



# SYNAPSE

(Monthly health e-newsletter)

International Institute of Health Management Research,  
Delhi



**IMPROVING HEALTHCARE THROUGH RESEARCH**

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## HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT

### Ill-equipped, health least of their cares

It often escapes public imagination that the municipal corporations also provide a host of primary and secondary health services. Mostly catering to the economically weaker sections, these facilities suffer from neglect and mismanagement. Hindu Rao is the biggest hospital run by the corporation, which also runs a medical college, but it does not have an MRI machine. Imaging facilities like PET scan have been outsourced. [Read more](#)

### TB vaccine trial on adults begins in June

In June this year, the Pune-based Serum Institute of India Pvt. Limited will begin a Phase II/III vaccine trial for tuberculosis using a novel, recombinant BCG (bacillus Calmette-Guérin) vaccine. The double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized trial will be carried out on 2,000 adults who have been successfully treated (and cured) for TB. While 1,000 adults will receive the vaccine, the remaining volunteers will receive a placebo. [Read more](#)

### New Bill on mental illness sets an empowering tone

The Mental Health Bill passed on Monday in the Lok Sabha after almost a six-year-long wait is expected to revive the way mental illnesses are dealt with in the country. While the Bill has been termed as progressive by the fraternity, a particular clause that emphasizes on advanced directive from the patient has been debated widely. [Read more](#)

### New Labs for WHO-recommended MDR-TB Detection Test

To improve detection rate of Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB), the government is planning to open 40 additional TB containment laboratories across India. To be set up by the Ministry of Health of Family Welfare under its Revised National Tuberculosis Programme (RNTCP), these new laboratories will come up at various government medical colleges. [Read more](#)

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.

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**EVENTS AT IIHMR' Delhi**  
**MDP's @ IIHMR**

**Supply Chain**  
**Management**

17-19 July'2017

**Leadership and**  
**Management Program**  
**(LAMP) in collaboration**  
**with INCLEN**

17-26 August'2017

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## World Bank commits \$100 million for health project in Uttarakhand

The World Bank has approved a \$100-million loan for a health project in Uttarakhand to provide medical services in the state. The financing agreement from World Bank's arm International Development Assistance (IDA) for 'Uttarakhand Health Systems Development Project' was signed. [Read more](#)

## New regulators for homeopathy, ayurveda soon



After suggesting scrapping of Medical Council of India, the regulator for modern medicine, and replacing it with National Medical Commission, the government is planning to revamp the regulators for Indian systems of medicine and homeopathy to ensure better quality of doctors. [Read more](#)

### WORLD AT GLANCE

## India to redefine blindness to meet WHO stipulation

The government is set to change a four-decade-old definition of blindness to bring it in line with the WHO criteria and ensure the Indian data on blindness meets the global estimates. As defined under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), a person unable to count fingers from a distance of six metres is categorised as "blind" in India, against the WHO's stipulation of three metres. [Read more](#)

## QUICK FACTS

1. [Fruits help build large, powerful brains: Study](#)
2. [High-fibre diet may check onset of diabetes, finds study](#)
3. [Running a marathon may cause kidney injury, finds a study](#)
4. [Mushrooms may help delay or prevent dementia, Alzheimer's](#)

# WHO Launches Global Effort to Halve Medication-Related Errors in 5 Years

WHO today launched a global initiative to reduce severe, avoidable medication-associated harm in all countries by 50% over the next 5 years.

The Global Patient Safety Challenge on Medication Safety aims to address the weaknesses in health systems that lead to medication errors and the severe harm that results. [Read more](#)

## RECENT RESEARCHES

### HIV 'fingerprint' tool could greatly assist vaccine development

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), HIV remains a persistent major problem for global public health. In their study, the researchers used an HIV-like vaccine candidate. They now plan to use the new tool to analyze glycan composition and glycan-free sites on natural forms of HIV.

If the fingerprints match up with what they have, then they will know that they are on the right track. [Read more](#)

### Zika virus: Cure steps closer with protein-mapping study

There is currently no vaccine or medicine against Zika - a mosquito-borne virus that causes birth defects and, in its recent outbreak, has infected more than 1 million people in the Americas and Caribbean. An important protein in the Zika virus called nonstructural protein 5 (NS5) helps it to replicate and spread. The researchers determined the crystal structure of NS5 and also of sections relevant to the enzymes.

The study also found that the structure of Zika's NS5 bears some "striking similarities to the NS5 protein of the related Japanese encephalitis virus." [Read more](#)

### Sensors implanted in brain, paralysed man feeds self

A paralysed man was able to feed himself for the first time in eight years, after doctors implanted sensors in his brain that sent signals to his arm. The signals are relayed through external cables to a computer, which sends commands to electrodes in his arm and hand muscles. [Read more](#)

### South Asian women more at risk of osteoporosis: Study

The study showed that pre-menopausal South Asian women have the same level of bone resorption as a woman who has been through the menopause. [Read more](#)

**UPCOMING  
CONFERENCES/ EVENTS****Three days Workshop on Crossroad of GIS and  
Public Health Sponsored by DST from March 21-23,  
2017****Training on Hospital Management for Jigme Dorji  
Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, Bhutan  
from March 28 - April 4, 2017****Medical Fair India, 2017**

Date- 6-8 April'2017

Venue- Pragati Maidan,  
New Delhi

Website-

<http://www.medicalfair-india.com/>

**New Frontiers in Breast  
& Thoracic Malignancies**

Date- 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April'2017

Venue-4th Floor,  
Conference Hall, Hinduja  
Clinic Building,Mumbai

Website-

<https://www.hindujahospital.com/communityportal/events/>

**SYMHEALTH 2017**

Date- 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> May'2017

Venue- Symbiosis  
International University  
(SIU)

Website-

<http://symhealth.siu.edu.in/>

## Swasth Uttar Purva initiative to boost healthcare in NE



Aiming to improve public health efforts in the North Eastern region of India, the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in collaboration with the Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) on Wednesday launched "Swasth Uttar Purva: Healthy North East" initiative.

Under the initiative, the PHFI and DoNER will provide technical assistance to the state governments of North East and civil society partners for implementation of public health projects and programmes in the region. It will promote policy and programmes relevant research by conducting impact assessment and policy dialogues, conducting North East relevant summits and workshops as applicable to public health. Among the deliverables of Swasth Uttar Purva -- whose first phase will be completed in the next two years -- will include the training of primary care physicians in the management of chronic conditions and injuries. The first phase will be implemented in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

Under the initiative, the PHFI will conduct awareness generation programmes and cancer workshops.

### NEWS IN PIPELINE

## SuperAger brains shrink more slowly than peers' brains

The brains of SuperAgers (those 80 years old and older whose memories are as sharp as healthy people in their 50s and 60s) shrink much slower than their age-matched peers, resulting in a greater resistance to 'typical' memory loss and dementia, a new path-breaking study that shows. [Read more](#)

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**THE BRAIN BENEFITS OF EXERCISE**



INCREASES PRODUCTION OF NEUROCHEMICALS THAT PROMOTE BRAIN CELL REPAIR



IMPROVES MEMORY



LENGTHENS ATTENTION SPAN



BOOSTS DECISION-MAKING SKILLS



PROMPTS GROWTH OF NEW NERVE CELLS AND BLOOD VESSELS



IMPROVES MULTI-TASKING AND PLANNING



**Men'sHealth**

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**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

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