

Insights and Commentary from Dentons

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April 2023



Don't miss the

BUZZ!

Healthcare, Pharma & Life Sciences

Weekly Insights & Updates

20 December 2022

Update on status of Foreign Medical Students on December 13, 2022

Foreign Medical Students/Graduates are either covered under "Screening Test Regulations, 2002" or "Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate Regulations, 2021". There are no such provisions in the Indian Medical Council Act 1956 & the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 as well as the Regulations to accommodate or transfer medical students from any foreign medical institutes to Indian medical colleges. No permission has been given by the NMC to transfer or accommodate any foreign medical students in any Indian medical institute/university.

[Link to press release](#)

Update on National AIDS Control Programme on December 13, 2022

Government of India provides free lifelong antiretrovirale (ARV) medicines for people living with HIV. Under its National AIDS Control Programme, presently 15.23 lakh (Approx.) people living with HIV are given ARV medicines through 687 ART centers and 1261 link ART centers irrespective of their income background. It includes free adherence counseling, diagnostic, and monitoring services like baseline laboratory investigations, CD4 count testing, viral load testing, etc.

[Link to press release](#)

Update on National Family Planning Program on December 13, 2022

The Government accords top priority to the National Family Planning Program, which is guided by the tenets of the National Population Policy 2000 and National Health Policy 2017, to address the unmet need for Family Planning.

[Link to press release](#)

Mental Health Support for Students on December 13, 2022

To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is supporting the implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under the National Mental Health Programme in 704 districts of the country for detection, management, and treatment of mental disorders/ illness with the major components of counseling in schools and colleges, workplace stress management, life skills training, suicide prevention services, and Information,

Education and Communication (IEC) activities for the generation of awareness and removal of stigma associated with Mental Illness.

[Link to press release](#)

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya on December 15, 2022

"Through concerted efforts of Government, there has been a significant increase of 87% in MBBS seats and a massive 105% increase observed in PG seats in last eight years". Union Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya stated that while briefing media, and reiterating the government's commitment towards bringing a drastic paradigm shift in education in the country. He further emphasized and said that "Since 2014, several steps have been taken to ease the access to quality education in the country for the younger generation". He underlined the impact of several initiatives taken under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Union Health Minister, Dr. Mandaviya said that "we can see change happening at every nook and corner of the country." He was also hopeful that with this momentum and coordination among stakeholders, we will be able to create a holistic ecosystem of education in the country.

[Link to press release](#)

Operationalizing Unified Health Interface (UHI) in India on December 15, 2022

The National Health Authority (NHA) has released a consultation paper on 'Operationalizing Unified Health Interface (UHI) in India' that outlines the market rules that will govern the UHI Network. UHI is envisioned as a foundational layer of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) and aims to enable interoperability in health services in India through open protocols.

[Link to press release](#)

Measure taken to Improve Women and Child Health Facilities on December 16, 2022

The National Health Mission (NHM) envisages the achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality healthcare services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs. The main programmatic components include Health System Strengthening in rural and urban areas, Reproductive-Maternal- Neonatal-Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A), and Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases.

[Link to press release](#)

Steps taken to reduce Non- Communicable Diseases on December 16, 2022

Indian Council of Medical Research - National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR- NIE) conducted a mortality survey among persons older than 15 years during 2015-18 in 12 (8 North-East and 4 from the rest of the country) tribal districts which found that 66% of the total deaths were caused by non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The top NCD causes of death were cardiovascular diseases (heart diseases-24%), followed by cancers (11%). The study indicates that NCDs have replaced other causes of death (such as infectious diseases), even among tribal populations.

[Link to press release](#)

Measures taken to reduce TB Cases in India on December 16, 2022

The incidence of TB in India has reduced by 18% from 256/lakh population in 2015 to 210/lakh population in 2021. At the same time, the estimates of Drug Resistant TB in India have reduced by 20% from 1.49 lakh in 2015 to 1.19 lakh in 2021.

[Link to press release](#)

Steps taken to combat severe health consequences emerging out of air pollution on December 16, 2022

Air pollution is known to be one of the aggravating factors for many respiratory ailments and cardiovascular diseases. Several epidemiological studies have shown an association between particulate air pollution and exacerbations of illness in people with respiratory disease among older people.

[Link to press release](#)

Union Health Minister inaugurates Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Ayushman Bharat Digital

Mission at AIIMS Bibinagar on December 18, 2022

The Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) services of AIIMS Bibinagar and witnessed the practical demonstration of real time video specialist consultation. ABDM is the initiative started by the Government to digitalize health records across the country and includes QR code-based patient registration, Health Management Information System (HMIS) a software to manage data in any Hospital including many digital services like patient registration, patient Que management, Lab information system, Doctors desk, OP Billing, etc. Dr. Mandaviya said, "with the help of the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) card, patients can access their medical records anywhere, anytime without losing them all over India. This would enhance accessibility to their health records on the palm of their hands."

[Link to press release](#)

Status of the AYUSH Grid Project on December 12, 2022

As prescribed in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules 1945 made thereunder, enforcement of the legal provisions pertaining to Quality Control and issuance of drug licenses of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathic drugs, is vested with the State drug Controllers/ State Licensing Authorities appointed by the concerned State/ Union Territory Government. Rule 158-B in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 provides the regulatory guidelines for issue of license to manufacturers of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani medicines, and Rule 85 (A to I) in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 provides the regulatory guidelines for issue of license to manufacture Homoeopathic medicines. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements for licensing of manufacturing units & medicines including proof of safety & effectiveness, compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T & Schedule M-I of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and quality standards of drugs given in the respective pharmacopeia.

[Link to press release](#)

Steps taken to assure quality control of AYUSH Drugs on December 13, 2022

As prescribed in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules 1945 made thereunder, enforcement of the legal provisions pertaining to Quality Control and issuance of drug licenses of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathic drugs, is vested with the State drug Controllers/ State Licensing Authorities appointed by the concerned State/ Union Territory Government. Rule 158-B in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 provides the regulatory guidelines for issue of license to manufacturers of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani medicines, and Rule 85 (A to I) in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 provides the regulatory guidelines for issue of license to manufacture Homoeopathic medicines. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements for licensing of manufacturing units & medicines including proof of safety & effectiveness, compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T & Schedule M-I of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and quality standards of drugs given in the respective pharmacopeia.

[Link to press release](#)

WHO-GCTM to be emerge as a centre of global wellness

WHO-GCTM is an outpost centre of WHO-HQ (Geneva) funded by the Government of India. It will help establishing strong linkages among the Member States of WHO. The WHO-GCTM would emerge as a centre of global wellness that will promote the development of medicines and research related to Traditional Medicines and strengthen evidence-based research, training, and awareness about Traditional Medicines.

[Link to press release](#)

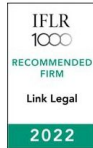
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