

Coming soon, smart cards to pay your hospital bills

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The days of standing in long queues to pay fees for diagnostic tests, admissions at the Government Medical College and Hospital, Sector 32 (GMCH-32), are coming to an end. The hospital is soon going to introduce a smart card facility for patients for quick and hassle-free payment of hospital charges.

For the convenience of the patients, the hospital will ask each patient to deposit a specific amount in the beginning against which he/she will be issued a card. Like any other prepaid card, the expenses for different tests, medicines, hospital charges will be deducted from it by swiping it on a machine.

According to the proposal worked out by the department of hospital administration, the relatives and family members of the patients

will no longer have to stand in long queues show receipts at each counter. Instead, the card will act as a facilitator and each time it will be swiped for a payment. The record will be stored in the computer against the specific smart card.

“The card will work like any other prepaid card and will be used for all kind of payment of fees such as diagnostic tests, treatment and hospital charges. More importantly this facility will be available 24 hours and thus there will be an end to complaints regarding closure of any counters,” said a senior official of the hospital administration department.

Hospital officials maintain that the process to install card swiping machines at various points of the hospital has already started and the points have been identified.
