



## **INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

Department of Health Research – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Government of India

**Media report (8 June to 14 June 2019)**  
**(ICMR in News)**

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## **Preface**

*The PR Unit/PRO office of ICMR since last one and half years have reached from (where is ICMR located) to (everyday mention of ICMR and DG ICMR in National Media). This change from where to why signifies the media visibility and importance of our organization within this stipulated time duration.*

*Every week Indian Council of Medical Research and Director General ICMR are mentioned by dozens of daily news papers, periodicals and magazines including online editions.*

*This week's reports (ICMR IN NEWS dated 08 June to 14 June 2019) includes the mention Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in 27 news papers including top news papers such as The Times of India, Indian Express, Business Standard among others.*

*As an organization we first need to fill internal information vacuum at the headquarters as well as the Institutes for better visibility of ICMR which will pave way for complete dilution of external information gap between ICMR and external public including media, government and other related organizations.*

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**Identifying Nipah source a tough task: Health dept**

June 08, 2019 / The New Indian Express

KOCHI: Amidst widespread relief of containing the Nipah outbreak, Health Department officials are finding it difficult to identify its source of origin, as the 23-year-old student contracted with the virus was never in one place. The expert team is constantly visiting Vadakkekara, Chendamangalam and Chittattukara areas as part of Nipah surveillance programme. “We are keeping tight surveillance to find out possibly-infected locations, to investigate. The process will eventually take us to the origin of the outbreak,” said KM Dileep, District Animal Husbandry Officer, Ernakulam. The expert team consists of members from National Institute of High-Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal, and Southern Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory of the Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals, Bengaluru, who are focusing on close-monitoring the surveillance of bats and pigs. A team of entomologists from the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** have already reached Kochi to study the bat samples. Veterinary, Agriculture and Forest department officials are also monitoring the situation. In addition, a three-member expert team, consisting of Dr Sudeep, Dr Gokhre and Dr Balasubramaniam, reached Kochi on Friday to further study bat’s role in the outbreak. “We have collected faecal matter and blood samples of bats and pigs. It has already been sent to Bhopal for advanced tests. Once we get the test results, further information can be given on the outbreak,” said Dileep. According to Health Department sources, the patient had been continuously travelling from Ernakulam to Thodupuzha, from April 12 to May 16, to attend his examinations.

**In Pune, one more sample tests negative for Nipah**

June 08, 2019 / The Indian Express

One more sample, suspected to be Nipah-infected, has been found to be negative for the virus by the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune, which has set up its field laboratory at Kochi. The Maharashtra government has, meanwhile, sent instructions to veterinary officers and doctors, asking them to remain alert and keep a watch for unusual mortality among pigs, which are also a carrier of the disease. Additional Commissioner of Animal Husbandry Department, Dr D D Parkale, has issued instructions to field staff, regional and deputy commissioners and other personnel to remain vigilant. The protocol followed after the Nipah outbreak in Kerala last year is being put in place again, said Dr V V Limaye, joint commissioner of animal husbandry department, disease investigation section. “Our concern is that pigs are carriers of this disease and it is crucial to immediately quarantine the affected ones, if any. We have instructed mainly veterinary doctors to remain vigilant if they find unusual mortality or sickness among the pigs as this virus is highly contagious in them. They... develop feverish illness and laboured breathing. It is also called barking pig

syndrome, when they have an unusual barking cough, and in such cases Nipah should be suspected,” said Limaye. At the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, scientists from different institutes like Pune’s National Institute of Virology, National AIDS Research Institute and National Institute of Epidemiology were pooled together as part of a central team that immediately rushed to Kerala. So far, only a 23-year-old youth has tested positive for the virus, but ICMR wasted no time in getting the NIV scientists to set up a field laboratory at the microbiology department of the Government Medical College at Kochi. At least 200 staff has been trained on how to handle the samples while molecular and serological test kits have been provided.



### **India Immune-Oncology Drugs Market Latest Trends, Research Analysis and Regional Growth Forecast by Types and Applications**

June 08, 2019 / Oak Tribune

India Immune-Oncology Drugs Market size was valued at US\$ 172.8 million in 2018 and is expected to witness a CAGR of 13.1% over the forecast period (2018 – 2026). Increasing prevalence of cancer in India is expected to drive India Immuno-Oncology Drugs market growth. For instance, according to National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP), India, one woman dies of cervical cancer every 8 minutes in India. For every 2 women newly diagnosed with breast cancer, one woman dies of it in India. Furthermore, as many as 2,500 persons die every day due to tobacco-related diseases in India. Tobacco (smoked and smokeless) use accounted for around 317,928 deaths in men and women in 2018. Increasing Incidences of Cancer Cases and Introduction of Novel Immuno-Oncology Therapies is expected to Drive Growth of the India Immune-Oncology Drugs Market Rising incidences of cancer in India is expected to boost the immuno-oncology drugs market during the forecast period. For instance, according to **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** – National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), incidence of breast cancer is 25.8 per 100,000 women in 2018 and is expected to reach 35 per 100,000 women in 2026. The immune-oncology drugs market is expected to generate a high revenue, owing to increasing introduction of new novel therapies for treatment of cancer with improved therapeutic outcomes that have led to increasing success rates against cancer. Novel immune therapies can restore the ability of immune system to identify and eliminate cancer cells, which is generally suppressed during course of cancer progression. Such immuno-oncology based therapies can be tailored to attack or block particular targets. For instance, Iplimumab, a human monoclonal antibody, which blocks cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated antigen-4 is available.

## [Trends of India Enteral Feeding Devices Market Analysis 2019-2024 Demand Status, Industry News, Key Players, Development Status, Forecast till 2024](#)



June 08, 2019 / The Warren Daily

India Enteral Feeding Devices Market report provides a basic outline of the industry including definitions, classifications, applications and industry chain structure. The India Enteral Feeding Devices market analysis is provided for the global market including growth history, competitive background analysis, and major regions' development status. India Enteral Feeding Devices Market report focuses on global major leading industry players with information such as company profiles, product picture and specification, capacity, production, price, cost, revenue and contact information. Upstream raw materials, equipment and downstream consumer's analysis is also carried out. What's more, the India Enteral Feeding Devices industry development trends and marketing channels are analysed. The major factor driving the growth of the oncology segment is the rising prevalence of cancer in India. Cancer treatment causes many complications and side effects in patients, including mucositis sores in the mouth, difficulty in chewing and swallowing solid food, altered saliva level, making it difficult to swallow. Cancer patients suffer from severe weight loss, as they cannot take proper food, resulting in the shortage of nutrition in the body. According to the estimates of Globocan 2018, there are likely to be 1,157,294 new cases of cancer, and breast, lip, oral cavity, cervical, and lung cancers are the major types of cancers, in India. Oral cancer is the most common type of cancer in men and breast cancer in women. Furthermore, as per the data published by the **ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)**, in 2016, India had 14 lakh cancer patients, and this number is expected to increase. Thus, the presence of a huge patient pool is likely to create tremendous opportunities for the market.

## [Global experts to debate on use of safer nicotine products](#)

June 09, 2019 / Business Standard

Amid a raging debate over the use of e-cigarettes, experts from all over the world will assemble in Poland this week to debate on the role of safer nicotine products that can help people switch from smoking. The theme for the sixth edition of Global Forum on Nicotine (GFN) 2019 is "It's time to talk about nicotine". The three-day conference will be held from June 13 in Warsaw. The forum will examine the rapidly developing science in relation to nicotine and its use, including policy and regulatory responses. Academics, researchers, politicians and policy makers, from all sides of the debate, along with nicotine consumers and advocates, will participate in various plenary and parallel sessions at the conference. E-cigarette is a battery-powered vaporiser that simulates smoking by providing some of the behavioral aspects of smoking, including the hand-to-mouth action of smoking, but without combusting tobacco. India is the second largest consumer of tobacco with over one in 10 of the world's smokers and incurs a staggering

economic burden of approximately USD 26 billion per annum. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), more than 10 million die each year due to tobacco use in India and there are about 120 million smokers in the country. In August last year, the Health Ministry issued an advisory to all states and Union Territories to stop the manufacture, sale and import of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS). Apex research body - **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** - has recommended a "complete" ban on ENDS, including e-cigarettes, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers, but the debate on its health impact is a continuing topic of discussion between experts. Pankaj Chaturvedi, Deputy Director at Tata Memorial Hospital, said nicotine is a highly toxic chemical and potentially carcinogenic.



### **Why only NIV Pune confirms Nipah – and why this isn't ideal for Kerala**

June 09, 2019 / The News Minute

When Kerala witnessed a possible instance of Nipah this month, hinting at a second outbreak in two years, the state government sent samples of the patient to the National Institute of Virology (NIV) in Pune, the NIV in Alappuzha, as well as Manipal Institute in Karnataka. While the Alappuzha centre and the Manipal centre gave the confirmation that it was Nipah at least a day before the Pune institute did, the Kerala government did not announce a confirmation until NIV Pune gave their verdict. The reason? Indian **Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has authorised Pune as the sole institute in the country to confirm Nipah. And this means that although the Alappuzha and Manipal institutes are centres that work under NIV, Pune, only the parent institution can actually confirm the sample. "During an outbreak, in order not to create panic among people, we don't confirm anything until it is examined in Pune," an expert explained to TNM, "The test can be done in other labs to examine if it's Nipah, but to confirm that it's Nipah, the NIV report is needed. Other lab reports won't be taken as a confirmation." However, this means that Kerala has to depend on the workload of NIV, Pune, factor in travel time of samples, and wait for confirmation every time – unless it develops an institute similar to NIV, Pune, in the state.

### **ICMR's haplo stem cell 'experiment' now under child rights panel's radar**

June 09, 2019 / The New Indian Express

NEW DELHI: India's apex child rights body has sought a clarification from the Indian Council Medical Research on whether haplo stem cell treatment for thalassaemia and cancer is an approved method of treatment in India-following complaint from a guardian who has lost a relative in the process. Sources in the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights said one Amit Kumar Agarwal from Patna had complained to the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development Ministry last year saying that 20-25 children suffering from thalassaemia and cancer, including his nephew, had died in two years while undergoing an "experimental" treatment at Manipal Hospital, Jaipur. "The cost of

the treatment is over Rs 50 lakh and the hospital lures desperate parents saying that the treatment is safe and good enough to cure children of the difficult medical conditions they are in,” the complaint e-mail had said. “However, 50-60 per cent children die within 10-20 days of treatment and some succumb to the complications later. It’s a trap the hospital lays on for hapless parents and the government must look into this.” The case was forwarded to the Commission for a detailed inquiry. It sent a team to the hospital and also sought ICMR’s views. “Its reply was very vague with evidence of research from outside and did not specify whether the hospital has performed any illegality,” said NCPDR chairperson Priyank Kanoongo. “We have therefore sought another clarification from it.”

### **Blind women trained to find breast cancer lumps by feel are better than doctors at the task**

June 09, 2019 / South China Morning Post

Dressed in a pink uniform, Hasiba Rani starts her first consultation of the day at CK Birla Hospital for Women in Gurgaon outside the Indian capital, New Delhi. After noting the patient’s medical history, she spends 30 minutes on a physical examination. Rani is “looking” for lumps or nodules in the patient’s breasts, only she cannot see. She is blind, and relies on her sense of touch. Starting with the lymph nodes in the neck, she moves down to the collar bone, underarms, and every single centimetre of the breasts. She is guided by adhesive strips marked in Braille to ensure she leaves no part untouched and to help her report to the doctor, if she finds a lump, its exact location. Rani, 25, has a serene demeanour, a soft voice, and a quiet confidence. She is one of seven blind Indian women who have been trained as medical tactile examiners, or MTEs, a role created for women who are blind and have extra sensitivity in their fingertips, either from having learned Braille or simply from having developed a greater sense of touch to cope with their loss of vision. This sensitivity is being harnessed for the early detection of abnormalities which could be indicative of breast cancer Globally, more than two million women are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, according to the World Health Organisation. According to a 2018 report by the **Indian Council for Medical Research**, 50 per cent of breast cancer patients visit a doctor only when their cancer is at stage three, and 15-20 per cent when it is at stage four, the highest stage, owing to the low level of screening. If women are physically examined by a doctor, palpation usually lasts a couple of minutes at most. Doctors are too busy. In a flash of insight in 2006, gynaecologist Dr Frank Hoffman, based in Duisburg, Germany, wondered if a blind woman could do a more thorough job than doctors of detecting small lumps – crucial to catching breast cancer early. Doctors usually find tumours of between 1cm and 2cm in diameter.

## [85% of our policies are guaranteed, carry no impact of debt crisis: Ashish Vohra](#)



June 10, 2019 / Livemint

Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Co. Ltd's executive director and CEO Ashish Vohra, joined the company nearly three years ago, after a stint as chief distribution officer at Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd. He talks about the minuscule impact of the ongoing debt crisis on life insurers, the need for a better KYC mechanism using Aadhaar and the company's new cancer insurance plan. Edited excerpts. To institutionally solve this gap, we introduced an app called Super Express in 2017. One of the features of this app was an auto-triggered video Q&A with the customer at the end of the sales process. Besides persistency, this brought down customer complaints substantially. But we need to get to much higher levels (of persistency) for long-term customer retention. As per National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research-**Indian Council of Medical Research**, one out of every nine women could be diagnosed with some form of cancer in her lifespan of 75 years. All our sales personnel sell the cancer product. But when it comes to face-to-face selling, our women sales force sells more of it, given higher empathy with this category.

### [Explained: What is Nipah Virus?](#)

June 10, 2019 / National Herald

The first one heard of this virus was in May 2018 when a critically ill person was brought to Kozhikode's Baby Memorial Hospital in Kerala. Realising that it might be a virus that they hadn't tackled before, the doctors sent samples to Karnataka's Manipal Centre for Virus Research, which is at least 300 km away. The samples tested positive for Nipah virus and then these results were subsequently confirmed by the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune. Encephalitis and seizures occur in severe cases, progressing to coma within 24 to 48 hours. The incubation period (interval from infection to the onset of symptoms) is believed to range from 4 to 14 days. However, an incubation period as long as 45 days has been reported. Unfortunately not. There is no medicine for this virus. The US government has classified this virus as an agent of bio-terrorism and they have developed an experimental molecule for which human trials have not yet been conducted. After extensive research, Sadanandan, in 2018, had found Christopher Broder, an American citizen who had worked extensively on Nipah. Broder is currently working in Malaysia. Broder helped the Kerala government to get in touch with the government in Queensland, where they have developed a monoclonal antibody. Even Australia had completed only Phase - I trial. In India, for a drug to be used, it should have completed phase 3 trial. It can only be used on compassionate grounds after getting approvals from Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. After several rounds of talks, the drug was sourced from Queensland. Since, it has never been administered, no one was sure of the protocol to administer it.

## [Black Seed Oil Market Statistics 2019-2025 | Key Players Manish Agro, Sanabio, AOS Products, Sabinsa Corporation, Flavex, Safa Honey](#)



June 10, 2019 / openPR

Global Market Insights, Inc. has launched a report on Black Seed Oil Market that elucidates an in-depth synopsis of this business vertical over the forecast period. The report is inclusive of the prominent industry drivers and provides an accurate analysis of the key growth trends and market outlook in the years to come in addition to the competitive hierarchy of this sphere. The global black seed oil market is projected to gain significant momentum in the ensuing years, a feat that can be attributed to the emergence of organic wellness and food products. Known widely as *Nigella sativa*, black cumin seeds, onion seeds, kalonji, and numerous other names, the product is extracted from the seeds of *Nigella sativa*, a plant native to southwest Asia. The amber-hued oil finds its primary use in cooking and is said to offer extensive medicinal benefits, in addition to possessing the ability to fight life-threatening diseases. In an article by the Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism, academics from **the Indian Council of Medical Research** mentioned that black seed oil results in gradual part pancreatic beta-cells raises the lowered serum insulin concentrations and controls glucose levels. It is thus rather discernible that the rising prevalence of diabetes worldwide and the deployment of black seed oil to aid in its treatment will foster the black seed oil market growth from pharmaceutical applications in the years to come. Black seed oil consists of thymoquinone, which is its main active constituent for adjuvants to pharmaceutical cancer treatments.

## [Global Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Size | Trends | CAGR Status | Market Growth | Analysis and Forecast \(2019 - 2024\)](#)

June 11, 2019 / The Norman Gazette

Current Industry Research Report Titled On:- Global Gastric Cancer Therapy Market – Segmented by Therapy Type, End-User, and Geography – Growth, Trends, and Forecast (2018 – 2023) “Gastric Cancer Therapy Market” Report Provides detailed summary of Company Competition, Market demand, Regional Forecast, Marketing & Price and also New investment feasibility analysis is included of Gastric Cancer Therapy Market in global region. The Global Gastric Cancer Therapy Market is anticipated to register a CAGR of 13% over the forecast period of (2018 – 2023). Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Competitive Analysis: The existence of large, small, and local vendors in the market creates high competition. The global gastric cancer therapy market is expected to register a CAGR of 13.0% during the forecast period (2018 – 2023). Asia Pacific dominates the market, due to the growing incidence of gastric cancer in that region. According to a report published by **Indian Council of Medical Research** in 2014, gastric cancer is the fourth leading cancer in the world, accounting for 736,000 deaths. Around 1 million new cases of gastric cancer and 0.7 million deaths due to gastric cancer are reported every year. Age-standardized incidence rates are approximately twice as high in men as in women. Presently, gastric cancer is more common in Asia, than in the United States or Europe. Notably, 42% of cases occur in China alone.

## [Centre sends medical team to Bihar to tackle encephalitis cases](#)

June 11, 2019 / Livemint



Amidst rising cases of encephalitis, a vector borne disease, in Bihar, the union ministry of health and family welfare Tuesday constituted a multi-specialist high level team to tackle the situation.

The government has looped in experts drawn from National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), National Vector Borne Diseases Control Program (NVBDCP), **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Patna and Child Health Division of the health ministry are part of the central team and will review the surge in cases of encephalopathy or encephalitis and to assist the state in containment and control operations.

Harsh Vardhan, union minister of health and family welfare, on Tuesday reviewed the status of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Muzaffarpur and Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in Gaya in Bihar.

AES is a group of medical conditions that affect the brain. It is caused by a wide range of viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. JE is a mosquito-borne disease caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus and spread primarily by the Culex mosquito. JE is an infection of the brain caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus, its symptoms may include headache, vomiting, fever, confusion, and seizures.

## [Health Ministry proposes to ban electronic smoking devices by classifying them as 'drugs'](#)

June 11, 2019 / Business Standard

Going tough on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), including e-cigarettes, the health ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. According to official sources, the proposal has been approved by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), the government's top advisory body on technical matters related to medicines in the country. Some organisations claim that these devices help in smoking cessation and are less harmful alternatives to traditional cigarettes, while the government is seeking to ban them contending they pose health risks to users, similar to those of conventional cigarettes. ENDS are devices that heat a solution to create an aerosol, which also frequently contains flavours, usually dissolved into propylene glycol and glycerin. There are various types of ENDS devices like e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn devices, vape, e-sheesha, e-nicotine flavoured hookah among others. Asserting that availability of ENDS devices is widespread in the country and is posing serious health risks, the proposal mentioned that the safety aspect of these products has not been established and their efficacy on Indian population too has not have been approved under the provisions of the drug law. Some states, including Punjab, Haryana, Kerala, Mizoram, Karnataka, and Jammu and Kashmir, have already banned e-cigarettes as an unapproved drug. While all of them have banned it under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, some have added the Poisons Act, 1919. Apex research body - the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has recommended a "complete ban" on ENDS, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers also.

June 11, 2019 / Cryptocurrency News

Biosimilars are the officially approved versions of original biologic drugs, and can be manufactured when the original product's patent expires. Biosimilars are relatively cheaper than their biologic counterparts and hence, users have come to prefer biosimilars over biologics in recent years. Biosimilars have great potential to lower costs improving patient access to life-saving medicines prescription drug costs continue to rise. Over the past two decades, biologics have revolutionized patient management in multiple disease cases, including autoimmune diseases, solid tumors, hematologic malignancies, infectious diseases and hormone deficiencies. According to the estimation of American Cancer Society, around 1,688,780 new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed and 600,920 are expected to die in 2017. **Indian Council for Medical Research** estimated around 1.4 million new cancer cases in 2016 and this number is expected to rise to 1.7 million by 2020. According to the estimation of International Diabetes Federation, nearly 82 million people in the SEA region live with diabetes and the figure is expected to rise to 151 million by 2045. India alone accounted for 72 million cases of diabetes in 2017. Increasing incidences of cancer and chronic diseases, cost effectiveness of biosimilars over biologics, strategic collaborations, promising pipeline of biosimilars with the expiration of biologics patents, and an increased demand for such drugs in the emerging countries are the primary factors driving the biosimilar global market. A complex manufacturing process coupled with high cost of development, and limited obtainability of biosimilar products are responsible for hindering the growth this market to a large extent. Market Analysis: The “Global Biosimilars Market” is estimated to witness a CAGR of 57.03% during the forecast period 2018–2024. The market is analyzed based on three segments – products, applications, and regions.

### **Burden of dengue infection in India, 2017: a cross-sectional population based serosurvey**

June 11, 2019 / The Lacent

Dengue is the most rapidly spreading vector-borne disease globally. The Global Burden of Disease study estimated that dengue accounted for 1.14 million (0.73 million–1.98 million) disability-adjusted life-years in 2013, with the southeast Asia region contributing 52% of the disease burden. India contributed to 34% of the 96 million apparent dengue virus (DENV) infections estimated to have occurred globally in 2010. Most Indian states have been classified as having frequent or continuous risk of dengue transmission. A meta-analysis of published studies from India estimated a dengue case-fatality ratio of 2.6% (95% CI 2.0–3.4). Although dengue is a notifiable disease in India, studies and modelling estimates suggest that the disease is grossly under-reported. Using surveillance data, WHO estimated that 12 484 dengue cases occurred in India in 2010, whereas 32 million apparent cases were estimated based on mathematical models. Another study reported that the actual number of cases in the country were 282 times the number reported by the national vector-borne disease control programme. The dengue disease burden in India is poorly quantified. Existing public health surveillance systems are not sensitive; mild febrile illnesses are less likely to be diagnosed and reported. The data from the private sector, where most patients seek care, largely remains

untapped. The survey team, on reaching the identified cluster, appraised residents or local leaders about the purpose of survey, and enumerated households in the CEB residing for more than 6 months. During enumeration, all households were numbered and identification details of people residing in the households, including name, age, and sex were collected with the use of tablets with an android application developed for the survey. After completing enumeration, data were uploaded to the central server of the **Indian Council of Medical Research**-National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE), Chennai.

### **E-cigarettes, e-hookah could be banned soon**

June 12, 2019 / The Times of India

NEW DELHI: E-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) like vape, e-Sheesha and e-hookah may soon face a ban in the country. The government's top drug advisory body - Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) - has approved a proposal to prohibit manufacture, sale, distribution and import of all ENDS products citing potential risk to public health, mainly non-smokers, a top official source said. The decision comes in the wake of latest recommendations by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** as well as observations from the expert committee constituted by the health ministry to examine the issue. The council cited scientific data that shows ENDS contain nicotine which is highly addictive and harmful for health. The move also assumes significance because it can block plans of various multinational companies selling e-cigarettes and other such products to foray in the Indian market. "DTAB has evaluated the evidence, studied the recommendations in detail and have arrived at a decision that ENDS should be banned immediately as they can pose serious risk to public health as well as a threat government's anti-tobacco measures," the official told TOI. The proposal now needs a final approval from the health minister before it is notified by the ministry.

### **State Health Department Set For Free Kidney Dialysis In Government Hospitals**

June 12, 2019 / The Sentinel Assam

GUWAHATI: From June 14-20 this year, the State Health Department is set to render free-of-cost kidney dialysis. The department is going to make eight such facilities available in as many centres in phase-1 across the State. There will be 18 such centres in phases. Such succour for patients suffering from **kidney**-related ailment is possible following a tie-up between the State Health and Family Welfare department and Apollo Hospital under the 'Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme'. Making it public before the media here on Tuesday, State Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said: "While we'll provide dialysis machines and other infrastructure, Apollo Hospital will provide the manpower (expertise). Each of the eight hospitals chosen for the facility will have six dialysis machines. One of them will be exclusively reserved for HIV positive patients." Sarma said: "Even in government hospitals, per dialysis costs Rs 2,000-3,000. Thus, this free-of-cost dialysis service is going to benefit middle class and poor people. However, there are no specific economic criteria for availing this facility. Those who want to avail this free-of-cost service can go to one of the eight hospitals. If doctors there prescribe dialysis, they can get it done in any of the dialysis centres." Sharing details of the

facility, Sarma said: Fairfax India Charitable Trust has provided 105 dialysis machines free of cost. We need to pay Apollo Hospital for the manpower it will provide. The Government of India, on the other hand, is going to reimburse us the amount which we're going to pay Apollo Hospital." According to the Minister, the hospitals where the dialysis machines will be installed in the first phase are: Nalbari, Darrang, Tinsukia, Morigaon, Barpeta, Bongaigaon (one machine each) and Sonitpur (two). Sarma, however, expressed his worry over the increased cases of kidney-related diseases, these days. He feels that excessive use of chemical fertilizers by commercial vegetable growers in lower and central Assam might have something to do with the increase in such diseases. "The use of fertilizers may increase vegetable yield. We, however, can't ignore possible health hazards because of this practice," the Minister said, adding: "We're contemplating on moving the **ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)** with a request for a research to ascertain if there's any adverse effect of chemical fertilizers on vegetables in Assam."

### [Health Ministry proposes to ban electronic smoking devices by classifying them as 'drugs'](#)

June 12, 2019 / Kashmir Reader

New Delhi: Going tough on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), including e-cigarettes, the health ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. According to official sources, the proposal has been approved by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), the government's top advisory body on technical matters related to medicines in the country. The move comes amid a raging debate over the harm-reduction aspects of ENDS. Some organisations claim that these devices help in smoking cessation and are less harmful alternatives to traditional cigarettes, while the government is seeking to ban them contending they pose health risks to users, similar to those of conventional cigarettes. ENDS are devices that heat a solution to create an aerosol, which also frequently contains flavours, usually dissolved into propylene glycol and glycerin. There are various types of ENDS devices like e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn devices, vape, e-sheesha, e-nicotine flavoured hookah among others. Asserting that availability of ENDS devices is widespread in the country and is posing serious health risks, the proposal mentioned that the safety aspect of these products has not been established and their efficacy on Indian population too has not have been approved under the provisions of the drug law. Some states, including Punjab, Haryana, Kerala, Mizoram, Karnataka, and Jammu and Kashmir, have already banned e-cigarettes as an unapproved drug. While all of them have banned it under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, some have added the Poisons Act, 1919. Apex research body – the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has recommended a "complete ban" on ENDS, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers also. In a white paper released last month, the ICMR said e-cigarettes adversely affects the cardiovascular system, impairs respiratory immune cell function and airways in a way similar to cigarette smoking and is responsible for severe respiratory diseases.

## [End of ENDS: CDSCO moves to ban electronic smoking devices by classifying them as DRUGS](#)



June 12, 2019 / Medical Dialogues

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## [Drug Advisory Board Approves Proposal to Ban Vapes & E-Cigarettes](#)

June 12, 2019 / The Quint

Going tough on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), including e-cigarettes, the health ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. According to official sources, the proposal has been approved by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), the government's top advisory body on technical matters related to medicines in the country. The move comes amid a raging debate over the harm-reduction aspects of ENDS. Some organisations claim that these devices help in smoking cessation and are less harmful alternatives to traditional cigarettes, while the government is seeking to ban them contending they pose health risks to users, similar to those of conventional cigarettes. ENDS are devices that heat a solution to create an aerosol, which also frequently contains flavours, usually dissolved into propylene glycol and glycerin. Apex research body - the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has recommended a "complete ban" on ENDS, saying their use can initiate nicotine

addiction among non-smokers also. In a white paper released last month, the ICMR said e-cigarettes adversely affects the cardiovascular system, impairs respiratory immune cell function and airways in a way similar to cigarette smoking and is responsible for severe respiratory diseases. It also poses risk to foetal, infant and child brain development, the white paper claimed.



## **Global Cancer Diagnostics Market – Global Drivers, Restraints, Opportunities, Trends, and Forecasts: 2018–2024**

June 12, 2019 / Investor Opinion

Overview: Cancer diagnostic testing involves tests and procedures that confirms the presence of disease and identify the correct tumor type, location, extent and stage which will help physician to give the appropriate treatment. Biopsy, imaging tests, nuclear medicine scans, tumor biomarker tests are some of the diagnostic tests used for cancer diagnostics. According to the estimation of National cancer institute, in US around 1.6 million new cases of cancer are diagnosed, and 595,690 people have died due to cancer in 2016. Canada has estimated 202,400 new cases of cancer and nearly 78,000 deaths according to Canadian cancer society in 2016. While in Europe, 1.3 million people were diagnosed in 2015. According to National cancer institute, nearly 60% new cases of cancer are from Asia, Africa, Central and South American countries and nearly 70% of cancer deaths are also from this region. China has witnessed 4.3 million new cases of cancer and 2.8 million deaths in 2015. According to Indian council for medical research, India accounts for 1.4 million new cases of cancer and 736,000 cancer related death in 2016. The cancer diagnostics market is booming due to increasing incidence of cancer globally, growing elderly population across the globe, increased use of personalized medicine in clinical practice, and development of new novel technologies such as nanotechnology. However, lack of skilled labors and high cost of diagnosis are some of the factors hampering the market growth to an extent. Market Analysis: The “Global Cancer Diagnostics Market” is estimated to witness a CAGR of 11.6% during the forecast period 2018–2024. The market is analyzed based on four segments – method of diagnosis, application, end-user and regions. Regional Analysis: The regions covered in the report are North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Rest of the World (RoW). The North America is set to be the leading region for the cancer diagnostics market growth followed by Europe, Asia Pacific and Rest of the World. Method of diagnosis Analysis: The global Cancer Diagnostics market by method of diagnosis is segmented into tumor biomarker tests, tissue diagnostics (biopsy), liquid biopsy, imaging, and others. Imaging occupied the largest share in 2017, and liquid biopsy is expected to grow at a high CAGR in the coming years due to high preference of molecular based non-invasive tests, and increasing adoption of personalized medicine. Imaging is further segmented into magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography, ultrasound, mammography, and nuclear imaging.

## 'Morbidity obesity, damaged knee trap patients'

June 13, 2019 / Deccan Herald



The morbid obesity of a 71-year-old retired man has put the spotlight on a growing epidemic of unhealthy weight-gain, a common feature among India's adults. The man, an Indian national residing in the United States, has been referred to Manipal Hospitals for a knee replacement surgery, after another hospital had refused to treat him due to concerns of medical complications. Dr Lokesh Veerappa, a joint replacement surgeon designated as the treating physician, identified a larger lifestyle flaw as the bedridden patient used a CPAP breathing machine to compensate for his respiratory problems. "His obesity was at the root of all his (health) problems," Dr Veerappa said. "He stopped walking, which led to the worsening of his health, and was the onset of depression." The combination of knee osteoarthritis and morbid obesity traps patients in a vicious cycle of bad health and lack of exercise, Dr Veerappa explained, as the knees suffer early damage and prevent the patient from exercising and losing weight. Dr Veerappa said the patient regained mobility following the successful knee replacement and lost several kilos of weight. A study by the **Indian Council of Medical Research**–India Diabetes noted how the country's growing affluence is transforming the health issues faced by citizens. "Under-nutrition due to poverty, which dominated in the past, is being rapidly replaced by obesity associated with affluence, resulting in an estimated 88 million individuals in the country who are overweight," it said. The study also said 135 million individuals have generalised obesity, 153 million with abdominal obesity and 107 million with combined obesity. City-based endocrinologist Dr A Sharda said the trend that afflicts all age groups reflects the changing nature of the Indian dietary preferences. The shrinking public space for exercise and recreation is a factor in the growing sedentary lifestyle of people, she added.

## VP Sharma memorial lecture held at UCOST

June 13, 2019 / Daily Pioneer

The valedictory session of brainstorming session on climate change and Professor VP Sharma Memorial Lecture celebrating 150 years of Gandhi, was organised by National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) Uttarakhand chapter and Uttarakhand State Council of Science and Technology (UCOST) here on Wednesday. Speaking as the chief guest, Department of Health Research secretary and director general of **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** Professor (Dr) Balram Bhargava said that 26 national institutes, 57 field stations, 40 centres for advanced research, 100 viral labs, 74 medical research units and 14 rural research units are working under the supervision of ICMR. He spoke of Gandhian virtues- cleanliness, developing villages, physical activity, mental strength, healthy mother and child. He also talked about National Priorities for Disease Eradication. Bhargava said that ICMR has played a major role in combating various infectious diseases and emerging and re-emerging viruses, outbreak/epidemic investigations and management of natural disasters. ICMR has also contributed to the national health policy, health systems and health programmes in knowledge generation over the last 100 years. He also mentioned that ICMR has developed 13 medical devices and trained 125 innovators which led to 11 start-ups. Former secretary, Government of India, NASI, Prayagraj, Manju Sharma spoke about the brainstorming session held on June 11, adding that all the recommendations will be discussed with the

ministry concerned. Adviser in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, JR Bhat spoke on glaciers, wetlands and natural disasters in India. He also talked about observed impacts of climate change in India. He also said that National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) aimed at achieving sustainable development, and India's mitigation targets provides an overarching umbrella for mitigation actions at all levels. He stressed on the need to regenerate and protect the resources. The UCOST director general Rajendra Dobhal also expressed his views on the occasion.



### [Telmisartan Market 2019 | Propelling Growth, Outlook, and Analysis by 2026](#)

June 13, 2019 / Newsaim

Prevalence of high blood pressures, is increasing globally attributed to rising geriatric population, chronic disorders such as diabetes, and changing lifestyles which in turn is expected to increase the demand for telmisartan in global market. According to Blood Pressure UK, 2017 update, high blood pressure is the leading cause of heart disease and stroke, killing around 7.5 million people worldwide every year. In 1975, 594 million people were suffering from high blood pressure which increased to 1.1 billion in 2015 and is thought to be due to population growth and an aging population. Furthermore, increasing approvals for Abbreviated new Drug Application (ANDA) for manufacturing of generic telmisartan tablets is propelling growth of telmisartan in the global market. For instance, in July 2014, Glenmark Generics Inc., USA—a subsidiary of Glenmark Generics Limited—received ANDA approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) for telmisartan tablets. Telmisartan is a prescription medication often prescribed to relax and widen blood vessels in persons with high blood pressure. Telmisartan belongs to a group of drugs called angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs). Telmisartan may be used alone or in combination with other medications such as hydrochlorothiazide for treatment of high blood pressure. Moreover, increasing government initiatives for hypertension management is expected to drive growth of the global Telmisartan market. For instance, in December 2017, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) and Secretary, Department of Health Research (DHR) and Director General, **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** launched, the India Hypertension Management Initiative (IHMI). The IHMI aims to reduce disability and death related to cardiovascular disease (CVD), by improving control over high blood pressure (hypertension), reducing salt consumption from food, and eliminating artificial trans-fats, which are leading risk factors for developing CVD.

### [Are ENDS really less harmful than cigarettes?](#)

June 13, 2019 / Oneindia

The future of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) in India seems bleak as the Health Ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices, including e-cigarettes, as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. Citing official sources, PTI has reported that the proposal has been approved by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB). The report says that the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has proposed that manufacture, sale, and distribution of ENDS, should be prohibited under Section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, while their import should be outlawed under Section 10A of the legislation.

ENDS or e-cigarettes are manufactured in such a way to resemble traditional tobacco products like cigarettes, pipes, cigars, and common gadgets like flash drives, flashlights, or pens. Currently, there are more than 460 different e-cigarette brands with the varied configuration of nicotine delivery available in the market. The CAIT has claimed of researching the pros and cons of ENDS and said that 98 countries like the United States, UK, and Canada have come up with robust frameworks that ensure stringent and transparent regulation that address the risks and benefits of the category adequately. The trades' body has also questioned research by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which released its study on ENDS on May 31 this year.

### **Medical Image Analysis Software Market Estimated to Rise at a Lucrative CAGR of 8.1% from 2018 to 2026**

June 13, 2019 / Market Industry Reports

The global Medical Imaging Analysis Market was valued at approximately US\$ 2.6 Bn in 2017. It is projected to register a cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) of more than 8.1% from 2018 to 2026, according to a new report published by Transparency Market Research (TMR) titled 'Medical Imaging Analysis Software Market – Global Industry Analysis, Size, Share, Growth, Trends, and Forecast, 2018–2026.' Expansion of the health care industry, government initiatives, increase in health care expenditure, rise in product approvals, and increase in the patient population are projected to augment the global market from 2018 to 2026. North America and Western Europe are likely to account for a dominant share of the global medical image analysis software market owing to advancements in healthcare and products and business expansion by various market leaders. Development of health care infrastructure and high medical expenditure by governments in emerging markets, such as China and India, are likely to boost the medical image analysis software market in Asia Pacific at a CAGR of around 8.9% from 2018 to 2026. The market in Asia Pacific is anticipated to expand at an impressive CAGR during the forecast period. The market is estimated to expand at a CAGR of 8.9% during the forecast period. India, China, and Japan are expected to drive the medical image analysis software market in Asia Pacific. Increasing prevalence of cardiovascular diseases and cancer in countries such as India and China, increasing awareness regarding early diagnosis of chronic diseases and improving economic condition are expected to fuel the market. According to **Indian Council of Medical Research**, prevalence of cancer in India is around 2.5 million people among which, 800,000 new cases are detected and 550,000 deaths occur every year due to cancer. In reference to the study published by A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, cancer has been the leading cause of death in China since 2010.

With regards,

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