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From:

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To:
The Honorable Prime Minister of India
Government Of India
Honorable Shri Narendra Modiji

Subject: Regarding

- 1. Designate Indian perfusionists as "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST"
- 2. Separate ISCO Code for "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST"
- 3. CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST" should be under separate group

Honorable Sir,

A Perfusionist is a specialized Allied Health Services Professional, known as a *Clinical Perfusionist* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionist* who uses the heart-lung machine and temporarily replaces the function of Heart and Lungs i.e. patient's circulatory and respiratory function during cardiac surgery and other surgeries that require cardio pulmonary bypass to manage patient's physiological and metabolic demands. One of the most important role of *Clinical Perfusionist* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionist* is to keep a person alive and keep blood circulating and oxygen flowing to vital organs such as the brain, kidney, liver and intestines during serious procedures such as open heart surgery.

The Clinical Perfusionist or Cardio Vascular Perfusionist is a highly trained member of the cardiothoracic surgical team which consists of Cardiac Surgeons, Anesthesiologists, Physician assistants and Nurses. The Clinical Perfusionists or Cardio Vascular Perfusionists are solely responsible for the management of the physiological and metabolic demands of the cardiac surgical patients so that cardiac surgeon may operate on a still, unbeating heart. This is accomplish through the utilization of heart-lung machine as well as its associated components an oxygenator, filters, reservoirs and tubing. Other responsibilities of Clinical Perfusionists or Cardio Vascular Perfusionists include blood salvaging and auto transfusion in a variety of surgical procedures, implementation and management of the intra-aortic balloon counter pulsation, adult and infant extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) as well as monitoring of blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, anticoagulation, electrolytes, acid-base and blood-gas composition. In many tertiary hospitals, Clinical *Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* are also key personnel in placing and managing patients on LVAD (Left Ventricular Assist Device), RVAD (Right Ventricular Assist Device), BiVAD (Bi Ventricular Assist Device) as bridge to recovery or heart transplantation and supporting patients receiving lung or liver transplants. Role of Clinical Perfusionists or Cardio Vascular Perfusionists complex aortic surgery, complex congenital surgery is very crucial. In some hospitals Clinical Perfusionists can be involved in procurement of cardiothoracic donor organs for transplantation. Now the future technologies in cardiac surgery will be develop with robotic surgery.

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) during pandemic of Corona was very important. Without *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* it's not possible to run ECMO. ECMO Bridge to lung Transplant also. During ECMO *Clinical Perfusionist* or *Cardio Vascular* 

**Perfusionist** are doing more than 12 hours duty and their services are use in air ambulance to send cardiac patients with attached assist devices to the higher centre.

In operating rooms around the world dedicated surgeons perform skillful feats that save lives but they can't do it alone. There is a whole team of people in the operating room, each with a critical role to play in seeing patients through an operation. One of the most important role in this team is the *Clinical Perfusionist* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionist* - the person who knows how to operate the heart lung machines that keep a patient alive during serious procedure open heart surgery. The *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* are also operate machine that conserve blood and blood products. Besides the operation of the machinery itself, the *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* also has the critical role of keeping the surgical team and anesthesiologists informed about the patient's circulatory status. If the patient's circulation becomes compromised during the procedure, the surgeon will direct the *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* to take corrective measures and administer any needed medicines or blood products through the heart-lung machine.

Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology have recently come to understand that many Institutions / Hospitals in Government and Private, affiliated to various State Governments are coming forward to start Clinical Perfusion Training courses. But it is noticed that there is disparity in programs of Perfusion Training being offered by various Institutions. Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology have noticed that some institutions are offering One year or Two year Training after 12th Class (Intermediate), a few Institutions offering BSc Clinical Perfusion 3 ½ Year (inclusive of 6 month internship) after Intermediate and some Institutions Offering Two Year Post Graduate Diploma for B.Sc. graduates, and a few selected National Institutions offering M.Sc. Perfusion Technology course.

In this regard Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology have already taken up the matter with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, and the same is under follow up with The DEPARMENT RELATED PARLAIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY WELARE since 2008 for constituting *Perfusion Council/Board of India*. Government will register only those *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* whose basic qualification will be B.Sc. Perfusion or B.Sc. in any speciality with Two years Diploma/Degree in clinical perfusion. In the context of above background of perfusionist and his clinical responsibilities Indian Society of Extra Corporeal Technology have drawn some guidelines specifically for starting the Clinical Perfusion Courses and for admission stage.

## For Post Graduate Diploma in Perfusion

Two years duration: Admission should be based on Minimum Qualification of a BSc Degree in Life Sciences i.e Biological Science. Presently this course is being offered at NIMS, Hyderabad and in some other institutions.

## For B.Sc. Perfusion course

A candidate qualified in NEET or based on merit through scrutiny of applications received. This course is presently available at Amritha Vishwa Vidyapeetam University, Narayana Health at Bangalore, Manipal University, JIPMER Pondicherry etc.

## For M.Sc. Clinical Perfusion

A candidate on passing his BSc Perfusion or a Post Graduate Diploma holder in Perfusion Technology. This course is presently offered at AIIMS, New Delhi, Amritha Vihwa Vidyapeetam University, Kerala, Narayana Health at Bangalore, Sharda University, Greater Noida etc...

The admissions are to be restricted too in the ratio of One theatre / One perfusionist/ One Student only. The mass production of Perfusionists without employment opportunities will lead no where.

The faculty should consist of a Senior Perfusionist Tutor, Cardiac Anesthesiologist and Cardiac Surgeon. The board of examiners for such course should be consisting of 2 Senior Perfusionists, who are already involved in Teaching and training of Clinical Perfusionists i.e One Internal and One External apart from a Cardiac Surgeon and Cardiac Anesthesiologist.

In the circumstances I request you to follow the above guide lines made by Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology for admissions and start the course on above lines only, so that the best qualified *Clinical Perfusionists* or *Cardio Vascular Perfusionists* are produced in our country, in the interest of future of our nation and in public interest.

Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology have made representation to Hon'ble Dr Harsh Vardhan Ji, Ex Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda Ji Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi to designate Perfusionists as "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST" or "CARDIO VASCULAR PERFUSIONIST" throughout the Country. We have submitted approx. 30 supporting letters from President, Vice President, General Secretary of Indian Association of Cardiovascular Surgeons, Several Heads of Departments and Chief Cardiac Surgeons operating in India and abroad.

Indian Society Of Extra Corporeal Technology also have made a representation and made out our case before the Chairman and Members, Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family welfare on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2008 in the premises of RAJYA SABHA, stressing the need of creating a regulatory body on the lines of a Council or Board for streamlining and for regularizing the education pattern and profession by the Government of India in the field of Clinical Perfusion.

We are marching towards a better India. Only healthy people can build a stronger India. Quality health care is an important factor in a nation's building. Getting quality health care is the right of every citizen and to provide it is the responsibility of a committed government. ISECT will stood with the authorities for providing better quality in our limited but lifesaving area of health care. These are the basic and immediate requirements that to be sorted out. ISECT is always there to improve the professional skill of Indian Perfusionists and we are ready to co-operative with any moves of the authorities whole heartedly for the upliftment of this lifesaving fraternity.

Without the critical knowledge and skills of Clinical Perfusionists, many vital medical procedures simply wouldn't be possible.

## On behalf of the Indian 'CLINICALPERFUSIONISTS' our humble request please consider our following grievances strongly

- 1. Designate Indian perfusionists as "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST"
- 2. Separate ISCO Code for "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST" Replace ISCO Code 3259 with some other code assigned to "CLINICAL PERFUSIONISTS"
- 3. "CLINICAL PERFUSIONIST" should be under separate group

With Regards Thankyou

Mr. Chhipa Usmangani Y. General Secretary ISECT