

Early Childhood Care and Development: 'Toddlers' - The Missing Link?



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Nutritional adequacy is one of the key determinants of health and well-being which contributes to Human Development. Maternal and child under-nutrition account for 11% of the global burden of the disease. India alone confers one-third of the global burden for undernutrition. According to Global Hunger Index (2022), India ranks 107th position. Although stunting (38.4% to 35.5%) wasting (21.0% to 19.3%) and underweight (35.8% to 32.1%) had reduced from NFHS-4 to NHFS-5, the numbers are still high. India as a part of the UN member state committed to the target of Sustainable Development Goal No 2, “Zero Hunger,” which aims to ensure universal access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round by the year 2030.

India, through Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) the earliest flagship program (1975) determinedly focused on Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) including nutrition. Through ICDS various services viz., supplementary nutrition, immunisation, health check-ups, referral services, preschool education, and nutrition and health education are being provided to children 0-6 years, Pregnant women, Lactating mothers, and Adolescent Girls beneficiaries. However, the nutrition status among children, women, and adolescents was a major concern. Thus, to improve the nutritional outcomes among all groups Poshan Abhiyan (National Nutrition Mission), a flagship program was launched by the Government of India in the year 2018. Especially, the program focussed on the first 1,000 days of a child's life since lack of nutrition during this time causes irreversible, long-term damage to a child's cognitive functions, undermining later-stage investments aimed at realizing the developmental potential of children. Also, significant policy returns from investing in this critical window of opportunity, viz., from the period of conception of the child to the two-year post-natal period also exist. Thus, along with 1st 1000 days, the existing system (AWC) at best serves 3 to 6 years children and ignores toddlers (2 to 3 years)—'the missing link'.

Especially, a child's early learning begins at birth, and gradually through observation, from the immediate environment and increasingly structured activities.



Unfortunately, due to a lack of awareness among parents/caregivers compounded by poverty, disadvantaged urban households (slums) are unable to provide an early learning environment.

Our experience indicates that SNP (800 calories and 20-25 grams of protein) given to beneficiaries' children (6 months-3 years) through the ICDS program is not completely fed to them by families who are challenged to realize the program goal. A viable strategy would be either accommodating 2 to 3 years children in the existing AWC with additional resources or through the launch of a new program/scheme within the ambit of Poshan Abhiyaan to set up creches. Hence, the inclusion of toddlers into formal institutional set-ups such as creche would not only enable the children to get the complete nutrition provided in SNP, but also ensure adequate opportunities for early stimulation of 5 faculties (viz., physical, emotional, language, cognitive, and social), play, promote inclusive, equitable and optimal development and active learning environment. This kind of intervention is critical among the most deprived section of society like urban slum dwellers where young children are exposed to unsafe environments when both parents are away at work and fail to reach their full human potential due to exposure to several risk factors such as malnutrition, poor health (infectious diseases and deficiencies), sanitation and hygiene. These risk factors have a negative impact on their physical growth, cognitive skills, social-emotional development, and poor learning attainment. Therefore, it is essential that investments in Early Childhood Care Development especially institutional setup (creches) are made for children 2 to 3 years living in deprivation (urban slums/poor) to promote overall development, to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, and reduce malnutrition.



WORLD HEALTH DAY

On the occasion of the 75th World Health Day, IIHMR-B took its inspiration from this year's WHO theme for the day - "HEALTH FOR ALL", and emphasized the importance of health care services for all. The event had numerous exhilarating and thought-provoking competitions like Poster making, Short-films, Blog writing, and Turn a Court was conducted for students to showcase their creativity and create awareness among the community.

WINNERS:

Poster making: Healthy living environments can transform people's lives



1st Prize

Ms.Subha R., Ms.Sameeksha, Mr. Preetam Poojary



2nd Prize

Dr. Tulasi Priya, Ms.Supriya N., Dr.Vijayalakshmi D.P



3rd Prize

Mr.K.Reddiah, Mr. Dheeraj Mandyam, Mr.Prabhu Kunchi



Special recognition

Ms. Paneri, Dr. Pranathi Kethineedi

Short film Video : Health for all



1st Prize

Migration: Mr.Arun S, Dr.Kalavani, Mr.Biswajit Nayak, Mr.K. Reddiah, Mr. Shaik Ghouse Azam



2nd Prize

Mental Health: Ms. Sameeksha, Ms. Subha R., Ms.Vandana, Ms.Indira Saha, Ms.Jyothiprava Satpathy



Special recognition
Safe Drinking Water- NJJM: Mr. Dheeraj M, Dr. Srikar K, Mr. Parsha Ramu, Ms. Supriya N, Mr. C S R K.Hanuman

BLOG WRITING: Equitable Health System

Building an equitable health system: Addressing disparities and ensuring access for all



1st Prize
Ms. Supriya N

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the deep inequalities and disparities that exist within our healthcare system. The accessibility and availability of quality healthcare is fundamental right for every human being. It is crucial for attaining sustainable development and overall, well-being of all individuals.

However, disparities exist in accessibility and outcome of healthcare across the world. These disparities are because of various factors including ethnicity, gender, race, geographic location, and socioeconomic status.

TURN A COURT: WHO Recommends increase in “Health Taxes” on Tobacco, Alcohol, Added sugar, and Fossil fuels



1st Prize
Mr. K. Reddaih



2nd Prize
Dr. Limra Shaheen

Health: A Fundamental Human Right

Health for All is the term every healthcare leader is advocating about. Health for all refers to getting the right treatment, at the right time without any bias. There are a lot of issues that hold back people from receiving the best Healthcare facilities. It is studied that half of the world's population is deprived of basic healthcare facilities like family planning, immunizations, and the holistic treatment at large.



2nd Prize
Ms. Rituja Roy



STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

XIMERA 2023

Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship, Bangalore held the two-day National Level Management Fest XIMERA, which is an intercollegiate management event sponsored by Pepsi was on the 10th and 11th of March 2023.

XIMERA boasted a footfall of close to 2000 attendees from top institutes like IIMs, Xavier, and other top B-Schools. This event focuses on bringing out the best in art and academia, offering a diverse range of activities aimed at fostering the holistic development of students and challenging their minds.



There were a range of competitions which aimed at different aspects of Core management education such as Marketing, Operations efficiency, Data analytics and so on. One such competition was the featured “Risky Business” in which our college students Ms.Subha , Mr.Shriraam and Dr. Tulasi Priya participated . The competition comprised of 3 rounds. The first round was a basic Presentation where a company that was in loss was assigned, and a retrenchment strategy had to be made to salvage the company. The second round was about creating a new market strategy for the company in today's era. The third and final round was about disruptive innovation, where a new direction had to be assigned to the company for sustaining in the future.

After these 3 rigorous rounds and some stiff competition our students emerged as runner up in the competition.

KRUPANIDHI FEST '23

Krupanidhi Fest (Element 7) was conducted on 3rd and 4th March by Krupanidhi group of Institutions, Bangalore. The event attracted students from various colleges across Bangalore and had various cultural and literary events like solo dance, group dance, singing and sports activities along with literary activities like quiz and Debate.



Our PGDM students Dr.Shivani Dattani, Mr.Shriraam.s, Dr.Sandeep Patil and Dr. Ragini Sharma had participated in the Debate competition which was a team event.

Each team will consist of two speakers and each team will have one constructive speech, and one rebuttal speech. The affirmative gives the first constructive speech, and the affirmative must advocate everything required by the topic itself. Total time limit was 6 minutes for the team where they can go back and forth with each other. The arguments were fact based and were monitored for accuracy. Visual elements were allowed to further illustrate our points.

There were two topics to choose from namely :

- Impact of technology on today's youth
- Gender equality in today's era.

The judgment was based entirely on the material presented and each team was liable to question from the judges. Both of the teams from IIHMR- B chose the topic of technology's impact on today's youth and both teams emerged victorious with Dr.Shivani Dattani and Mr. Shriraam grabbing first place followed by Dr.Ragini Sharma and Dr.Sandeep Patil being the runners up.



ALUMNI SPEAK

Dr. VAISHNAVI REDDY
Associate Director Clinical Operations, Twin Healthcare

Inspirational Quotes:
“NO SHORTCUTS
TO SUCCESS”

Dr. Vaishnavi Reddy shared her thoughts on her initial days at IIHMR. She described it as being similar to a frog jumping out of a well. Her classes with our esteemed faculty, Mr. Madaiah were eye-opening sessions. She appreciated the interactive nature of the sessions that allowed for open discussions and sharing of ideas. She felt that it was an excellent way to start the program and set the tone for the rest of the course. Overall, she found the icebreaking session to be a valuable experience that helped her see things from a new perspective and learn new things. Her favorite subjects were Health Economics and Biostatistics. Health Economics allowed her to explore the economic factors that influence healthcare decisions and policies. Integrating economics into healthcare was particularly fascinating because it involved analyzing the costs and benefits of different healthcare interventions and determining the most efficient and effective ways to allocate resources. Overall, she found that the combination of Health Economics and Statistics provided a powerful toolkit for understanding healthcare.

Completing her PGDM at IIHMR Bangalore provided her with additional skills and knowledge in business management and administration, which complemented her healthcare background. She believes that this combination of healthcare and business expertise is valuable in healthcare management.

Dr. Vaishnavi, who completed her Bachelor's in Dental Surgery and worked for a year and half, was inspired by her family, friends, and husband to pursue healthcare management. She decided to give it a try and is now pursuing a career in management.

She began her career as a Health Check Coordinator at Columbia Asia, Bangalore and later worked on a Greenfield Project in Whitefield as a Leading Frontend Officer. She gained experience in team building and training activities, as well as building processes. After taking a two-year career break, she joined Portea as an Assistant Quality Manager



Improving the Health Care Access and Quality in The Context of Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Among Scheduled Tribes: An Implementation Research in Tumkur, Karnataka

The study was completed in 3 phases where in the first/formative phase baseline survey was done in 2 taluks (Madhugeri and Pavgadha) for understanding the availability and utilization of public health facilities in the community. In the second/ implementation phase Madhugeri taluk was chosen for the implementation and three main issues were identified in the community concerning the accessibility of health services which were 1) Promotion of the Health and wellness centre 2) Enrolment and Utilization of the JSY 3) Screening for the NCD. Implementation activities were carried-out by our team in terms of mobilizing community, creating awareness, advocating with the panchayat, coordinating with PHC staff for the delivery of services, conducting jatha, mic announcements for the availability of services participating in the activities of the community and PHC. In the third phase endline survey was done in both intervention and control sites to understand the impact of the implementation. We have successfully opened 5 Sub-centres with the help of the local panchayat, NCD screening has increased to multi-fold compared to the before implementation stage, 9 New HWC centres were started.

Providing Technical Support for Creating inclusive work culture and Barrier Free Environment at ITC Food, Nanjanagud

ITC is one of India's foremost private sector companies and a diversified conglomerate with businesses spanning Fast Moving Consumer Goods, Hotels, Paperboards and Packaging, Agri Business and Information Technology. The company is committed to create an integrated work atmosphere where in PwD (Person with Disability) should work along with regular employees. IIHMRB is providing technical support to ITC Food in creating a barrier free environment and make them overcome their disability to boost their spirit and to have an unstigmatized approach. The project was able to provide due diligence through site walkthrough and reporting of structural and other restorations, creation of standard operating procedures and Sensitization of employees and management about barrier free environment.



ALUMNI SPEAK

and Medical Affairs, providing home care services. She then moved on to Aster DM Healthcare as a Head Quality Manager, where she oversaw setting up the home care vertical at all branches of the hospital. She is currently an Associate Director of Clinical Operations at Twin Healthcare.

When asked about the differences between Hospital Management and Home Care Management, she explained that the care provided in hospitals and home settings was stark and required adapting to different challenges and demands. However, it was a fulfilling experience to be able to provide quality healthcare in the comfort of patients' homes and to see the impact of personalized and customized care on their overall well-being.

The interview proceeded further to talk about opportunities in healthcare. The Covid pandemic has created digital health, telehealth, and AI opportunities. The focus on preventive health has increased, and people are more accepting of it now than they were a decade ago. Women's health is also receiving more attention, and startups are emerging in various areas, including mental health. Healthcare is becoming more customer-centric.

Dr. Vaishnavi started her career from scratch and faced challenges in balancing her personal and professional life, especially with two children. However, she believes that every challenge should be taken as an opportunity to create a positive image for oneself and the organization.

Dr. Vaishnavi emphasized the importance of accepting challenges in both personal and professional life and using them as opportunities to prove oneself. She stressed the need for hard work and prioritization, with no shortcuts to success. She also discussed the importance of accepting one's own choices, even if they differ from those of others, and avoiding the trap of comparison and demotivation. She emphasized the importance of identifying one's skills, trusting oneself in those skills, and being passionate about the work one is doing. She also mentioned the significance of continuous learning and being patient in the process.



CULTURAL EVENTS

WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in women's rights. It observes cultural, political, and socioeconomic women-made achievements in various fields. Women's Day also marks a call for a gender-equal world that is free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination and is diverse, equitable, and inclusive all whilst the differences are valued and celebrated.



Women's Day at IWHMR was celebrated to sensitize the students and faculty about "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment". The campus was brimming with the colours of Pink and Purple celebrating womanhood. At the outset of the program, our Director, Dr Usha Manjunath encouraged us all with her wonderful words. She talked about Women's Entrepreneurship which is necessary to initiate the process of economic development of both developed and developing countries as it is the backbone of the economy of any country. Women entrepreneur has been recognized during the last few years as an important untapped source of economic growth. The students and staff at IWHMR performed a beautiful dance celebrating the stages of a woman's life. Students also showcased their creativity with great zeal and enthusiasm in competitions such as cooking without fire, memory games, and slogan writing for pictures.



HOLI CELEBRATION

The most colourful and vibrant festival of India – Holi was celebrated with splashes of vibrant colours at IWHMR, Bengaluru. The atmosphere on 7th March was marked with fun and fervour as students celebrated this vibrant festival with staff and Faculty. The institute following the green and global practices, had arranged for safe organic herbal Holi colours. The academic courtyard was an amalgamation of enthused students who filled the campus with colours and festivity. The spirit of Holi taught the students to follow good conduct in life and believe in the virtue of being truthful and honest.

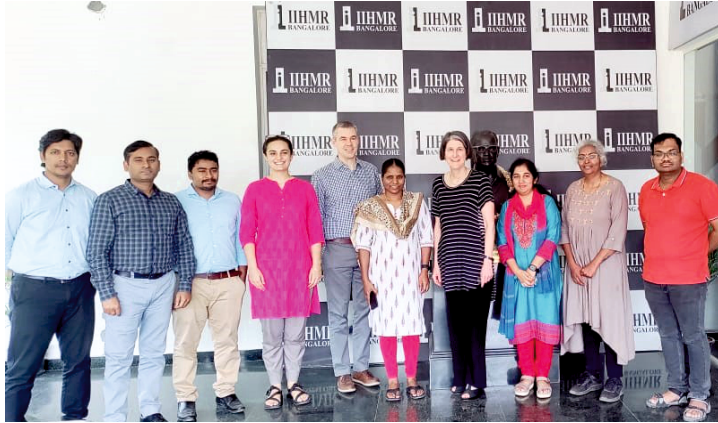


The festival marks the end of winter and the abundance of the upcoming spring harvest season. The teachers stated that Holi is a festival of new hope, a new beginning, and a new opportunity. They reiterated to forget, forgive and start afresh and advised the students to play only with organic colours. The students of IWHMR welcomed spring, the season of hope with songs, dance, and bright colours which were the major highlights of this vivid and lively festival. These bright colours are believed to signify energy, life, and joy.

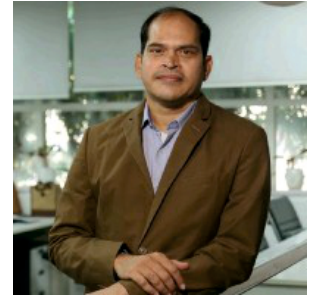


DIGNITARIES VISIT TO IIHMR BANGALORE

Dr. Edith Parker, Dean, Professor, Community and Behavioural Health, Professor, Public Policy Centre, Office of the Vice President for Research, University of Iowa College of Public Health interacted with the faculty at IIHMR Bangalore on 30th March 2023. During this visit, both institutions discussed about possible research collaboration and student exchange in future.



Mr. Sudheer N. from IPE Global, N. Delhi has visited our campus on 13th April 2023. He is Lead- Impact Measurement and Tuberculosis program, PAHAL- Innovative Financing Platform at IPE.



Dr. Sutapa Bandyopadhyay Neogi – Director, IIHMR-Delhi visited our campus on 15th April 2023.



AN INSIGHT INTO SOME OF THE STUDENT'S LIFE AT IIHMRB

An Institute's prime agenda for its students' is to shape them in a way that they are prepared for the challenging world out there. It also should nurture and boost the student's productivity as well as creativity. IIHMR Bangalore in all its glory has done just that for the students. One of the most important phases in a student's life is his/her college life. It is where the students dive deep into creating a new path for themselves and explore new beginnings and possibilities. The students of Batch 2022-24 have only recently completed their first-year academic session and some would like to share a few words about their experience throughout the year.



“My first year at IIHMR was full of learning, fun and in general a very enriching experience. From, academics to co-curricular activities, everything was so engaging that time just flew by. I learned so much from my batchmates, through activities done in the classroom, seminars, webinars, conferences, guest lectures, and more. The exposure provided by IIHMR is commendable and it continuously helps in upscaling ourselves. I can say that this year at IIHMR has helped me evolve both professionally and personally!”

- Ms Rituja Roy (PGDM Student 2022-2024)



"I am very happy to share that I am spending the best college life at IIHMR-BANGALORE. It is rewarding, fun, and packed with opportunities to learn new skills, take on exciting assignments given by the professors, and play a part in upbringing a better future through teaching and the various cultural program organized in college which allowed us to involve, engage and participate different activities for building confidence.

Professors have also encouraged us to learn, share and grow. Together, as students, we exchange ideas and share knowledge with batchmates. And our Mentors always push us to go further to reimagine what's possible.

I am always thankful to the Dean, professors, mentors, Non-Teaching staff, and my batchmates who allowed me to build my career in IIHMR-BANGALORE and I wish all my batchmates for their future endeavors."

- Dr. Vaishnavi Chikate (PGDM Student 2022-024)



"1st year at IIHMR has been nothing less than a rollercoaster ride. It was fast, fun, and filled with ups and downs and I am a little sad it is over. The place is a great place to learn and improve yourself. Yes, it is hectic at times, but I have loved every bit of it. I don't think I could have asked for better teachers, classmates, and city to have done my master's."

- Dr. Ragini Sharma (PGDM Student 2022-024)



"The campus life at IIHMR Bangalore is vibrant and vivacious with various fests, events, and seminars being organized regularly. IIHMR leaves no stone unturned to make sure that the students are provided with the best opportunities to sharpen their skills and prepare themselves to be future-ready professionals."

- Mr. Shriram (PGDM Student 2022-2024)



"Altogether the entire first year was a vibrant one with a lot of energy & enthusiasm as every day passed by. With ample great experiences, I am looking forward to another wonderful experience with abundant scope for our career growth and the best opportunities. I know I will never forget my experience @IIHMR, Bangalore."

- Ms. B Divya (PGDM Student 2022-2024)



"Enlightenment is one of the synonyms of "Education". It means "shed light on". Only when we see or get aware of different possibilities, we choose better and become better. My experience in IIHMR has been all about that. People of different personalities and professions I got to meet at IIHMR helped me to gain better and varied perspectives, which helped me in setting up better and accurate career goals and planning the right path to reach them"

- Ms. Chareeshma (PGDM Student 2022-2024)



"Life at IIHMR Bangalore is truly indescribable in all forms. I have developed both personally and professionally. The institute has given me such wonderful opportunities and experiences to learn and flourish in the field of management. I have made some amazing friends and it truly embodies the spirit of a home away from home for me. I look forward to what the final year brings for all of us. Learning never ends here at IIHMR."

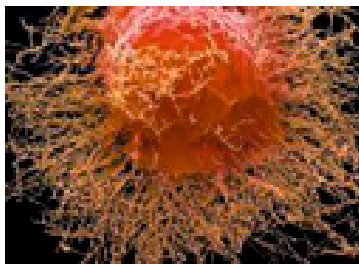
-Ms. Sreelakshmi Pydi (PGDM Student 2022-2024)



Allied Market Research reports that the global healthcare information technology (IT) market size was valued at \$250,577.15 million.

Data Bridge Market Research reports the market drivers and growth can be attributed to the increase in technological know-how, a growing volume of patient data, and demand for quick and efficient healthcare processes and systems that will help in driving the growth of the healthcare IT market. Increasing digitization in the healthcare industry and demand for value-based care and rising cost of provision of healthcare services coupled with the increasing number of healthcare facilities will likely accelerate the growth of the healthcare IT market in the forecast period of 2020-2027.

[Health IT Product News Report March 2023 - Health IT Answers](#)



H3N2 Influenza A Virus: Symptoms, Treatment, Dos And Don'ts - All You Need To Know

The central government sources have said that H3N2, the sub-type of the Influenza A virus, has

The central government sources have said that H3N2, the sub-type of the Influenza A virus, has claimed two lives in the country. While one person died in Haryana, the other fatality was reported in Karnataka. The government sources also said that 90 cases of the flu caused by this virus have been reported across the country. H3N2 has in the past causes several influenza outbreaks in the country. The prevalence of flu symptoms among people is also influenced by the change in weather from extremely cold to warm.

Since the virus attacks the respiratory tract, it is very important to:

- Keep checking the oxygen level continuously with the help of a Pulse Oximeter
- If the oxygen saturation level is less than 95 percent, a visit to the doctor is mandatory.
- If the oxygen saturation level is less than 90 percent, then intensive care may be required.
- Experts caution against self-medication in such cases

[H3N2 Influenza A Virus: Symptoms, Treatment, Dos And Don'ts - All You Need To Know \(ndtv.com\)](#)



384 essential medications to be dearer by 12 percent

New Delhi: Citing a 10.7 percent change in the wholesale price index (WPI), India's drug pricing authority National

Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) India's drug pricing authority National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has allowed a price hike of 12 percent from April 1, 2023, for scheduled drugs) has allowed a price hike of 12 percent from April 1, 2023, for scheduled drugs a price hike of 12 percent from April 1, 2023, for scheduled drugs that are under price control.



Accessing health care in Ukraine after 8 months of the war: The health system remains resilient, but key health services and medicine are increasingly unaffordable

Even as Ukraine marks 8 months of a brutal war, the health care system in Ukraine continues to function overall, but spiraling costs, logistical hurdles, and damaged infrastructure are making access to essential services all the more challenging for growing numbers of civilians.

These are among the key findings of a recent health needs assessment conducted by the WHO Country Office in Ukraine, shared with the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, international and national health partners, and humanitarian actors on the ground.

The assessment focused on identifying health needs and major barriers to access to primary and specialized care and medicines. The methodology took into account the correlation between income and access to specific categories of medical services and supplies for the 18-and-over population of Ukraine.



FutureRx Launches Paradigm-Shifting Healthcare Platform

FutureRx announced the launch of its first-of-a-kind healthcare platform for health plans and pharmacy

benefits managers (PBMs) that combines modular technology solutions and, if needed, seamless access to pre-vetted fully integrated service providers on a single platform.

[Health IT Product News Report March 2023 - Health IT Answers](#)



What should be the priorities of the government for India's post-pandemic healthcare system?

India's post-pandemic healthcare should focus on the following,

Effective, timely, and science-based communication is integral to health services: Government health initiatives must include timely, evidence-based, and reliable communication. Vaccination is not only for children: Other vaccines, such as hepatitis B, meningococcal, and pneumococcal, can prevent adult illnesses.

India has developed a low-cost [HPV \(Human Papilloma Virus\) vaccination to prevent adolescents against cervical cancer and other diseases.](#)

Importance of Well-functioning primary healthcare services (PHC): Covid-19 has emphasized the importance of stronger health services and well-functioning primary healthcare services (PHC).

Considered 'neglected tropical diseases': India has 11 "neglected tropical diseases" such as filariasis, kala-azar, snake bites, and others that need policy and programmatic attention.

Improve the health data quality and availability: Covid-19 pandemic has also taught us the importance of timely, granular, and accurate health data.

Bring health issues to the fore globally: India has been elected to the G20 chairmanship for the year 2023. The G20 presidency provides a chance for India to bring global health issues to the forefront.

Move towards stronger health systems: It is time to move towards stronger health systems, building upon the Ayushman Bharat Programme, and health and wellness centers initiative.

'-[\[Yojana March 2023 Summary\] Indias post-pandemic healthcare system Explained, pointwise -ForumIAS Blog](#)

PHILIPS

Philips CEO calls for a shift to a 'servant technology' mindset in healthcare

There is a huge opportunity to redesign care around patients and those caring for patients and ensure technology and data help

carers rather than burden them, according to Roy Jakobs, CEO of Philips.

Speaking at ViVE, the annual health technology conference, March 26-29, he described how the many different technologies and the flood of data in healthcare are often overwhelming clinicians, doctors, nurses, and other carers, contributing to their leaving the industry at a time when there's already a shortage of carers.

He urged innovators and technologists to prioritize making technology and the use of data easier, simpler, and more intuitive.

[Philips CEO calls for a shift to servant technology mindset in healthcare - News | Philips](#)



Fatal Drug Overdose Down With OUD-Related Telehealth Services

Receipt of opioid use disorder (OUD)-related telehealth services

during the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with a reduced risk for a fatal drug overdose, according to a study published online on March 29 in JAMA Psychiatry.

Christopher M. Jones, Pharm.D., Dr.P.H., from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, and colleagues examined the association of receipt of telehealth services and medications for OUD (MOUD) with fatal drug overdoses in two cohorts before (Sept. 1, 2018, to Feb. 29, 2020) and during the pandemic (Sept. 1, 2019, to Feb. 28, 2021; 105,162 and 70,479 beneficiaries, respectively).

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