



## **Key Updates & Headlines**

### **1. Contaminated Cough Syrup & Child Deaths**

**Authorities in Uttar Pradesh have placed scrutiny on cough syrups after multiple child deaths in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, allegedly due to contamination with industrial-grade diethylene glycol (DEG).**

- **The batch under investigation is produced by Sresan Pharma (batch SR-13, expiring April 2027).**
- **The Central Drug Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO) has launched inspections of pharmaceutical manufacturing units in several states.**
- **In UP, the government has empowered drug inspectors to check raw chemicals used in medications and to file FIRs if adulteration is found.**

### **2. Fire in Jaipur Hospital ICU — Lives Lost, Infrastructure Concerns**

**A fire broke out in the neurosurgery ICU of SMS Medical College, Jaipur. At least 8 critically ill patients died; several others are reported in critical condition.**

- **Relatives allege negligence. In response, the state has launched a fire-safety audit for all government hospitals.**
- **Earlier warnings about infrastructure faults (leaks, wiring, damp walls) in the ICU had been raised by hospital staff but allegedly ignored.**

### **3. Spike in Mosquito-Borne Diseases in Delhi & Ahmedabad**

- **Delhi has recorded a record high number of malaria cases (431 cases) and also several chikungunya cases in 2025 so far, challenging vector control efforts.**
- **In Ahmedabad, 51 dengue cases were reported between October 1–4. Officials also noted issues in water sample chlorine levels and bacteriological quality.**
- **Shortage of Staff & Infrastructure Strains in Pune / KNH / SGH**  
**Sassoon Hospital in Pune has urged Kamala Nehru Hospital to**

upgrade its paediatric ICU to manage more cases, citing over-referral and staff shortages.

- At KNH, many cases referred to Sassoon could possibly be managed in situ if infrastructure and staffing were improved.

#### **4. Innovation in Cancer Detection via AI**

Pune-based Balaji Shesharao Ingole has secured a UK design patent for an AI system aimed at improving breast cancer detection by analyzing imaging data in real time.

- The intention is to improve diagnostic access in under-served regions and reduce delays in interpretation.

#### **5. FICCI HEAL 2025 Healthcare Conference Begins**

The 19th edition of the FICCI HEAL conference (theme: “*Care@25 – Defining Moments in Healthcare*”) is scheduled for 8–9 October in New Delhi.

- The event is supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and NITI Aayog, with a focus on health innovation, policy, and the role of AI in care delivery.

#### **6. State Policy: Opposition to Privatization of Medical Colleges**

In Andhra Pradesh, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy (leader of YSRCP) has initiated a signature drive and proposed rallies to protest the privatization of government medical colleges, accusing the government of undermining access to education and healthcare.