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### **Price notice to device firms**

The government seems to be cracking the whip on medical device companies by issuing them a showcause notice for not revealing their prices.

Sources said the government was keen to monitor prices of medical devices such as exorbitantly-priced cardiac stents and implants, so as to prevent patients being overcharged. It has set a deadline of two weeks for the details to be submitted.

Drug pricing regulator NPPA, on February 9, first directed all medical device companies, including Abbott, Johnson and Johnson and Medtronic, to submit prices at which they import and sell devices to distributors, and their maximum retail prices, sources told TOI. This was followed by a showcause on February 16 to those who had not submitted these details.

This follows overpricing concerns as prices of medical devices are not regulated or monitored by the government.