



# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

LEADING HEALTH, POPULATION AND FAMILY WELFARE STORIES OF THE DAY  
Friday 20190215

## **Novel blood test**

### **Novel blood test can measure severity of pain (The Tribune: 20190215)**

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/health/novel-blood-test-can-measure-severity-of-pain/728936.html>

Researchers looked at biomarkers found in the blood—in this case molecules that reflect disease severity.

A first-of-its kind blood test that can measure the severity of pain in patients may help curb unnecessary prescriptions of painkillers, which are often addictive.

For the study published in the journal *Molecular Psychiatry*, researchers tracked hundreds of participants to identify biomarkers in the blood that can help objectively determine how severe a patient's pain is.

The blood test would allow physicians far more accuracy in treating pain—as well as a better long-term look at the patient's medical future.

"We have developed a prototype for a blood test that can objectively tell doctors if the patient is in pain, and how severe that pain is," said Alexander Niculescu, a professor at Indiana University in the US.

"It's very important to have an objective measure of pain, as pain is a subjective sensation. Until now we have had to rely on patients self-reporting or the clinical impression the doctor has," said Niculescu.

"When we started this work it was a farfetched idea. But the idea was to find a way to treat and prescribe things more appropriately to people who are in pain," he said.

Researchers looked at biomarkers found in the blood—in this case molecules that reflect disease severity.

Much like as glucose serves as a biomarker to diabetes, these biomarkers allow doctors to assess the severity of the pain the patient is experiencing, and provide treatment in an objective, quantifiable manner.

With an opioid epidemic becoming an increasing concern, Niculescu said never has there been a more important time to administer drugs to patients responsibly.

"The opioid epidemic occurred because addictive medications were overprescribed due to the fact that there was no objective measure whether someone was in pain, or how severe their pain was," Niculescu said.

"Before, doctors weren't being taught good alternatives. The thought was that this person says they are in pain, let's prescribe it. Now people are seeing that this created a huge problem," he said.

"We need alternatives to opioids, and we need to treat people in a precise fashion. This test we've developed allows for that," he added.

In addition to providing an objective measure of pain, the blood test helps physicians match the biomarkers in the patient's blood with potential treatment options.

Researchers utilise a prescription database—similar to fingerprint databases employed by the FBI—to match the pain biomarkers with profiles of drugs and natural compounds cataloged in the database.

"The biomarker is like a fingerprint, and we match it against this database and see which compound would normalise the signature," said Niculescu.

"We found some compounds that have been used for decades to treat other things pair the best with the biomarkers. We have been able to match biomarkers with existing medications, or natural compounds, which would reduce or eliminate the need to use the opioids," he added.

## **Pregnancy**

### **Canned food during pregnancy could affect baby's health: Study (The Tribune: 20190215)**

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/health/canned-food-during-pregnancy-could-affect-baby-s-health-study/728926.html>

The findings are particularly relevant since there are implications for both foetal and women's health.

Eating canned food during pregnancy can put the baby at risk of exposure to an industrial chemical bisphenol A (BPA), potentially affecting their reproductive health in later life, scientists say.

While previous studies have shown the adverse health effects of prenatal exposure to BPA, there is little evidence surrounding effects specifically on ovarian function.

Researchers from Boston University in the US found that there is sufficient data to raise concerns regarding exposure and ovarian performance.

Detectable in surface water and soil sediments, BPA is used in many industrial processes and in the lining of food cans.

While the greatest exposure is dietary from canned foods and plastic containers, skin exposure is a secondary route of smaller exposure, researchers said.

Ovarian development and function represents a complex coordination of processes, starting early during prenatal development. Early aberrations have the potential to carry through the female reproductive lifespan, according to the researchers.

To examine whether a prenatal environmental exposure can pose a real threat to human ovarian function, the team performed a literature search in PubMed (from 2000 to June 2018), to examine existing literature surrounding prenatal exposure to BPA.

"We found there is mounting evidence for the effects of these exposures in the prenatal period, a particularly vulnerable time of development," explained corresponding author Shruthi Mahalingaiah, assistant professor at Boston University.

"Whether there are causative associations with human ovulation disorders needs to be further studied," said Mahalingaiah.

The findings are particularly relevant since there are implications for both foetal and women's health.

"Understanding the effect that BPA exposure has on ovarian outcomes may contribute to the treatment approach taken for diseases and disorders in which ovarian dysfunction is a manifestation such as infertility, polycystic ovary syndrome and premature ovarian failure," said Mahalingaiah.

The researchers hope their study raises awareness to the lasting effects that harmful prenatal exposures may have and that additional studies looking at the long-term effects of endocrine disrupting chemicals in diverse populations will be undertaken. — PTI

## **Birth control pills**

### **Birth control pills could impair women's ability to recognise emotion (The Tribune: 20190215)**

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/health/birth-control-pills-could-impair-women-s-ability-to-recognise-emotion/727874.html>

Birth control pills could impair women's ability to recognise emotion

The study showed that healthy women who use birth control pills are poorer judges of subtle facial expressions than non-users. — iStock

Despite the widespread use of oral contraceptives (OCPs) by women, many are not aware that it may impair their ability to recognise others' emotional expressions, which may have serious consequences in interpersonal contexts, suggests a new study.

The study showed that healthy women who use birth control pills are poorer judges of subtle facial expressions than non-users.

"More than 100 million women worldwide use oral contraceptives, but remarkably little is known about their effects on emotion, cognition and behaviour," said senior author Alexander Lischke from the University of Greifswald in Germany.

"However, coincidental findings suggest that oral contraceptives impair the ability to recognise emotional expressions of others which could affect the way users initiate and maintain intimate relationships," said Lischke.

To investigate the effects of OCPs on women's emotion recognition, the researchers administered a special emotion recognition task to two similar groups of healthy women: 42 OCP users and 53 non-users.

The findings, published in *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, showed that OCP users were nearly 10 per cent less accurate on average than non-users in deciphering the most enigmatic emotional expressions.

Though the groups were equally good at recognising easy expressions, the OCP users were less likely to correctly identify difficult expressions, results showed.

The effect held for both positive and negative expressions, and regardless of the type of OCP or the menstrual cycle phase of non-users.

"Cyclic variations of estrogen and progesterone levels are known to affect women's emotion recognition and influence activity and connections in associated brain regions. Since oral contraceptives work by suppressing estrogen and progesterone levels, it makes sense that oral contraceptives also affect women's emotion recognition," said Lischke.

There is a need for further studies that replicate and extend the findings of the present study before thinking about changing current guidelines regarding the prescription of OCPs, the study noted. —

## **Air quality**

### **Delhi: More rain ahead, air quality to improve over the week (The Indian Express: 20190215)**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/delhi-more-rain-ahead-air-quality-to-improve-over-the-week-5584776/>

Delhi weather today: NCR experiences light rainfall, cold winds

delhi, delhi weather, delhi rains, imd, delhi thunderstorms, safar app, delhi air, air pollution, delhi news

Thunderstorms lashed Delhi-NCR, Thursday. Abhinav Saha

Parts of Delhi and NCR received intermittent spells of rain throughout Thursday. According to officials at the India Meteorological Department, the Safdarjung observatory — considered the official centre for Delhi — recorded 13 mm of rain through the day.

According to officials at the IMD, there are more rainy days ahead. “The skies will be generally cloudy. There will be very light rain and thundershowers. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be between 23 and 14 degrees Celsius,” said an IMD official.

Heavier rain is expected again on Tuesday and Wednesday next week, officials added.

As per records, Delhi has already received over 25 mm of rain this month, which is over 200% the amount it normally receives. The month of February, so far, has been the wettest since 2014, when the city recorded 48.8 mm of rain. Delhi received no rain in February in 2018 and 2017.

On Thursday, the minimum temperature was high because of cloud cover and was recorded at 13.9 degrees Celsius, three degrees above normal. The maximum was recorded at 23 degrees Celsius, a degree below normal.

Humidity levels also remained high — oscillating between 98% and 77%.

Strong winds on Thursday evening meant that air quality started to improve from “very poor”, that was recorded till 4 pm, by the Central Pollution Control Board. According to real-time data, concentration of particulate matter came down to “poor” levels by evening.

“Thundershowers and winds associated with the westerly disturbances occurred in many places over Delhi and surrounding areas. The rain also helped wash away particulate matter. Air quality will further improve to ‘moderate’ on Friday and will steadily improve till early next week,” said officials at SAFAR.

## **Sleeping**

### **How sleep helps your body fight germs (The Times of India: 20190215)**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/how-sleep-helps-your-body-fight-germs/articleshow/68002677.cms>

It looks like your mother was right: when you’ve got a cold, sleep may be the best medicine. German researchers have discovered one way sleep improves the body’s ability to fight off a cold. Sleep, it seems, strengthens the potency of certain immune cells by improving their chances of attaching to-and eventually destroying-cells infected with viruses.

Researchers focused on T cells, which battle infections. When T cells spot a virally infected cell, they activate a sticky protein known as an integrin that allows them to adhere to that cell. The researchers were able to prove that lack of sleep, as well as sustained periods of stress,

lead to higher levels of hormones that appear to block the master switch that activates the sticky proteins.

If you want to have your immune system tuned up to fight off invaders, “get the needed amount of sleep every night and avoid chronic stress,” said study leader Stoyan Dimitrov, a researcher at the University of Tübingen, Germany

## **Eye inflammation**

### **Patients report eye inflammation, Intas recalls its drug batch (The Times of India: 20190215)**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/companies/undertaking-detailed-analysis-patients-report-eye-inflammation-intas-recalls-its-drug-batch-4596914/>

'When we came down, the bus wasn't there. It had been completely charred'

The prime accused: How and why JeM is upping its deadly act

J&K Governor admits: Intelligence failure... we are at fault also

With some patients reporting inflammation in their eyes due to Intas Pharmaceuticals' drug Razumab, the company has advised the doctors to not use any drug of this particular batch. It has also recalled this batch from the market to undergo internal testing at its quality control (QC) lab.

“Intas is aware of few incidences of post injection inflammation reported pertaining to this specific batch, the reported incidences are well within the limits, which were managed by usual anti-inflammatory treatment. We are extremely conscious of our product quality and are undertaking a detailed analysis of the same. Since patient's safety is paramount to us, hence till the time the analysis is completed, we have advised the doctors to avoid using the product from this specific batch,” Intas Pharmaceuticals' spokesperson told The Indian Express.

According to an email sent by Raja Narayanan, secretary, Vitreo Retina Society – India (VRSI), to its members, the company has “advised not use Razumab injection of batch number 18020020”. The VRSI has total 750 ophthalmologists as its members spread across the country. “VRSI is gathering more facts on the situation. It is advised that all members be alert and exercise abundance of precaution with other batches of Razumab also,” Narayanan added in his email. In its preliminary report, the VRSI stated that

Intas has recalled all vials of this batch for internal testing at company's QC lab.

This is the second time VRSI has reported the adverse reactions of Razumab. It first reported the adverse reactions in 2015, just two months after the brand was launched by Intas Pharmaceuticals. Consequently, Intas had curtailed the distribution of Razumab then. Ranibizumab is the name of the molecule; Intas Pharmaceuticals and Novartis sell them in the

Indian market under the brand name Razumab and Lucentis, respectively. Lucentis is the market leader and is available for approximately Rs 75000 per 1 ml injection at a retail chemist.

In 2015, Intas became the first company globally to launch biosimilar version of Ranibizumab. According to retailers, Razumab is available at around 25 per cent lower price in the country. Meanwhile, Naryanan told The Indian Express that as a standard procedure, Intas Pharma has withdrawn this particular batch of Razumab that has caused adverse reactions in some patients.

Woman kisses Rahul Gandhi during a rally in Valsad

Intas Pharmaceuticals' spokesperson told The Indian Express: "It is a known fact that, few patients getting such intravitreal injections are likely to experience such inflammation, as also reported in published data and pack insert of innovator Ranibizumab (mentioned as 18 per cent of patients). The reported incidences are well within the limits."

In people with a certain type of eye disease, new blood vessels grow under the retina where they leak blood and fluid. This is known as the "wet form" of macular degeneration. Ranibizumab is used to treat wet age-related macular degeneration. This molecule is also used to treat swelling in the retina caused by diabetes or by a blockage in the blood vessels.

J&K Governor admits: Intelligence failure... we are at fault also

The VRSI had issued a primary alert on March 18 after first incidents of intraocular (middle layer of the eye) inflammation were reported, after which it did a preliminary investigation. In preliminary investigation, it found that "total 11 eyes from 5 centers" have reported this inflammation.

"Batch (180200)20 was released from factory on February 28. Intas had released 824 vials of Razumab to stockists. 435 vials were purchased by various doctors/hospitals. 182 out of those 435 were used on patients. The first reports of inflammation were received on March 9. As soon as the first events were reported to Intas, the company gave two samples each for clinical testing to two VRSI members. Both reported inflammation after the first injection itself. Intas advised us to stop use of batch 20," the preliminary report stated.

"Total 11 eyes from 5 centers out of 182 injections have officially reported inflammation. All patients were treated with topical steroids and some with oral steroids. Intas has recalled all vials of batch 20 and is undergoing internal testing in their QC lab. Other batches have not been reported to cause inflammation. Intas will share the QC report with VRSI in the next three days," the preliminary report of VRSI added.

Intas Pharmaceuticals' spokesperson told The Indian Express: "Intas markets Razumab for debilitating eye complications of diabetes like diabetic macular edema, diabetic retinopathy where no other alternatives exist. We market it as social responsibility to alleviate sufferings of such patients of our country. As a responsible organization, we continuously strive to update the medical experts on the scientific aspects of our products and expected adverse events."

## Depression Drugs (The Asian Age: 20190215)

<http://onlinepaper.asianage.com/articledetailpage.aspx?id=12452465>

# First big depression drug since Prozac set to get nod

CYNTHIA KOONS &  
ANNA EDNEY  
FEB. 14

The US Food and Drug Administration is on the brink of approving a breakthrough drug that could upend the way severe depression is treated.

Johnson & Johnson's esketamine, a close chemical cousin of the anesthetic ketamine, cleared a major hurdle on Tuesday when a panel of outside experts recommended that the FDA approve the treatment. The fast-acting antidepressant, administered via a nasal spray, is being tested in major depressive disorder and suicidal thinking. If approved, it would be the first major therapeutic advance for depression since the introduction of Prozac in 1987.

Prozac and other currently available antidepressants take weeks to work and don't help all



patients, so esketamine could mark a significant shift in depression therapy.

The panel voted 14-2 with one abstention that the benefits of the drug and a safety program proposed by the company to keep it from being misused outweigh the risks of abuse.

"I believe esketamine has the potential to be a game-changer in the treatment of depression," Walter Dunn, a panel member and a psychiatrist at the West Los

Angeles Veterans Administration Medical Center, said after the vote. "The rates of response in this treatment-resistant population are better than we've seen. The rapid timeline of response is better. There's nothing approved that gets patients better this fast."

Amid the opioid addiction and overdose epidemic in the US, the panel of experts weighed the abuse potential of ketamine, which at much higher doses is a party drug and can put users into a "k hole" in which they're unable to interact with the world around them. In a report ahead of the meeting, agency staff called ketamine abuse "relatively uncommon," with just 1.3 per cent of people over age 12 abusing the drug, lower than the abuse rates for other hallucinogens like ecstasy and LSD.

— Bloomberg

## Antiplatelet therapy

## Now, reversible antiplatelet therapy to fight clotting, cancer metastasis (New Kerala: 20190215)

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/101830/now-reversible-antiplatelet-therapy-to-fight-clotting-cancer-metastasis.html>

Now, a new study published on Wednesday says that a reversible, drug-free antiplatelet therapy could reduce the risk of blood clots and potentially prevent cancer metastasis.

The therapeutic approach involves modifying human platelets to create decoys that are still capable of binding to some cells but will not aggregate or carry out the other normal platelet functions, including chemical signalling associated with the clotting process.

Speaking about it, lead author Anne-Laure Papa said, The reversibility and immediate onset of action are major advantages of our platelet decoys, and we envision them to be useful in hospital-based situations.

Papa added, The therapy could prevent clotting in high-risk patients just before they undergo surgery, or be given to cancer patients alongside chemotherapy to prevent existing tumors from spreading.

While platelets play a vital role in halting bleeding and help protecting against minor and life-threatening bleedings, hyperactive platelets can also contribute to various disorders, including severe blood clots, heart disease and cancer.

While several antiplatelet drugs fight clots, their effects are not easily reversible, leaving patients vulnerable if they develop unexpected severe bleeding or are in need of an emergency surgical procedure.

Platelets also play an important part in cancer metastasis by binding to tumour cells and protecting them both from the body's immune system and shear stress as they circulate in the bloodstream. They may also help the cancer cells exit through blood vessels and seed distant tissues during the process of metastasis.

In their journey towards creating decoy platelets, the research team used a detergent treatment and centrifugation to strip natural human platelets of their inner structures and remove their basic activation and aggregation abilities.

These decoy platelets became about one-third the size of a regular platelet while retaining a majority of adhesion receptors on their surface. This allows them to bind to other cells in the bloodstream, such as cancer cells, but not become active during the blood clotting process.

The researchers, led by Dr. Papa and Donald E. Ingber, first examined how the decoys might impede the formation of blood clots. The team injected the decoys into a microfluidic blood-vessel-mimicking device and observed how the decoys reacted to various platelet-stimulating chemicals.

They found the decoys did not show typical clotting behaviours, and when added to human blood within the device, the normal platelets showed a reduced ability to aggregate and create a clot by binding to the vessel's walls.

Furthermore, the researchers quickly reversed the effects of the decoys on normal platelets by introducing fresh platelets into the blood.

Dr Papa said, Our ability to reverse the platelet inhibiting effects with a simple reintroduction of normal platelets is very encouraging as currently available anti-platelet agents are often difficult to reverse in emergency settings such as severe bleeding.

Based on the key role platelets play in supporting cancer metastasis in the bloodstream, the team sought to target circulating tumour cells with their cellular approach. The decoy platelets were able to compete with normal platelets when binding to cancer cells and were effective in preventing cancer cell extrusion out of a vasculature-emulating microfluidic chip model.

Furthermore, in a model of metastasis, there was a significant reduction in the burden of established metastatic tumours when cancer cells were introduced simultaneously with platelets and decoys.

## **Depression**

### **Study finds cannabis use in teens raises risk of depression in young adults (New Kerala: 20190215)**

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/101819/study-finds-cannabis-use-in-teens-raises-risk-of-depression-in-young-adults.html>

While a lot of studies have been conducted on the role of cannabis use in psychosis, considerably less attention has been paid to whether cannabis use is associated with an increased risk of mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.

The research, conducted by experts from the McGill University and the University of Oxford, carried out a systematic review and meta-analysis of the best existing evidence and analysed 23,317 individuals (from 11 international studies) to see whether use of cannabis in young people is associated with depression, anxiety and suicidality in early adulthood.

The study authors found that cannabis use among adolescents is associated with a significant increased risk of depression and suicidality as adults.

While the individual-level risk was found to be modest, the widespread use of the drug by young people makes the scale of the risk much more serious.

Speaking about it, one of the authors of the study, Dr. Gabriella Gobbi said, While the link between cannabis and mood regulation has been largely studied in preclinical studies, there was still a gap in clinical studies regarding the systematic evaluation of the link between adolescent cannabis consumption and the risk of depression and suicidal behaviour in young adulthood. This study aimed to fill this gap, helping mental health professionals and parents to better address this problem.

Another author, Professor Andrea Cipriani, added that they looked at the effects of cannabis because its use among young people is very common. However, he elaborated that the importance of the study lies in the fact that the long-term effects of cannabis are still poorly understood.

We carefully selected the best studies carried out since 1993 and included only the methodologically sound ones to rule out important confounding factors, such as premorbid depression, he said, adding, Our findings about depression and suicidality are very relevant for clinical practice and public health. Although the size of the negative effects of cannabis can

vary between individual adolescents and it is not possible to predict the exact risk for each teenager, the widespread use of cannabis among the young generations makes it an important public health issue.

The active ingredient in cannabis, THC, mediates most of psychoactive and mood-related effects of cannabis and also has addictive properties. It is thought that cannabis may alter the physiological neurodevelopment (frontal cortex and limbic system) of adolescent brains.

While the review of observational studies was the first to look at the effects of cannabis use in adolescents only, it was not possible to predict the risk at the individual level, nor was it possible to discern information about the dose-dependent risk of cannabis use.

## **Aortic surgery**

### **Women more likely to have poorer outcomes following aortic surgery (New Kerala: 20190215)**

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/101817/women-more-likely-to-have-poorer-outcomes-following-aortic-surgery.html>

A new study now finds that women fare worse than men following aortic heart surgery.

The research saw women examining three different outcomes: early death, stroke and a composite of complications - cases where women were more likely to be sicker.

The study, published in February 2019's sex-themed issue of *Circulation*, found if you're a woman, you're twice as likely to experience a stroke or death following surgery.

The study found that women are 80 per cent more likely to die, 90 per cent more likely to experience a stroke, and 40 per cent more likely to experience a complication.

Speaking about the study, lead author of the study Dr. Jennifer Chung said, We controlled for patients' age, weight, pre-operative health, co-morbidities, and when we took all of that into consideration, going into aortic arch surgery, you're slightly less than twice as likely to die if you're a woman.

The paper's senior investigator Dr. Michael Chu added these findings are consistent with their recent findings in cardiovascular medicine that also suggest women experience worse outcomes.

Historically, this issue has not been well addressed, Dr. Chu said, adding, Sex-specific considerations are paramount in cardiovascular medicine, and we investigated this in the largest study to-date, looking at outcomes after thoracic aortic surgery.

The experts found that between men and women, when people came for elective versus emergency surgery - women still did worse either way.

An aortic dissection is an emergency, and can initially present like a heart attack or a stroke. Symptoms include sudden chest pain, dizziness, nausea and challenges walking and speaking.

Dr. Chung stresses this study should prompt further research that will help clinicians figure out why women are suffering from poorer outcomes than men.

She added, We have discovered an unfortunate phenomenon that will hopefully lead us down a path of more personalised medicine.

## **Postmenopausal women**

### **Diet drinks may up strokes in postmenopausal women: Study (New Kerala: 20190215)**

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/101806/diet-drinks-may-up-strokes-in-postmenopausal-women-study.html>

Are diet drinks your choice? Beware, your heart could be at risk. A new study suggests that drinking diet drinks was associated with an increased risk of having a stroke among postmenopausal women, researchers say.

The stroke is was caused by a blocked artery, especially small arteries.

The study, published in the journal Stroke, showed that compared with women who consumed diet drinks less than once a week or not at all, women who consumed two or more artificially sweetened beverages per day were 23 per cent more likely to have a stroke, 31 per cent more likely to have ischemic stroke, and 29 per cent were at risk of developing heart disease (fatal or non-fatal heart attack).

In addition, there was a 16 per cent risk of deaths from any cause.

Furthermore, stroke risks more than doubled in women without previous heart disease or diabetes and obese women without previous heart disease or diabetes, findings revealed.

"Many well-meaning people, especially those who are overweight or obese, drink low-calorie sweetened drinks to cut calories in their diet. Our research and other observational studies have shown that artificially-sweetened beverages may not be harmless and high consumption is associated with a higher risk of stroke and heart disease," said lead author Yasmin Mossavar-Rahmani, Associate Professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the US.

For the study, researchers included 81,714 post-menopausal women aged 50-79 years.

The results in post-menopausal women may not be generalisable to men or younger women.

"The American Heart Association suggests water as the best choice for a no-calorie beverage," suggested Rachel K. Johnson, Professor at the University of Vermont in the US.

"Since long-term clinical trial data are not available on the effects of low-calorie sweetened drinks and cardiovascular health, given their lack of nutritional value, it may be prudent to limit their prolonged use," Johnson added.

## Mobile Dispensary

दवाएं बांटकर दुआएं बटोर रहीं चलती-फिरती डिस्पेंसरी (Dainik Gaganan:: 20190215)

[https://epaper.jagran.com/epaper/article-15-Feb-2019-edition-delhi-city-page\\_23-7275-3868-4.html](https://epaper.jagran.com/epaper/article-15-Feb-2019-edition-delhi-city-page_23-7275-3868-4.html)

उत्तर प्रदेश के अमरोहा क्षेत्र के तीन दर्जन गांवों में इलाज आसान हो चला है। इन गांवों में बसनुमा दवाखाना अकसर देखने को मिल जाएगा। हर दिन ये हाईटेक मोबाइल डिस्पेंसरी पहुंचती है, जिसमें एमबीबीएस डॉक्टर, प्रशिक्षित स्टाफ के साथ भरपूर दवाएं होती हैं। यही नहीं, इसके साथ एक एंबुलेंस भी होती है। यह सब सरकार की ओर से नहीं बल्कि मां की प्रेरणा और खुद के खर्च से एक शख्स की पहल पर संभव हो सका है।

मुफ्त दवाओं से निकली दुआओं ने बेटे को सियासी बुलंदियों तक पहुंचाया, लेकिन नीयत साफ थी, इसलिए इरादे नहीं बदले। यही वजह है कि सात साल पहले शुरू हुआ मुफ्त इलाज का सिलसिला अभी तक जारी है। बात हो रही अमरोहा के सांसद चौधरी कंवर सिंह तंवर की। सांसद बनने के बाद निजी खर्च पर हर साल 101 गरीब कन्याओं की शादी कराके वह सियासी गलियारों में छापे हैं, लेकिन पिछले सात साल से वह जिले में गरीब मरीजों को घर बैठे मुफ्त इलाज भी मुहैया करा रहे हैं। अमरोहा-दिल्ली हाईवे स्थित उनके फार्म हाउस से प्रतिदिन सुबह छह मोबाइल डिस्पेंसरी अलग-अलग दिशाओं में निकल जाती हैं। आधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस डिस्पेंसरी में डॉक्टर, नर्स व एक फार्मासिस्ट के अलावा दवाएं रहती हैं। एक डिस्पेंसरी प्रतिदिन पांच गांवों में ओपीडी करती (मरीजों को देखती) है। एक डॉक्टर प्रतिदिन डेढ़ से दो सौ मरीज देखता है। जिन गांवों में मोबाइल डिस्पेंसरी जाती है, एक दिन पहले उनके प्रधानों को इसकी सूचना दे दी जाती है। अमरोहा जनपद के अलावा गढ़ में भी प्रतिदिन एक डिस्पेंसरी जाती है। वहीं आपात सेवाओं के लिए भी एक एंबुलेंस हमेशा तैयार रहती है। सांसद तंवर के मुताबिक बचपन में उन्होंने गरीबी देखी है। अपने मूल गांव दिल्ली के असौला फतेहपुर बेरी में चाय की दुकान चलाई। बिल्डिंग मैटेरियल सप्लाय व बाद में जमीन के कारोबार में उतरे। इसकी कमाई का एक हिस्सा मां नारायणी देवी गरीबों को दान कर देती थीं। वर्ष 2000 में मां के निधन के बाद उनके नाम पर नारायणी देवी चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट बनाया। ट्रस्ट के नाम पर वर्ष 2012 से मोबाइल डिस्पेंसरी के जरिये गरीबों को इलाज दिया जा रहा है। बताया कि वह अपना पूरा वेतन भी प्रधानमंत्री राहत कोष को दान कर देते हैं।

## Swine Flu

राजधानी के अस्पतालों में पहुंचे स्वाइन फ्लू के टीके (Hindustan: 20190215)

[http://epaper.livehindustan.com/textview\\_101035\\_70416664\\_4\\_8\\_15-02-2019\\_1\\_0.html](http://epaper.livehindustan.com/textview_101035_70416664_4_8_15-02-2019_1_0.html)

केंद्र सरकार की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, 1 जनवरी से 10 फरवरी तक दिल्ली में स्वाइन फ्लू के 1669 मरीज सामने आए हैं और इस वजह से सात लोगों की मौत हुई है। हालांकि, सफदजंग अस्पताल की प्रवक्ता पूनम ढांडा के मुताबिक, उनके अस्पताल में ही स्वाइन फ्लू से सात लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल के डॉक्टरों के मुताबिक, स्वाइन फ्लू से पीड़ित 10 लोगों की मौत उनके अस्पताल में हो चुकी है।

राजधानी के कई सरकारी अस्पतालों में स्वाइन फ्लू के मरीजों के लिए वैक्सीन और दवाएं पहुंच गई हैं। इन अस्पतालों में डॉक्टरों और स्टाफ के लिए एन-95 जैसे बेहतर गुणवत्ता वाले मास्क भी उपलब्ध कराए गए हैं। 'हिन्दुस्तान' ने 11 फरवरी के अंक में दिल्ली के अस्पतालों में स्वाइन फ्लू की दवाओं और वैक्सीन की कमी की खबर प्रकाशित की थी।

उत्तरी नगर निगम के हिन्दुराव अस्पताल में मंगलवार को स्वाइन फ्लू की वैक्सीन, टैमी फ्लू और एन-95 मास्क उपलब्ध करा दिए गए। अस्पताल के मेडिसिन विभाग के एक इसी तरह दीन दयाल उपाध्याय और आचार्या भिक्षु अस्पताल में भी वैक्सीन और दवाएं उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं। वहीं,

अरुणा आसिफ अली अस्पताल के रेजिडेंट डॉक्टर एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष डॉक्टर मनु गौतम के मुताबिक, अस्पताल में दवाएं और मास्क उपलब्ध हो गए हैं। दीप चंद बंधु अस्पताल में भी स्वाइन फ्लू की वैक्सीन की 200 आकाई मंगवाई गई हैं।

केंद्र सरकार की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, 1 जनवरी से 10 फरवरी तक दिल्ली में स्वाइन फ्लू के 1669 मरीज सामने आए हैं और इस वजह से सात लोगों की मौत हुई है। हालांकि, सफदजंग अस्पताल की प्रवक्ता पूनम ढांडा के मुताबिक, उनके अस्पताल में ही स्वाइन फ्लू से सात लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल के डॉक्टरों के मुताबिक, स्वाइन फ्लू से पीड़ित 10 लोगों की मौत उनके अस्पताल में हो चुकी है।

## **Polio Vaccine ((Hindustan: 20190215)**

[http://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview\\_101050\\_96762026\\_4\\_1\\_15-02-2019\\_i\\_23.pagezoomsinwindows.php](http://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview_101050_96762026_4_1_15-02-2019_i_23.pagezoomsinwindows.php)

# दवा कंपनी ने दोगुने किए पोलियो वैक्सीन के दाम

नई दिल्ली | स्कन्द विवेक धर

## चिंताजनक

दुनिया भर के देशों को पोलियो वैक्सीन आईपीवी बेचने वाली बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनी सनोफी द्वारा आईपीवी वैक्सीन की कीमतों में करीब दो गुने का इजाफा करने से केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय चिंता में हैं। यह चिंता नई कीमतों को लेकर उतनी नहीं है, जितनी कीमत बढ़ाने में कंपनी की ओर दिखाया गया मनमाना रवैया है।

सरकार को आशंका है कि एकाधिकार का फायदा उठाकर यदि अन्य कंपनियां भी इसी तरह का व्यवहार करने लगीं तो भारत समेत तमाम विकासशील एवं गरीब देशों में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की स्थिति बदहाल हो जाएगी। बहरहाल, भारत सरकार ने विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन से इस मामले की शिकायत कर दी है। विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने उन देशों में आईपीवी टीका देने

- एकाधिकार से कीमत निर्धारण में मनमानी करने का आरोप
- मंत्रालय ने कंपनी के खिलाफ गावी से शिकायत की

की अनुशंसा की थी, जहां पोलियो का ओरल टीका दिया जाता है। यह पोलियो से सुरक्षा को पुख्ता करने के लिए दिया जाता है। वर्ष 2016 में भारत समेत सौ से अधिक देशों में इसे लागू किया गया था। इस वैक्सीन का उत्पादन यूरोप की 4-5 कंपनियां करती हैं।

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि कंपनी के इस मनमाने रवैये की शिकायत हमने विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन और टीकाकरण के लिए बने अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगठन गावी से की है।