DMC/DC/F.14/Comp.2601/2/2023/ 01st May, 2023

**O R D E R**

The Delhi Medical Council through its Disciplinary Committee examined a representation from the Police Station Hari Nagar, seeking medical opinion on a complaint of Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi r/o House No. WZ-262, 3rd Floor, Shiv Nagar, Gali No. 15, Jail Road, New Delhi-110058, alleging medical negligence on the part of doctors of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi, in the treatment of the complainant’s son Master Abhijeet Singh.

The Order of the Disciplinary Committee dated 16th March, 2023 is reproduced herein-below :-

The Disciplinary Committee of the Delhi Medical Council examined a representation from the Police Station Hari Nagar, seeking medical opinion on a complaint of Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi r/o House No. WZ-262, 3rd Floor, Shiv Nagar, Gali No. 15, Jail Road, New Delhi-110058 (referred hereinafter as the complainant), alleging medical negligence on the part of doctors of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi (referred hereinafter as the said Hospital), in the treatment of the complainant’s son Master Abhijeet Singh (referred hereinafter as the patient).

The Disciplinary Committee perused the representation from the Police Station Hari Nagar, complaint of Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi, written statement of Dr. A.K. Mehta, MD, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital enclosing therewith written statement of Dr. Rajesh Kohli, MS/HOD (Accident & Emergency) enclosing therewith written statement of Dr. Neha Sharma, Junior Resident, Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Junior Resident, Dr. Sunil Singla, M.O., Dr. Pooja Bhasin, CMO, Nursing Officer-Anita, Mamta-I, Mamta-II and Jyoti, Saroj Nagar, DNS, copy of medical records of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and other documents on record.

The following were in heard in person :-

1) Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi Complainant

2) Smt. Kulbir Kaur Rekhi Wife of the complainant

3) Dr. Rajesh Kohli HOD (AE), DDU Hospital

4) Dr. Neha Sharma Junior Resident-Emergency,

 DDU Hospital

5) Dr. Mukesh Kumar Kumawat Junior Resident Surgery, DDU

 Hospital

6) Dr. Sunil Singla CMO, DDU Hospital

7) Dr. Puja Bhasin SMO, DDU Hospital

8) Ms. Mamta Nursing Officer, DDU Hospital

9) Ms. Mamta Nursing Officer, DDU Hospital

10) Ms. Jyoti Nursing Officer, DDU Hospital

11) Ms. Anita Nursing Officer, DDU Hospital

12) Dr. Shalini Kakar Additional Medical Superintendent,

 DDU Hospital

The Disciplinary Committee noted that Dr. Deepak Kumar failed to appear before the Disciplinary Committee, inspite of notice.

The Police in its representation has averred that a complaint vide LC-1235/SHO/HN dated 05th July, 2018 was received at police station Hari Nagar, New Dehi from Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi. The complainant has alleged there that on 22nd March, 2018 his minor son Master Abhijeet Singh (the patient) age seven years had accidently fallen on the floor while playing in the house and due to injury to the forehead, he was taken to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital where the doctor examined the patient and later on, an injection of TT and Vovran were mixed and the nurse gave the injection in one go to the patient, due to which, the health condition of the patient deteriorated in due course of time. The complainant has alleged that the health condition of the patient deteriorated due to negligent and careless attitude of the doctor and the nurse at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital. In view of the aforesaid facts and circumstances, it is requested to conduct an enquiry into the said complaint regarding lapse on the part of the treatment by the doctors and the nurses of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and the requisite report may kindly be provided for further course of action (if any).

The complainant Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi alleged that his son Master Abhijeet Singh (the patient), age 7 years had accidently fallen on the floor while playing in the house and the patient had injured his forehead on 23rd March, 2018. They immediately went to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital for the treatment in emergency ward. The doctor examined and advised for TT and Vovran injection and dressing on the wound. The nurse in the emergency ward mixed both the injections and gave it to Abhijeet Singh in one go. After getting the treatment, his son felt uneasiness in his right leg where the injections were given. While on the way to home, they immediately went back to Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and complained about his (the patient) problem and the doctor advised them not to panic, it will take time to subside. Moreover, the nurse who gave injection was talking on her mobile phone. Whole night his son was restless and moreover, his (the patient) right foot from the lower part was hot and they had to put his foot in ice-cold water for long time and even it did not subside. The next morning, they again went to emergency ward and narrated the whole story. The doctor referred for x-ray of the foot. After x-ray, he (the complainant) reported to the concerned doctor and he (the doctor) advised to wait for the senior doctor to come and it will take some time because he (the senior doctor) was busy in operation theatre. Incidentally, there were government holidays for three-four days, he waited for an hour and again enquired for the senior doctor. At that time, the duty doctor said that you may come after holidays in OPD. He argued with the doctor that his son who had acute pain in his (the patient) foot has to wait for the general OPD. He asked him to write in his prescription slip what he said. In that situation, he (the doctor) referred his (the complainant) case to the child specialist (paediatrician). The child specialist examined and gave the observation that they are giving these injections to 200 to 100 patients daily and in some case, error may occur. The doctor advised for I.M.G. test and they got this test privately and the result showed that his son’s nerve has been damaged due to this injection which was given carelessly. As there were holidays, they took their son to neurologist along with report. They have also got tested this at RR Hospital with the same result. For three months, his son was under treatment with private doctor with no sign of recovery. He did not report this earlier because he was hoping that his son will recover. Now, the chance of recovery is very remote. He humbly requests that a complaint of negligence on the part of hospital be registered and proper investigation be done to get justice for his son.

Dr. A.K. Mehta, MD, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in his written statement averred that the matter has been investigated and it was found that the treating doctors have examined and treated on both days adequately and in time. The patient Master Abhijeet Singh was sent to the nursing officers for first aid and injections. Further, the nursing officers have stated that the injections T.T. and Voveran were given separately. These injections are never mixed as per the given protocol. The patient was examined and prescribed the treatment as per the practice. The two injections were administered by qualified nursing personnel and as per hospital practice; the two injections are never mixed.

Dr. Rajesh Kohli, MS/HOD (Accident & Emergency), Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in his written statement averred that Dr. Neha Sharma, who worked as Junior Resident, examined the said patient Master Abhijeet Singh on 28th March, 2018, has left the services from Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital. However, the statement of Dr. Neha Shama was obtained via email. Dr. Mukesh, Kumar, who worked as Junior Resident, examined the said patient on subsequent day i.e. 29th March, 2018, has left the services from Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital. However, the statement of Dr. Mukesh Kumar was obtained via email. The patient was referred to department of orthopaedics by Dr. Mukesh for further evaluation. Dr. Deepak Kumar, who worked as Junior Resident in department of orthopaedics attended the patient after being referred from main emergency, has also left the services of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and his (Dr. Deepak Kumar) whereabouts are not known. Dr. Sunil Singla, who supervised as CMO on 28th March, 2018 has submitted his statement. Dr. Pooja Bhasin, who supervised as CMO on 29th March, 2018 has submitted her statement. The statement of the nursing officers working in the corresponding shift, who allegedly gave the injections to the patient, has submitted their statement. The Deputy Nursing Superintendent has submitted her reply. The matter was investigated and following inference was reached. The examination and the treatment given by the treating doctors on both days were adequately and timely done. The patient was sent to the nursing officer for obtaining the first aid and injectables. The nursing officer as per her statement gave the injections T.T. and Voveron (Diclofena) separately, as it is never mixed and given as per protocol. The preliminary investigations conducted at the department level suggest that the patient was examined and prescribed the treatment as per accepted practices. The injections were administered by trained qualified nursing personal. As per the hospital practice, the two injections are never mixed and are given separately. In the case under investigation also, the nurses on duty had stated that the injections were not mixed.

Dr. Neha Sharma, Junior Resident, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in her written statement averred that she has seen the patient Master Abhijit, seven years/male on 28th March, 2018 at 09.00 p.m. and has prescribed the injection Tatanus Toxoid 0.5ml I/m stat, injection Voveron 0.5 ampule I/m sat and rest as per mentioned in the casualty registration card.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar Kumawat, Junior Resident, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in his written statement averred that he was posted in morning duty in department of casualty as a junior resident when the patient Abhijit Singh presented with complaint of numbness area Rt. leg and foot with limping movement. On examination, the local temperature of Rt.foot was raised with history of fall day before. He had examined the patient and advised x-ray and referred to orthopaedics department.

Dr. Sunil Singla, M.O. (Casualty), Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in his written statement averred that he was posted as casualty medical officer in the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital casualty on 28th March, 2018 (night shift i.e. from 9.00 p.m. to 9.00 a.m., 29.03.2018). As per the records, the patient Abhijit Singh, 07 years old male boy presented to the casualty with history of accidental fall by self and was examined and treated by Dr. Neha Sharm (JR) posed in the casualty. However, no such adverse reaction or incident was brought to his knowledge during his duty.

Dr. Puja Bhasin, CMO, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in her written statement averred that she was posted as CMO on 29th March, 2018 (from 09.00 a.m. to 09.00 p.m.). As per records, the patient Abhijit Singh, 8 years/male had come into the casualty. The patient was seen by Dr. Mukesh (JR) posted in the casualty. The patient was advised x-ray and referred to orthopaedics department. He can identify the handwriting and signature of Dr. Mukesh who worked under his supervision.

The Nursing Officer-Anita, Mamta-I, Mamta-II and Jyoti, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in their joint written statement averred that there is no such practice in which injection T.T. and injection Voveran are mixed while giving prescribed injections. Hence, on the stated dated i.e. 28th March, 2018, none of the staff had mixed injection T.T. and injection Voveran before giving the patient.

Ms. Saroj Nagar, DNS, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in her written statement averred that it is pertinent to mention that, at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, all the nursing staffs are trained for the work allocated to them. All the nursing stations in the hospital give the injections as per protocol, injection T.T. and injection Voveron are given separately contrary to as mentioned in the complaint.

In view of the above, the Disciplinary Committee makes the following observations :-

1. It is noted that as per the emergency/casualty registration card No.64443 dated 28th March, 2018, the patient Master Abhijit aged seven years, reported to the emergency of Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital with complaint of injury over forehead due to accident fall himself. There was no history of loss consciousness, ENT bleeding or vomiting. On examination, the patient was conscious, oriented. The doctor on duty namely Dr. Neha Sharma, Junior Resident after examining the patient, prescribed injection Voveron 0.5 ml I/m stat an injection Tetanus foxoid 0.5 ml I/m stat alongwith ASD with suturing. The said injections were administered by the Nursing Officer (whose identity could not be established, as no signature/name of the concerned nurse is mentioned in the record) and the patient,thereafter, returned home. The patient again reported to the casualty of the said Hospital on 29th March, 218 with complaints of numbness over Right leg and foot with limping movement. On examination, the local temperature of Right foot was noted to be raised. The Junior Resident Dr. Mukesh Kumawat who examined him, advised x-ray and referred to orthopaedics department. The orthopaedics Junior Resident noted that the patient complained of post injectible gait problem since yesterday, and referred to pediatric emergency for opinion. The pediatric department doctor noted complaint of limping leg and history of injection given for fall (injection T.T.) and advised EMG test and to review with report. The patient apparently consulted specialist at Synergy Health and Wellness Clinic on 30th March, 2018 where he was advised electromyography (EMG) test. The EMG test dated 30th March, 2018 of City X-ray and Scan Clinic Pvt. Ltd. gave impression of Right Acute Sciatic Nerve Injury. The patient, thereafter, consulted VIMHANS and AIIMS Hospital where he was diagnosed and treated for post-traumatic sciatic nerve injury (right) which resulted in night foot drop.
2. The Sciatic Nerve injury was as a result of Intramuscular injection given in the casualty. The same was detected in time (next day), as the symptoms started to manifest. The subsequent diagnosis was confirmed on EMG, NCV and appropriate treatment was initiated elsewhere. The treatment for Sciatic Nerve injury was initiated as per standard protocol.

The Sciatic Nerve injury is a known uncommon complication of gluteal MI injection, despite taking adequate precautions. It can be due to small muscle mass or variation in course of Sciatic Nerve.

In light of the observations made herein-above, we are of the considered opinion that it was a case of therapeutic misadventure, rather than any negligence.

Matter stands disposed.

Sd/: Sd/: Sd/:

(Dr. Maneesh Singhal), (Dr. Anil Kumar Yadav) (Dr. Satish Tyagi)

Chairman, Eminent Publicman, Delhi Medical Association

Disciplinary Committee Member, Member,

 Disciplinary Committee Disciplinary Committee

Sd/: Sd/:

(Dr. Subodh Kumar) (Dr. Daljit Singh)

Expert Member, Expert Member,

Disciplinary Committee Disciplinary Committee

The Order of the Disciplinary Committee dated 16th March, 2023 was confirmed by the Delhi Medical Council in its meeting held on 10th April, 2023.

. By the Order & in the name of

 Delhi Medical Council

 (Dr. Girish Tyagi)

 Secretary

Copy to :-

1. Shri Rajenderpal Singh Rekhi r/o House No. WZ-262, 3rd Floor, Shiv Nagar, Gali No. 15, Jail Road, New Delhi-110058.
2. Dr. Rajesh Kohli, Through Medical Director, DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064.
3. Dr. Neha Sharma, 324/3, Prem Nagar, Opposite Allahabad Bank, Near Harayana Roadways Workshop, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001.
4. Dr. Mukesh Kumr Kumawat, VPO-Shishu, District-Sikar, Rajasthan-332405.
5. Dr. Sunil Singla, Through Medical Director, DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi- 110064.
6. Dr. Puja Bhasin, Through Medical Director, DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi- 110064.
7. Dr. Deepak Kumar, House No.1937, Urban Estate, Jind, Haryana-126102.
8. Medical Director, DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, New Delhi- 110064.
9. Station House Officer, Police Station Hari Nagar, New Delhi-w.r.t complaint No. LC- 1235/SHO/HN dated 05th July, 2018-**for information**.

 (Dr. Girish Tyagi)

 Secretary