

## Major Conferences & Innovation

- **World Health Innovation Forum 2025 opens at AMTZ** — A large global health meeting kicked off with 7,000+ leaders discussing medtech innovation, scalable solutions, and strengthening India's role in global healthcare innovation.
  - **South India AI in Healthcare Summit set for Vijayawada (Dec 15)** — A high-level inter-state conference will discuss AI integration in healthcare systems, governance, ethics, workforce training, data infrastructure and research. Officials from several states and national institutions (including WHO, ICMR) will participate.
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## Trends in Healthcare Costs & Chronic Disease

- **India expected to outpace global avg. medical cost trend in 2026 (11.5%)** — Rising costs are largely driven by cardiovascular, gastro-intestinal conditions and cancer treatment needs — a factor raising premiums and insurance challenges.
  - **Ozempic (semaglutide) launches in India** — This injectable therapy for type 2 diabetes (and weight control) is now available at ~₹2,200/week; experts emphasize cautious use and not seeing it as a “shortcut.”
  - **AIIMS expert warns of a rising *diabetes crisis*** — With India being the “diabetes capital of the world” (~70 million affected and ~50% uncontrolled), specialists underscore metabolic surgery and prevention to avert organ damage and early mortality.
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## Government & Public Health Actions

- **Ayushman Bharat-Vay Vandana cards issued to 93+ lakh citizens** — Ongoing expansion of India's flagship health assurance scheme aims to enhance access to free or subsidized care across states.
- **Parliamentary report highlights medical seat disparities** — Uneven distribution and high cost of medical seats across states may hamper equitable access to medical education; calls for scholarships and more faculty reforms.

- **National Digital Health Expansion Programme launched** — Focuses on school and youth access to digital health records, telemedicine, and mental health services (reported in national news briefs).
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## **Healthcare Services & Infrastructure**

- **New premium mother & child care hospital opens in Nagpur** — Nelson Luxe Hospital launch aims to redefine maternal and pediatric services in the region.
  - **Private hospital compliance enforcement intensifies** — In Karnataka's Dharwad, authorities warn private hospitals against KPME Act violations including overcharging and inadequate care processes.
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## **Health Awareness & Public Impact**

- **Air pollution health alert in Delhi-NCR** — AQI worsens to 'severe-plus', prompting suspension of outdoor sports and warnings especially for children's health risks.
  - **Organ donation story highlights impact of transplantation** — In Kerala, a brain-dead donor's organs saved three lives — an example of growing awareness around voluntary organ donation.
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## **Ongoing Public Health Issues**

- ✓ *Measles cases remain a concern* — India's provisional 2025 data places it among the top countries facing measles outbreaks, even as MR immunization coverage expands; calls for strengthening surveillance and outreach persist.
- ✓ *Medical stipend & workforce issues continue* — Health reports note delayed payments to medical residents and safety challenges — topics covered in today's Medical Dialogues bulletin.
- ✓ *Growing optimism among Indian healthcare professionals about AI* — A recent report highlights that most professionals believe AI integration can improve patient outcomes and expand access.