

Oral Health Care Behind The Bars (A Review on Dental Department of Tihar Jail, Delhi, India)

SOLANKI N¹

ABSTRACT

The Article depicts organisation set-up of Dental Department in Central Jail Hospital, Tihar New Delhi. No research had been carried out in past regarding functioning of Medical or Dental care of Tihar Jail or any other Jail of our country. In addition, there was studies about research in Dental Care are very limited. In addition to above, an effort is also made to show quality & difficulties encounter by the dental personal while working in CJH.

It is an effort to show the difference in Dental Practice between a General & Prison based Dental set-up.

Keywords: Oral Health, Prison, Tihar, Inmates, Central Jail Hospital (CJH).

¹ Senior Lecturer
Department of Paedodontics &
Preventive Dentistry
Krishna Dental College, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh, India.

INTRODUCTION

Tihar Jail is the largest jail in south Asia, situated in Delhi, India. It consists of 8 Jails in Tihar Complex & one in Rohini area, including of 1 jail for convicted, 1 for

women, 1 for adolescence & rest all for under trail.

Central Jail Hospital is multi-speciality Hospital started for Prisoners of Tihar Jail. It is located inside the Prison compound and no general public is allowed to enter in prison to avail medical facilities.

Patient is also referred to other big super speciality hospital for better treatment. Special Diet is also give in case of oral disease, trauma or post-surgery condition. Round the clock Dispensary provide Oral Hygiene tools like Tooth Brush, Tooth paste ,Medicines like Antibiotics & Analgesic, antacids, Muscles relaxants etc. are freely available at pharmacy.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT

Civil Assistant Surgeon: He is the head of Dental Department. He is stationed in CJH & work under the Resident Medical Officer. This post is filled by the UPSC or on adhoc basic by the Health Ministry of Delhi Government.



Figure 1: Central Jail

Contact Author

Dr. Neeraj Solanki
drneerajsolanki@yahoo.co.in

J Oral Health Comm Dent 2015;9(2)90-91



Figure 2: Denture Camp Is Also Organized By Various Ngo Affiliated To Tihar Jail.

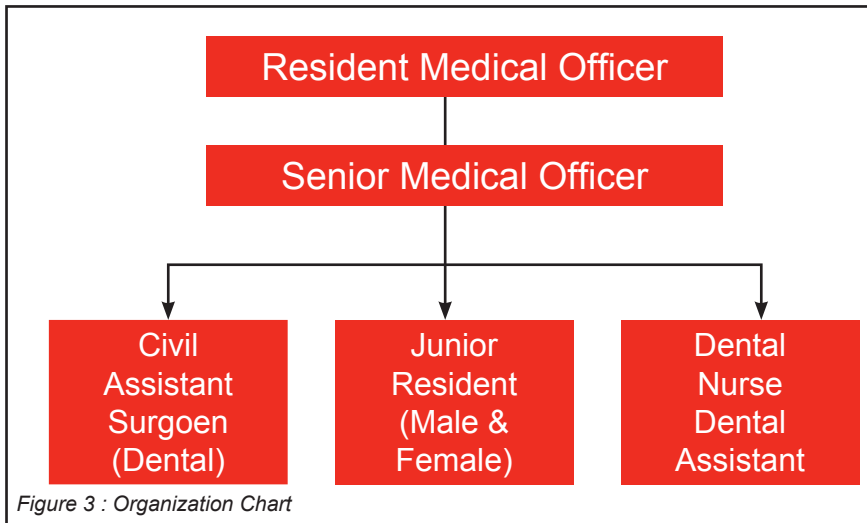


Figure 3 : Organization Chart

He is responsible for all the Dental Activities as well as reply of all the queries made by the court in relation to any of inmate. At present, Post of CAS(Dental) is lying vacant from last approx.. 5 years.

He also take part in selection of Junior Residents who work under CAS(Dental) in rotational duties. Generally, two Junior Resident are selected: one male for male inmates & one female for female inmates. In absence of CAS (Dental), Junior residents are solely responsible for Dental care and work directly in under Senior Medical Officer (S.M.O.)

Junior Resident (Male): He work in rotational duties & visit one jail each morning, complete OPD & refer those patient who require dental treatment to CJH. Once in a week, he is responsible to visit Rohini Jail.

Junior Resident (Female): She is stationed in CJH except one day visit to Female Jail. Female Prison (Jail No.-6)

consists of Dental operatory with Dental Chair & all require instruments& Medicaments. Female Jail also consists of crèche & Nursery for inmates children. Hence, she is responsible for oral health care of Female & Pediatric Population of Prison.

PARAMEDICAL STAFF

Dental Nurse & Dental Assistant are one each for Dental Department. They are not trained dentally or they do not have any Dental degree but working for years on temporary basis.

EQUIPMENT & DENTAL MATERIAL

Ample amount of equipment ranging from Rotary endo-motar to RVG are indented in Dental Department. All necessary dental cements & medicaments are also available in the department.

The dental department like other government hospital do not have any facility for prosthodontics work. Hence, all such patients either waits for Dental camp organise in compound time to

time or are referred to tertiary hospital for rehabilitation treatment.

DEFICIENCIES OF DENTAL DEPARTMENT

- Post of CAS (Dental) is lying vacant and there is no post of any Dental specialist.
- Staff is not sufficient for each a huge patient.
- No dental care is available at night, hence patient are either kept on analgesics or referred to Tertiary hospital.
- Only 4 out of 9 jails have dental operatory in them. Rest all have nothing in name of Dental department.
- No effort is given on Preventive Dentistry.
- Lack of oral health awareness programs.
- Not much importance as compare to other department like Medicine or Orthopaedics is given to Dental Department.
- Distribution of Oral Hygiene products is not up to the mark.
- Referral of high profile inmates are difficult to transfer from inter-jail or to tertiary Hospitals.

CONCLUSION

Oral Health is widely neglected in Prison from past decade. Oral Health is limited to oral examination, simple restorations, Extractions, limited oral Prophylaxis & occasionally Root Canal Treatment.

All these Deficiencies can be corrected by a joint effort of Prison & Health Ministry

*Personal photography is prohibited inside the Prison Premises. Hence, photographs in the article are taken from Website of Tihar Prison.

REFERENCES

1. Department of Tihar: Government of Delhi. Retrieved 2014-05-08.
2. Tihar Prison in India: More devoted than Jail: The Economist 2012-05-05
3. www.delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/lib_centraljail/...Jail