rule 3B (1).

2. With regard to regulation of services to be offered by mobile Genetic Clinic under Rule 3B (2), the following have been prescribed –

- (a) A Mobile Genetic Clinic shall operate and offer pre-natal diagnostic techniques, **only as part of a Mobile Medical Unit offering a bouquet of**

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other health and medical services in urban slums or rural or remote or hilly or hard to reach areas for improved access to health care services by under-served populations.


- (b) The machine under no circumstances shall be used for sex determination of the foetus.
- (c) The stand alone mobile ultrasound clinics offering only pre-natal diagnostic facilities are prohibited.
- (d) The mobile unit offering diagnostic services shall have adequate space for providing the facilities to patients.

3. A close reading of the provisions of Rule 3B (1) and 3B (2) of the PC & PNDT Rules, 1996, clearly reveals that there is no ambiguity in the rules needing further clarification.

4. It is therefore reiterated that portable machines/portability of ultrasound machines are banned except under the circumstances specified above.

5. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority. The contents of this letter may be brought to the notice of all concerned for compliance.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr.R.P.Meena) 9/10/2014
Director (PNDT)
Tel: 011-23063628

Copy to:- Nodal Officers (PNDT) of all States/UTs.