

Certification of Folk Healers of Chhattisgarh in March 2019

The second batch of certification for the Traditional Community Healthcare Providers (commonly known as Folk Healers) and the first for Chhattisgarh has been completed under the Voluntary Certification Scheme for the Traditional Community Healthcare Providers for the healers of Chhattisgarh state. The Voluntary Certification Scheme for the Traditional Community Healthcare Providers is owned jointly by the Quality Council of India (QCI), New Delhi and the Foundation for the Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore and had its national launch in March 2017.



The 3-day evaluation for the assessment of the knowledge and skills of the Folk Healers was conducted by the QCI approved Third Party Personnel Certification Body – Etica Clinpharm Pvt Ltd, Raipur, Chhattisgarh as per the competence criteria laid down under the Scheme from 30th March to 1st April, 2019. An Evaluation team lead by Dr. Deepesh Megwani (BAMS) along with six senior TCHP and 4 PrCB trained professionals (PhD, MSW and MBA) with support staff conducted the evaluation.

The evaluation team travelled along with the Certification Head (Mr Yogendra Choudhary) of Etica Clinpharm Pvt Ltd, Raipur. On Day-1 oral evaluation and demonstration by the healers was conducted at Raipur and on Day 2 & 3, inspection of the healers' practice station for hygiene, medicinal plant garden, record keeping, dispensing of medicines and interacting with their patients was done in 4 districts of Chhattisgarh - Raipur, Ballood, Bemetra and Korea. The entire certification process was observed by the expert from the Quality Council of India, New Delhi.



It is noteworthy that 14 Folk Healers raised the certification fee from their own resources and applied for the assessment of their knowledge and skill to get certified under the ISO 17024 based Personnel Certification. 7 Folk Healers were declared successful and certified.

This was the second batch certification under the Scheme in India. It is expected that more certifications would follow shortly not only in Chhattisgarh, Tripura but Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh.