

## Aadhaar must for health mission cover

The government has mandated the use of Aadhaar card for administering its massive Ayushman Bharat, or National Health Mission, that assures a Rs. 5 lakh health cover to 10 crore families.

While possessing an Aadhaar card isn't mandatory to avail services, a proof of enrolment, or request for enrolment, is mandatory. The Ayushman Bharat is scheduled to roll out this August.

"...A beneficiary eligible for receiving the benefits under the Scheme shall be required to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication...Any beneficiary desirous of availing the benefits under the Scheme, who is not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, shall have to apply for Aadhaar by 31st March 2019 provided she or he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar," says a notification by the Health Ministry on July 4.

"...Provided that till the time Aadhaar is assigned to the individuals, benefits under the Scheme shall be given to such individuals, subject to the production of the following documents, namely:—

(a) (i) if he or she or has enrolled, his or her Aadhaar Enrolment ID slip; or

(ii) a copy of his or her request made for Aadhaar enrolment and...(one) of a Bank Passbook, Voter id, etc.," the notification specifies.

Those having trouble verifying biometrics will have the option of getting "face recognition," a technology that is yet to see the light of day. If nothing works, the patients will be required to get the QR code scanned on their enrolment letter.

END

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