



## Major Medical & Public Health Updates



### Vaccine & Research Developments

- **New Nipah vaccine shows promise** — A **phase 1 clinical trial** reported that a new vaccine candidate against the **Nipah virus** (a serious zoonotic virus with high fatality rates) was *safe* in volunteers and triggered a *strong immune response*. This data was published in *The Lancet*, raising hope for prevention of outbreaks in South and Southeast Asia, including India.



### National Health Indicators

- **India logs continued public health gains** — Government data shows *steep declines* in key disease burdens:
  - **Malaria** incidence and deaths sharply reduced.
  - **Tuberculosis** cases continue to fall.
  - **Maternal and infant mortality** rates have also declined significantly. Union Health Minister **J.P. Nadda** credited strong public health systems and community participation for these gains.



### Medical Education & Policy

- **NEET UG counselling directive** — *Medical Counselling Committee (MCC)* issued instructions to states and candidates to remove AIQ-allotted students from the NEET UG stray vacancy round, clarifying that resignations are not permitted in this round.

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## Local & Regional Health Stories



### Public Health in Communities

- **Chronic diseases spotlight in Andhra Pradesh:** NTR district's A Konduru area reports a *high and growing burden* of **chronic kidney**

**disease and blood disorders**, calling attention to rural health system challenges.

### **Government & Health Preparedness**

- **Influenza preparedness “Chintan Shivir”** — The Union Health Ministry hosted a two-day strategic meeting for improved readiness against influenza, emphasizing response systems and stakeholder coordination.

### **Health Activities & Events**

- **Rural blood-donation camp** — A community blood donation camp was organized in Panchkula’s Raipur Rani area on Christmas Day.

### **Health Sector Careers**

- **Recruitment in health services** — *Banaras Hindu University* issued a notification for vacancies in its health department, including positions under elderly health care programs.

### **Policy & Leadership Notes**

- **Public health focus at forum** — Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda highlighted India’s “results-oriented” public health trajectory at the *Advancing Public Health Outcomes Forum 2025*.