

Top National Healthcare Updates

- **Primary healthcare transformation in villages:** Asha workers under the Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) programme are increasingly serving as frontline health providers, improving rural health outcomes.
- **Indian doctor honoured internationally:** A BJ Medical College alumnus has been selected for one of Canada's top public health distinctions for his four-decade contribution to public health.
- **Staff shortages at AIIMS:** Nearly 40% of faculty positions across 11 AIIMS institutes remain vacant, highlighting systemic staffing gaps in top medical training/research hospitals.
- **Urban health expansion in Bihar:** Samastipur district plans to open **17 Urban Health & Wellness Centres** under Ayushman Bharat to strengthen preventive and primary care.

Medical Education & Career News

- **NEET PG Round 3 Counselling:** The NEET PG 2025 third counselling schedule is expected soon, with registration and choice filling processes opening shortly for aspirants.

Regulatory & Safety Actions

- **State action on drug safety:** Haryana has banned the manufacture and sale of oral formulations (e.g., high-dose nimesulide) exceeding approved safety limits, aligning with central bans aimed at protecting public health.

Other Important Health Developments (Jan 2, 2026)

Healthcare workforce & services

- **Recruitment of doctors to improve services:** Uttar Pradesh hospitals are set to recruit 37 new doctors to strengthen critical care units like neonatal and high-dependency care.

Public health campaigns

- **TB-Free India review:** District health officials in Hathras held monthly reviews of the tuberculosis elimination campaign, prioritizing patient care improvements.

Healthcare cost & trends

- **Medical cost projections:** India's employee medical plan cost trend for 2026 is projected at about **11.5 %**, above global averages, driven by chronic diseases and rising utilization.

Public health challenges

- **Antibiotic resistance concerns:** Experts warn that **antimicrobial resistance (AMR)** is a growing national threat and stress restricting unsupervised antibiotic use to preserve efficacy.
- **Misinformation risks:** New research shows widespread health misinformation in India on topics like cancer, reproductive health and vaccines, undermining patient choices and clinical outcomes.



Trends in Medical Science & Technology

- **Bioinnovation horizon:** Experts predict **mRNA technologies** and **AI-based diagnostics/treatment tools** will significantly reshape cancer care, obesity treatment, and personalized medicine in 2026.