

Key Health Policy & Safety Updates

- **Government bans high-dose oral nimesulide:**
The Union Health Ministry has **prohibited manufacture and sale of all oral nimesulide formulations above 100 mg**, citing serious safety concerns with higher doses of this popular painkiller.
- **Healthcare costs and financing shift spotlight:**
A new analysis highlights how Indian families often fret *more about hospital bills* than the illness itself, underscoring rising treatment costs and financial stress in healthcare decision-making.

Health Trends & Behaviour

- **Indians rethink health habits in 2025:**
A recently published “health & fitness habit index” suggests people are now proactively focusing on wellness rather than waiting for serious diagnoses to act.
- **Women’s health gains mainstream attention:**
Conversations around women’s health — historically sidelined — are finally becoming widespread in homes, workplaces, and media.

Healthcare Sector & Infrastructure

- **Major healthcare IPO launched:**
Modern Diagnostic & Research Centre plans a ₹36.89 crore IPO to fund medical equipment upgrades and expansion of diagnostic services.
- **New mobile surgical skills lab launched:**
Medtronic introduced a **Mobile Surgi-Skill Lab** in India to train surgeons and enhance surgical proficiency across regions.
- **Healthcare industry sees strong M&A activity:**
The sector recorded **139 mergers and acquisitions worth ~USD 5.5 billion in 2025**, signaling robust consolidation and investment flows.

Local Health System News

- **Infrastructure expansions and innovations:**

- A major Pune hospital inaugurated an advanced orthopaedic care unit and AI innovation hub.
- In Lucknow, new liquid oxygen and Tele-ICU facilities were launched at Lok Bandhu Hospital, supporting broader district health services.

- **Hospital systems under strain:**

A 24-hour strike by contract staff at PGI Chandigarh disrupted essential services, affecting surgeries and sanitation.

- **Patient safety and rights directives:**

Rajasthan mandated that **all acid-attack victim treatments be provided free of cost** at government and private hospitals, from emergency care to reconstructive procedures.

- **Medical service quality enforcement:**

Officials in Tamil Nadu's Erode district emphasized that **echocardiograms and fetal anomaly scans should be performed only by qualified cardiologists and radiologists**, not technicians.

Other Important Health Developments (Supplementary Reports)

- **Spike in gastroenteritis linked to possible water contamination in Indore:**

Over 30 people fell ill amid probe into contaminated water supply in a Madhya Pradesh locality — authorities are investigating pipeline leakage as a cause.

- **Respiratory illnesses rising with pollution:**

Delhi hospitals reported a **20–30% increase in respiratory cases** in December, linked to persistent severe air pollution.

- **Push for cashless treatment under CGHS:**

The Karnataka High Court urged the Centre to explore *cashless care options* under the Central Government Health Scheme to reduce financial barriers in emergencies.

- **Health insurance trends:**

A 2025 insurance report shows rising claims for vector-borne and lifestyle diseases, pushing Indians to seek broader health cover.