



# SYNAPSE

(Monthly health e-newsletter)

International Institute of Health Management Research,  
Delhi



**IMPROVING HEALTHCARE THROUGH RESEARCH**

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2018; Issue: 89<sup>th</sup>

IIHMR, Delhi works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management.

In this Issue:

- ▶ **Hospital and Health insight**
- ▶ **World At Glance**
- ▶ **Recent Researches**
- ▶ **Reflections**
- ▶ **Health IT Updates**
- ▶ **Know Your Sector**
- ▶ **Review Page**
- ▶ **News in Pipeline**
- ▶ **Own Opinion**
- ▶ **Health Tip**
- ▶ **Events at IIHMR, Delhi**
- ▶ **Quick Bites**
- ▶ **Upcoming Conferences**
- ▶ **IIHMR Researchfindings**
- ▶ **Articles by IIHMR'ians**

## HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT

### Superficial mixing of healthcare systems absurd

Several doctors who have studied both modern medicine and ayurveda are opposing the controversial NMC Bill that seeks to fuse different systems of medicine. They said superficial and mechanical attempts to fuse these two systems through bridge courses will adversely affect both systems and will be detrimental to patients said Dr Lijo Kurien, who has MBBS and BAMS degrees. The option is to adopt the best of different systems for different ailments.

[Read full text](#)

### India may grow 7.2-7.5% in H2; on way to becoming 5th largest economy: FM

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said today that India is expected to register a growth rate of 7.2-7.5 per cent in the second half of the current fiscal and is on way to becoming the 5th largest economy of the world. While unveiling the Budget 2018-19, he said, India has grown on an average of 7.5 per cent in the first three years of the current government and has become a USD 2.5 trillion economy. [Read full text](#)

### 18 primary healthcare centres to apply for NQAC

The district health department is gearing up for National Quality Assurance Certification (NQAC) for 18 of its primary health centres (PHCs). According to the health department officials, the certification, if received, will entitle the centres to get an award of Rs 10,000 per bed for three years or Rs 3 lakh. The NQAC team will monitor facilities and quality of patient care being provided at the PHCs along with other standards. [Read full text](#)

## QUICK BITES

1. [Why Climate Change Is Worsening Public Health Problems](#)
2. [Kolkata Turns over a New Leaf; Adopts E-Vehicles and Charging Points](#)
3. [Capacity building for primary health care](#)

## Thinking different on healthcare

To achieve its healthcare goals, the Government must meet its medium-term target. This Budget should focus not merely on higher public health spending or increased allocations. It must encourage the health insurance industry to come up with a standardised, affordable healthcare plan. In Union Budget allocation for health, expected increase by 11 per cent against the health Ministry's demand for a 33 per cent raise over previous year, reported Reuters recently. [Read full text](#)

## Do hospitals need a ratings agency?

It is time for a healthcare rating movement to take shape. But along with it, accreditation, self-regulation and improved doctor-patient communication is a must. For patients and families, such publicly available ratings could help make informed choices for their care. Ratings could help resolve this issue to some extent. Fear of poor ratings could push doctors and administrators to improve performance, both operational and financial. [Read full text](#)

## A first for Indian: NITI Aayog's Vinod Paul to receive WHO prize

NITI Aayog Member Vinod Paul has been chosen to receive WHO's prestigious IhsanDogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize for his services in the field of family health. He was chosen unanimously from among shortlisted candidates from Algeria, China, Malaysia, Mexico, Russian Federation, and Uzbekistan. [Read full text](#)

## WORLD AT GLANCE

## Amazon, Berkshire, JPMorgan create healthcare company to cut costs

Amazon.com Inc, Berkshire Hathaway Inc and JPMorgan Chase & Co will form a company to cut health costs for hundreds of thousands of their employees, setting up a major challenge to an inefficient U.S. healthcare system. The new, not-for-profit venture will initially focus on technology for simplified, high-quality and transparent healthcare for their more than 500,000 U.S. employees. [Read full text](#)

**UPCOMING  
CONFERENCES/ EVENTS**

**Hospital Planning &  
Infrastructure 2018**

Date- 9th Feb, 2018

Venue- Hyderabad

Website-  
<http://hospitalinfra.co.in/>

**India Hospital Design &  
Build Summit 2018**

Date-22, Feb 2018 - 23,  
Feb 2018

Venue- Hotel Le Meridian,  
New Delhi

Website-  
<https://prolinks.rediffmailpro.com/cgi-bin/prored.cgi?red=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ehospitaldesignbuildsummit%2Ecom%2F&isImage=0&BlockImage=0&rediffng=0>

## Global female empowerment marches enter second day

More demonstrations in support of female empowerment are planned around the world on 21st January, a day after a host of marches and protests, several of them massive, marked the anniversary of President Donald Trump's inauguration. [Read full text](#)

## Energy cooperation stabilising region

In this fast paced world, the global energy scenario is fast changing with new technologies emerging and energy mix diversifying, the global energy demand is rising. This rapid economic growth and increasing populations have put South Asia's energy security in a challenging state. Compared to the world per capita electricity consumption of 3,128 Kilowatt/hour, the average per capita electricity consumption in South Asia is roughly 600 Kilowatt/hour, which is bound to increase with the economic progress of the region. [Read full text](#)

### RECENT RESEARCHES

## Health Ministry to study 2017 spike in vaccine-related adverse events



The Union Health Ministry to study the reported rise in “adverse events” following vaccinations in 2017. Sources stressed that along with children who may have died due to adverse reaction to a vaccine or improper administration or due to inherent defects in the vaccine itself, the numbers include children who were already seriously ill or had congenital diseases but had died during a specified period after vaccination. [Read full text](#)

## **WHO awards prequalification to Bharat Bio’s Rotavirus vaccine**

India's vaccine maker Bharat Biotech has announced receiving prequalification from the World Health Organisation (WHO) for its rotavirus vaccine Rotavac, considered the developing world's first rotavirus vaccine. A Hyderabad headquartered biopharmaceuticals firm said that WHO prequalification was necessary for United Nations agencies and Gavi, the vaccine alliance, to purchase the vaccine in partnership with developing countries. [Read full text](#)

## **Choose omega-3s from fish for cancer prevention**

“This study is the first to compare the cancer-fighting potency of plant-versus marine-derived omega-3s on breast tumour development,” said a professor from the University of Guelph. Researchers have discovered that marine-based omega-3s are eight times more effective at inhibiting tumour development and growth. [Read full text](#)



### Farewell celebration for batch 2016-18

A farewell celebration was organised by first year students to bid adieu to the students of batch 2016-18.

**"It's time to say goodbye, but I think goodbyes are sad and I'd much rather say hello. Hello to a new adventure." - Ernie Harwell**



### Internship opportunities in Bhutan- A Talk by Dr. Jigmi Singay



Dr. Jigmi Singay, former Health Minister of Bhutan on 10<sup>th</sup> January introduced students about internship opportunities in Bhutan. He gave a detailed presentation on how the health system of Bhutan works and talked about various gaps and challenges and opportunities in the Bhutanese Health Care Delivery System.

## **Interview with Prof. Suptendra Nath Sarbadhikari- Dean (Academics and Student Affairs)**



Prof. Suptendra Nath Sarbadhikari talks about the status of Health Informatics in India considering the current Indian scenario. And he also throws light on how technology is affecting quality healthcare globally.

[Click here to watch video](#)

### **HEALTH IT UPDATES**

#### **Tata Trusts launches 'Impact Lab' for public health**

The two big giants in the philanthropic work and vaccine development respectively, have come together to create innovative solutions for public health in India. Tata Trusts and PATH on 16th January announced the establishment of the Tata Trusts-PATH Impact Lab, the first such in India, to support and bring market innovations for affordable public health solutions to benefit vulnerable populations with limited resources. [Read full text](#)

#### **Thousand IIT/NIT graduates hired to better technical education'**

1,000 graduates from premier institutions like IITs and NITs have been selected to teach in 53 state-run engineering colleges in backward areas across 11 states and Union Territories for three years. [Read full text](#)

#### **VIT develops mobile application for visually impaired students**

A mobile application aimed at creating job opportunities for talented youth with visual impairment and developed by students of Vellore Institute of Technology University. Creating job opportunities for the visually impaired youth, the Enactus Students Club along with the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development and Research Studies (CSR and RS) of VIT created this mobile application. [Read full text](#)

### **Eminent personality in healthcare: Dr. Amit Varma**

Dr. Amit Varma (born September 15, 1968) is a critical care physician and co-founder of Quadria Capital, one of Asia's largest healthcare private equity firms, with assets under management exceeding US\$1.5 billion and investments in 15 companies across the Asia-Pacific region. Today, he serves as Managing Partner of Quadria Capital, which has investments across South and Southeast Asia.

Varma also sits on the Investment Committee and is a member of the board of Directors of Healthquad, a healthcare focused Venture Capital firm investing in technology backed companies in India.

Amit Varma did various stints with Narayana Hrudayalaya and Fortis Healthcare as a doctor before shifting his career to focus on business aspects of healthcare. He worked in Religare as President of Healthcare division for four years before branching out on his own and starting a private equity fund Quadria Capital with Abrar Mir in 2012.

Earlier this year, the fund bought Milestone Religare, a 50:50 JV between financial services major Religare Enterprises and Mumbai-based Milestone Capital Advisors. This brought under its fold a rupee-denominated fund focused on healthcare and education sectors.



### **HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATION- JHPIEGO**



Jhpiego is an international, non-profit health organization affiliated with The Johns Hopkins University. For 40 years and in over 155 countries, Jhpiego has worked to prevent the needless deaths of women and their families.

Jhpiego works with health experts, governments and community leaders to provide high-quality health care for their people. Jhpiego develops strategies to help countries care for themselves by training competent health care workers, strengthening health systems and improving delivery of care.

Jhpiego designs innovative, effective and low-cost health care solutions to ensure a level of care for women and their families. These practical, evidence-based interventions are breaking down barriers to high-quality health care for the world's most vulnerable populations.

Jhpiego assists countries in confronting and addressing health needs for women and their families by educating and preparing front-line health workers (doctors, nurses, midwives and community health workers) with evidence-based skills and techniques to deliver quality health care.

Jhpiego designs and implements effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions that can be delivered by a community health care worker in a home or by a doctor or a nurse in a hospital. They are working toward integrating treatment services and health interventions for different illnesses so women and families can be treated for several conditions in a convenient place at one time.

## REVIEW PAGE

### **Medicare: The world's largest National health protection scheme**



India will get the world's largest government funded national health programme, according to the Budget announced by finance minister Arun Jaitley. The mega health insurance scheme for the poor will give the sector a big boost but could cost over Rs 1 lakh crore, according to some independent estimates. Based on the cost of the existing Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), back of the envelope calculations show it would require Rs 30,000 crore. The National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS) will provide 100 million families with medical coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation.

RSBY provides Rs 30,000 cover for up to five members of a below the poverty line (BPL) family. The Centre provides 75% of the total premium while states pay the rest. Around 36 million of 59 million BPL families across 15 states are enrolled in the RSBY scheme.

The allocation for RSBY rose to Rs 2,000 crore in FY19 from Rs 470.52 crore in FY18. Given that the cover under NHPS is Rs 5 lakh and the coverage is more, the Rs 470.52 crore spent in FY18 topped up with 25% provided by states, when proportionality increased yields about Rs 30,000 crore cost.

According to former finance minister P Chidambaram, if the insurance companies will foot the bill, the premium at Rs 5,000-15,000 per family will require an outgo of Rs 50,000-150,000 crore per year.

The government has not yet made any allocations for the scheme. "Adequate funds will be provided for smooth implementation of this programme," Jaitley said. Another challenge would be lack of adequate hospitals, doctors and diagnostic laboratories, especially in north Indian states.

Ankur Nijhawan, CEO of AXA France VIE (India Reinsurance Branch), said the defects in RSBY should have been addressed. "Government should focus on creating reasonable package rates, fraud mitigation and beneficiary grievance while addressing the flaws of RSBY such as smartcard misuse, enrolment flaws and delay in premium," he said.

The government has allocated Rs 1,200 crore towards 150,000 health and wellness centres envisioned in the National Health Policy 2017 to provide comprehensive healthcare.

## **Exposure to chemical found in plastics 'hard to avoid' in everyday life**

Measurable levels of BPA, an endocrine-disrupting chemical, were found in the urine of the vast majority of the 94 17-19 year olds tested, according to research at the University of Exeter led by Professor Lorna Harries, Associate Professor in Molecular Genetics, and Professor Tamara Galloway, Professor of Ecotoxicology. They called for better labelling of packaging to enable consumers to choose BPA-free products.



The citizen-science project was carried out in a real-world setting to provide young people with first-hand experience of all aspects of scientific research.

Students designed, took part in and published the research study into whether changes in their lifestyle and diet could have an impact on BPA in their bodies. They found that chemical is so ubiquitous that trying to reduce exposure by avoiding food packaging and food likely to contain BPA has no measurable impact on exposure, according to research published in the *BMJ Open* journal. The research, An engaged research study to assess the effect of a 'real-world' dietary intervention on urinary bisphenol A (BPA) levels in teenagers is the largest self-administered intervention study of exposure to BPA in unrelated individuals. Teenagers are thought to be one of the population demographics with the highest levels of exposure. BPA passes relatively swiftly out of the body with a short half-life of around 6 hours, but measurable BPA was detected in 86% of the participating students, with an average level of 1.9ng/ml. This is similar to population exposure levels in other countries around the world, and reflects the exposure to BPA in the environment. [\*\*Read full text\*\*](#)

### Mental Health Tips to Cope with Academic Life



#### SYNAPSE TEAM

Mrs. Divya Aggarwal

Col. Satyaroop

Ms. Seavy Maggo

Dr. Surbhi Bhatia

Ms. Daimee Sethi

Dr. Swati Srivastva

Ms. Mahak Rana

Ms. Neha Yadav

Ms. Deepanshi Kacharia

Ms. Apoorva Mehta

Dr. Vijeta

Mr. Simar Singh Wadhwa

Compiled by

**The Synapse Team**

PGDHM, IIHMR

Plot No. 3, Sector 18A,

Phase- II, Dwarka,

Delhi-110075

Email:

[synapseiihmrdelhi@gmail.com](mailto:synapseiihmrdelhi@gmail.com)

Web: <http://delhi.iihmr.org/>

#### **NOTE:**

The newsletter is open for inclusion of any information or advertisement; however selection of information will be governed by the SYNAPSE Team, IIHMR, New Delhi

**IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FURTHER ISSUES, KINDLY MAIL US.**