

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1720
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH AUGUST, 2024**

MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS FOUND AGAINST GUIDELINES

1720. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, as per the recent study report published in Indian Journal of Medical Research, around 45 per cent medical prescriptions by doctors in the country have been found against the guidelines which is causing health hazards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): The National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued detailed Guidelines for prescription by the Registered Medical Practitioners(RMP) on prescription of drugs using generic names written legibly and rationally, avoiding unnecessary medications and irrational fixed-dose combination tablets. The NMC Act, 2019, also empowers the State Medical Councils/ Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) of the NMC to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provisions.

Under Rule 9(iii) of the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012, clinical establishments must comply with Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) issued by the Central or State Government for registration and continued operation. Recently, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) developed Standard Treatment Workflows (STWs) outlining standardized protocols and drug treatments for common and serious diseases. These STWs are intended for use across all healthcare levels, from primary to tertiary care, and are recommended for uniform adoption by all healthcare providers in India.

Furthermore, the study published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research (IJMR) analyzed outpatient prescriptions by physicians of various specialties in tertiary care, teaching government and private hospitals.
