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आयुष मंत्रालय
CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC SCIENCES
Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India

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Sub: Use of Standardized Ayurveda terminologies and National Ayurveda Morbidity Codes in Research Publications - reg.

Dear Sir/Madam

As you are aware, a huge corpus of medical terminology is available in the classical literature of Ayurveda. In an era where the popularity of Ayurveda is reaching far and wide, time has come to develop effective communication about Ayurveda among all stakeholders to improve productive cooperation among individuals and nations having common interests with respect to Ayurveda. Scientific writing plays a major role in communication among stakeholders and has an important role to play in this regard. However, due to ambiguities in the usage of terminologies, lack of standardisation of terminologies and absence of standard guidelines, tendency to translate and use terminologies as per individual wish has become a common parlance due to which the credibility of Ayurveda at large in the international scenario is being affected. If we compare the translations of the same term used in different journals, differences in the translation and meaning are found. This is more important in case of diagnostic terms because the same disease name in Ayurveda is translated in different ways by different authors. Thus in order to bring uniformity in the use of Scientific terminology and also in translations of scientific terminology of Ayurveda, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, on the Directives of the Ministry of AYUSH has developed and published a document of Standard Ayurveda Terminologies in two volumes as an initial step in this regard.

2. **Standardized Ayurveda Terminologies (SAT)** along with **National Ayurveda Morbidity Codes (NAMC)** has been made available in public domain through a portal named "National AYUSH Morbidity and Standardized Terminologies Portal (NAMSTP)" which is hosted at the following URL: <http://namstp.ayush.gov.in>.

3. The portal was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on the occasion of 2nd Ayurveda Day (17th October 2017) at All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi. The portal provides Standardized Terminologies & Morbidity Codes for *Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani* systems of medicine along with W.H.O ICD-10/11 codes meant for dual coding and morbidity reporting for Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy Systems. These are meant for unambiguous reporting, electronic data submission through individual institutions and gradually moving towards adopting Electronic Health Records (E.H.R.).

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4. For effective implementation of the same, there is need for co-ordination and understanding among the various stakeholders. The document has been prepared after extensive deliberations and consultations. Each term has been a specific alpha numeric code and the names of diseases have been given a separate title National Ayurveda Morbidity Codes.

5. Ministry of AYUSH has also initiated efforts for centralised collection of morbidity statistics pertaining to various systems of medicine under the Ministry viz. Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy through the NAMSTP.

6. In this connection, please note that the usage of Morbidity codes and the portal has the potential to revolutionize morbidity statistics data collection and health care delivery reporting pertaining to AYUSH systems and bring to light the contribution of AYUSH systems to the health care delivery system of our country on real time basis and the benefits of sustaining such activity is expected to have positive bearing on future policy making.

7. Keeping in view of the above, it is requested to kindly go through the contents of the portal (<http://namstp.ayush.gov.in>) and explore the possibility of making the usage of Standardized Ayurveda Terminologies (for translation of scientific terms) and National Ayurveda Morbidity Codes (for translation of diagnostic terms as well as mentioning the Disease code against the names of the morbidity conditions mentioned in the paper) mandatory for publication of research papers in your research journals and an instruction in this regard may be added to the "Instructions to Authors" for this purpose.

Co-operation of your good office is solicited.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. N. Srikanth)

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