Male contraceptive

Male contraceptive pill may be possible (The Hindu: 20190327)

https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/male-contraceptive-pill-may-be-possible/article26647377.ece

An experimental birth control pill for men has successfully passed tests of safety when participants used it daily for a month, according to scientists who said that the drug does not affect libido. The contraceptive, called 11-beta-methyl-19-nortestosterone dodecylcarbonate, is a modified testosterone that has the combined actions of a male hormone (androgen) and a progesterone.

"Our results suggest that this pill, which combines two hormonal activities in one, will decrease sperm production while preserving libido," said Christina Wang, from the Los Angeles Biomed Research Institute (LA Biomed).

The study took place in 40 healthy men at LA BioMed and the University of Washington in the U.S.

Subjects took the drug or placebo once daily with food for 28 days.

Ms. Wang said drug side effects were few, mild and included fatigue, acne.

Mike Mohan's rise was meteoric in Tamil filmdom. He faded all of a sudden. The genial actor whose contribution is significant, took both with equanimity

Sleepong

'Techoference'disrupting sleep, productivity: Study (The Busniss standard: 20190327)

'Techoference' disrupting sleep, productivity: Study

Excessive use of mobile phones is making people lose sleep and become less productive, according to an Australian study that found a jump in 'technoference' over the past 13 years.

Researchers from Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Australia surveyed 709 mobile phone users across Australia aged 18 to 83 in 2018, using questions replicated from a similar survey back in 2005.

They then compared the findings and discovered significant increases in people blaming their phones for losing sleep, becoming less productive, taking more risks while driving and even getting more aches and pains.

"When we talk about technoference we're referring to the everyday intrusions and interruptions that people experience due to mobile phones and their usage," said Oscar Oviedo-Trespalacios from QUT.

"Our survey found technoference had increased among men and women, across all ages," said Ovido-Trespalacios.

"For example, self-reports relating to loss of sleep and productivity showed that these negative outcomes had significantly increased during the last 13 years," he said.

The findings, published in the journal Frontiers in Psychiatry, suggest that mobile phones are potentially increasingly affecting aspects of daytime functioning due to lack of sleep and increasing dereliction of responsibilities.

According to the survey, one in five women (19.5 per cent) and one in eight men (11.8 per cent) now lose sleep due to the time they spend on their mobile phone.

About 12.6 per cent of the men said their productivity decreased as a direct result of the time they spend on their mobile -- compared to none in 2005 -- and 14 per cent of women have also noticed a productivity decline.

Over 54 per cent of women believe their friends will find it hard to get in touch with them if they do not have a mobile (up from 28.8 per cent), and 41.6 per cent of men thought this.

About 8.4 per cent of women and 7.9 per cent of men have aches and pains they attribute to mobile phone use, researchers said.

The survey results also indicated that phones were being used as a coping strategy, with one in four women and one in six men saying they'd rather use their phone than deal with more pressing issues.

"Rapid technological innovations over the past few years have led to dramatic changes in today's mobile phone technology -- which can improve the quality of life for phone users but also result in some negative outcomes," said Oviedo-Trespalacios.

"These include anxiety and, in some cases, engagement in unsafe behaviours with serious health and safety implications such as mobile phone distracted driving," he said.

Swine flu cases

States put on high alert as swine flu cases spike across the country (The Hindu: 20190327)

https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/states-put-on-high-alert-as-swine-flu-cases-spike-across-the-country/article26063610.ece

1694 cases and 49 deaths have been reported in first 2 weeks of January; situation alarming in Rajasthan where 200 people died in 13 months

With 49 swine flu deaths and 1,694 cases reported in just one fortnight from January 1-13 as per data released by the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), several States are on alert.

Rajasthan alone has reported 31 deaths in this period with other instances being reported from Delhi, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Prdaesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Preventive measures Wash your hands and get vaccinated

Why one needs to get vaccinated against flu

While the Rajasthan health department has reported that the number of cases in the State has crossed 1,000 with more than 200 people having died in the past 13 months, the Union Health Ministry has said that there is no cause for panic and that the situation is being closely monitored.

Highly contagious

H1N1 influenza (or swine flu) is a highly contagious acute respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks of influenza in pigs. Swine flu viruses do not normally infect humans. However, sporadic human infections with swine flu have occurred. Most commonly, these cases occur in people with direct exposure to pigs (e.g., children near pigs at a fair or workers in the swine industry). However, there have been cases of human-to-human spread of swine flu.

States put on high alert as swine flu cases spike across the country

"All State governments have been asked to create awareness about the spread, testing and prevention of swine flu and we have also asked them to ensure that there are enough beds and medicines to treat any cases that are being reported," noted a senior Union Health Ministry official.
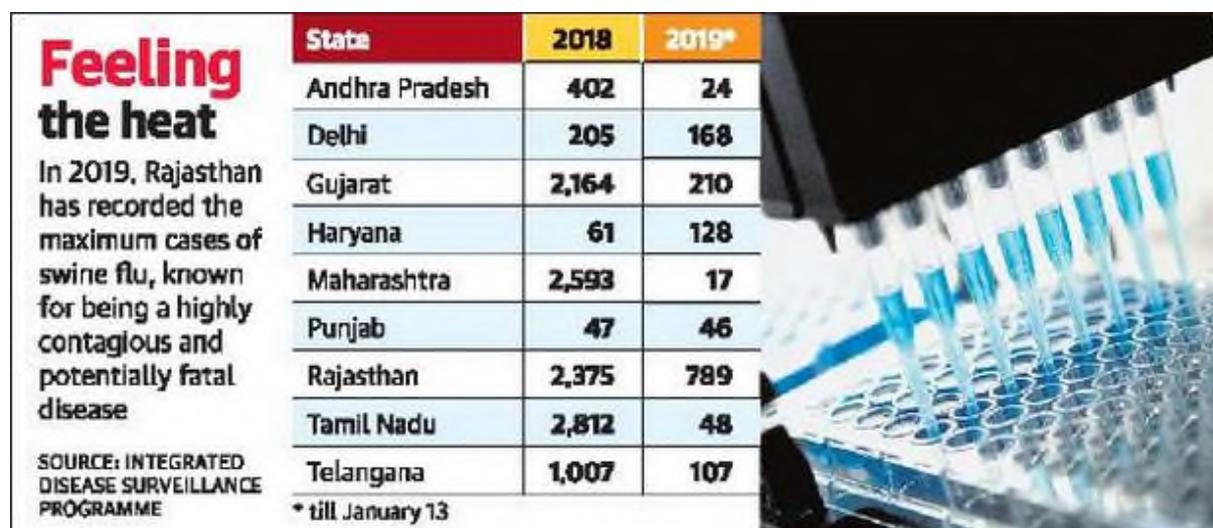
The Rajasthan health department confirmed that 1,036 people had tested positive between January 1 and 17, 2019, with nine fatalities reported in one week from January 13-17. "On January 17, 65 people tested positive for the flu," the official added.

Youngsters enjoying the Happy Sunday events on M.G. Road in Vijayawada.

Ayush spreads word on swine flu

According to Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry's IDSP, 14,992 people contracted swine flu in 2018., while 1,103 people died. In 2017, 38,811 people tested positive with 2,270 deaths.

"Children younger than five years old and adults who are 65 years and above, patients with chronic pulmonary condition (including asthma), , neurological, neuromuscular or metabolic disorders (including diabetes), obese adults and pregnant women are in the high risk group," said Dr. D.S. Chaddha, Fortis Hospital.

Feeling the heat

In 2019, Rajasthan has recorded the maximum cases of swine flu, known for being a highly contagious and potentially fatal disease

SOURCE: INTEGRATED DISEASE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME

State	2018	2019*
Andhra Pradesh	402	24
Delhi	205	168
Gujarat	2,164	210
Haryana	61	128
Maharashtra	2,593	17
Punjab	47	46
Rajasthan	2,375	789
Tamil Nadu	2,812	48
Telangana	1,007	107

* till January 13

Malaria, TB and Cancer (The Aasian Age: 20190327)

http://onlineepaper.asianage.com/articledetailpage.aspx?id=12699200

AI based software by IIT to detect malaria, TB & cancer

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, MARCH 26

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) here have developed artificial intelligence (AI)-based on a low-power electronic hardware system that can help in detecting malaria, tuberculosis, intestinal parasite and cervical cancer in a few milliseconds.

The research focuses on building a neuromorphic system which can be used for healthcare access in resource-constrained areas with limited access to human specialists.

"While several software,

▶ **The research focuses on building a neuromorphic system which can be used for healthcare access in resource-constrained areas**

AI models exist for healthcare and diagnostic related applications, need of the hour is to efficiently map these models on portable dedicated low-power, low-cost hardware to enable edge-AI systems accessible to all in low resource environment," said Professor Manan Suri, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Delhi.

Mr Suri, who is leading the team of researchers, said microscopy is particularly well adapted to low-resource, high disease burden areas, being both simple and versatile; even for diagnostic tasks. While newer technologies are available for diagnosis, the cost of specialised equipment may render it impractical in such places, he said.

"There is, therefore, need for alternatives which can help in providing the access to quality diagnosis that is currently routinely unavailable."

Schizophrenia

Over 400 genes linked to schizophrenia discovered (The Tribune: 20190327)

https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/health/over-400-genes-linked-to-schizophrenia-discovered/748655.html

While affecting less than two per cent of the global population, schizophrenia is one of the leading causes of disability worldwide.

Scientists have used artificial intelligence to discover 413 genes linked to schizophrenia across 13 brain regions, a finding that may pave way for therapies to treat the disorder.

Examining gene expression at the tissue level allowed researchers to not only identify new genes associated with schizophrenia, but also pinpoint the areas of the brain in which abnormal expression might occur.

In the largest study of its kind, researchers applied a novel machine learning method to data from more than 100,000 people.

While affecting less than two per cent of the global population, schizophrenia is one of the leading causes of disability worldwide.

Despite its low prevalence, the disease has major public health and socioeconomic impact, primarily due to hospital readmission and treatment costs.

While it is widely believed that numerous genes contribute to increased risk of schizophrenia development, the exact genetic underpinnings are poorly understood.

Nonetheless, such ambiguity serves as fuel for many researchers, as the discovery of disease-associated genes is crucial for understanding the mechanisms involved in any illness.

Researchers from Mount Sinai Hospital in US used genome-wide association study findings coupled with transcriptomic imputation to identify schizophrenia-associated disease with tissue-level resolution.

Genome-wide association studies are an increasingly common study type in biomedical research.

They look at differences at various points in a genetic code to see whether a variation is found more often in those with a particular trait, such as schizophrenia.

Transcriptomic imputation is a novel machine learning technique that allows researchers to test associations between disease and gene expression in otherwise inaccessible tissues, such as those of the brain.

Studying 40,299 people with schizophrenia and 62,264 matched controls, the researchers used this sharp resolution to discover that genes associated with schizophrenia are expressed throughout development.

The researchers also learned that different regions of the brain confer different risks for schizophrenia, with most associations coming from the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex.

"Our new predictor models gave us unprecedented power to study predicted gene expression in schizophrenia, and to identify new risk genes associated with the disease," said Laura Huckins, Assistant Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

"In particular, it was fascinating to see schizophrenia risk genes expressed throughout development, including in early pregnancy," said Huckins.

"By laying the groundwork for combining transcriptomic imputation and genome-wide association study findings, our hope is to not only elucidate gene development as it relates to schizophrenia, but also shape the future of research methods and design," he added. — PTI

Smoking

Vaping as dangerous as smoking, need blanket ban on e-cigarettes: Experts (The Tribune: 20190327)

https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/health/vaping-as-dangerous-as-smoking-need-blanket-ban-on-e-cigarettes-experts/748647.html

New therapy to treat 'tennis elbow' without surgery

The government's recent advisory asking states to clamp down on e-cigarettes may not be enough to root them out, say experts, advocating a "special mechanism" to ensure a blanket ban on the devices that many users mistakenly view as a safer alternative to combustible cigarettes.

Terming e-cigarettes poisonous and as dangerous as regular cigarettes, the experts said the Centre and state have made efforts but clandestine online portals and dingy shops selling them in nooks and crannies across India's towns continue to function.

"Even if the advisory of the government asks states to curb the sale of e-cigarettes in their jurisdiction, it is very difficult to keep a check at the ground level if the sale is happening through small vendors," Dr P C Gupta, director of HEALIS-Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health, Mumbai, told PTI.

"There is need for a special mechanism by the government to keep a tab on the vendors from time to time," he added.

On March 12, the Central Drug Standard Control Organisation wrote to all drug controllers in states and Union territories to not allow the manufacture, sale, import and advertisement of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), including e-cigarettes and flavoured hookahs, in their jurisdictions.

The move was in concert with several other organisations.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, too, proposed an amendment to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2018 to ban the advertisement of e-cigarettes.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs also issued a circular recently, directing that all import consignments of e-cigarettes must be cleared first by the drug controller.

There is no legislation to regulate the sale of e-cigarettes in the country, experts have said while calling for a blanket ban.

"E-cigarettes are just a mechanism to deliver nicotine in an attractive format. They are marketed as a harm reduction product which is contrary to the truth. They do not fall within the scope of existing national legislation on tobacco production, distribution and use yet pose significant health risks that are frighteningly similar to those of conventional cigarettes," said Bhavna B Mukhopadhyay, chief executive, Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI).

Twelve states have already banned e-cigarettes, she said, stressing on the need for a total ban.

Drugs Controller General S Eswara Reddy is hopeful states will fill the existing gaps in the policy on banning e-cigarettes.

"We have already given an advisory to all the states and expect the states to take strongest action against the sale of e-cigarettes," Reddy told PTI.

Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan has written to Commerce Secretary Anup Wadhwan to block JUUL, a western company manufacturing sleek vaping devices like e-cigarettes, from entering India. Smoking e-cigarettes is called vaping.

Sudan said the entry of JUUL products, if not prevented, could undermine the efforts taken by the government towards tobacco control.

Other experts have also called for a special arrangement by the government to keep a tab on unorganised vendors and the online sale of e-cigarettes.

According to Dr Pankaj Chaturvedi of Mumbai's Tata Memorial Hospital, people consuming e-cigarettes will add to the cancer burden of India.

"Any nicotine product should be taken under strict medical supervision for controlling withdrawal symptoms during cessation therapy. I laud the government of India for taking a tough stand against these newer nicotine delivery devices," he said.

"However, it should ensure there are no loopholes at the ground level by leaving a space for small vendors to sell it illegally," he said.

E-cigarettes are also fast becoming a fashion statement for the young.

The constant introduction of new products, each with its own list of ingredients that are marketed as smart alternatives to smoking pose a huge challenge.

Studies have found that the percentage of students who initiate e-cigarettes and hookah smoking before 10 years of age has increased from 26 per cent to 45 per cent in the last one and half decade.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there were 14 lakh cancer patients in 2016. Of these, the highest number of cases was of lung and oral cancer, which is often caused by tobacco and smoking.

The VHAI, which is a New Delhi-based public health organisation, has also taken up the cause.

A recent study by the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions in Chicago, investigated the effect that e-cigarettes have on the endothelial cells, that line the inside of the body's blood vessels.

Endothelial cells produce nitric oxide, a molecule that helps keep the blood vessels healthy and controls blood pressure levels.

Several countries, including Mauritius, Australia, Singapore, Korea (Democratic People's Republic, Sri Lanka and Thailand among others, have banned ENDS in their countries.

M C Misra, former director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, said the government should come down hard upon the companies for advertisements that show e-cigarettes as less harmful than tobacco.

"It is proved that e-tobacco cannot be used as cessation method. The advertisements that say this should be banned and face actions," Misra said. — PTI

Brain Mapping (The Times of India: 20190327)

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/test-of-wits-forensics-lab-gets-machine-to-read-criminal-minds/articleshow/68588318.cms

Read more at:

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/68588318.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Illnesses

'Women diagnosed later than men for same illnesses (The Times of India: 20190327)

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/women-diagnosed-later-than-men-for-same-illness/articleshow/68591335.cms

For a wide range of diseases, diagnosis comes later in life for women than for men, according to a large Danish study.

Researchers don't know whether the later diagnoses are due to genetics, the environment, possible biases in the healthcare system — or some combination of reasons.

The study of health data from 6.9 million Danish people found that across hundreds of diseases, women on average were diagnosed when they were about four years older than the age at which the conditions were recognised in men.

"We're not just looking at one disease here, we're looking at all diseases and we are looking at an entire population, from cradle to grave," lead author Søren Brunak from the University of Copenhagen said.

On average, women received cancer diagnoses 2.5 years after men. They received diagnoses for metabolic diseases like diabetes 4.5 years later.

Aspirin

Aspirin can aid in fight against tuberculosis: Study (New Kerala: 20190327)

https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/118300/aspirin-can-aid-in-fight-against-tuberculosis-study.html

Aspirin can prevent the tuberculosis (TB) bacterium from hijacking immune cells and allow the body to control infection better, say researchers who found that the common pain killer could treat the top infectious killer worldwide that claims around 4,400 lives a day.

Researchers from the Centenary Institute in Sydney found that the TB bacterium hijacks platelets from the body's blood clotting system to weaken immune systems.

"Our study provides more crucial evidence that widely available aspirin could be used to treat patients with severe TB infection and save lives," said lead author Elinor Hortle, research officer at Centenary.

Using the zebrafish model of TB, the team used fluorescent microscopy to observe the build-up of clots and activation of platelets around sites of infection.

They found that the platelets were being tricked by the infection into getting in the way of the body's immune system.

Treating the infections with anti-platelet drugs, including the widely available aspirin, the researchers said, could prevent hijacking and allow the body to control infection better, according to the paper published in The Journal of Infectious Diseases.

"This is the first time that platelets have been found to worsen TB in an animal model. It opens up the possibility that anti-platelet drugs could be used to help the immune system fight off drug resistant TB," Hortle said.

According to the World Health Organization, TB is one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide.

In 2017, 10 million people fell ill with TB, and 1.6 million died from the disease (including 0.3 million among people with HIV).

The infection also accounted for death in 230,000 children (including children with HIV associated TB) in 2017.

India has the world's highest burden of TB, with 27 per cent of all global cases and over 30 per cent of all deaths worldwide.

Bacteria

Bacteria travels thousands of miles via air: Study (New Kerala: 20190327)

https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/118272/bacteria-travels-thousands-of-miles-via-air-study.html

Bacteria travels thousands of miles, not on people or animals but through the air, finds a study that could shed light on harmful bacteria that share antibiotic resistance genes.

"Our research suggests there must be a planet-wide mechanism that ensures the exchange of bacteria between faraway places," said Konstantin Severinov, Professor at the Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

"Because the bacteria we study live in very hot water, about 160 degrees Fahrenheit, in remote places, it is not feasible to imagine that animals, birds or humans transport them. They must be transported by air and this movement must be extensive as bacteria in isolated places share common characteristics," Severinov said.

In the study, published in the journal Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, Severinov analysed the "molecular memories" of bacteria from their encounters with viruses, with memories stored in bacterial DNA.

The scientists collected heat-loving thermus thermophilus bacteria in hot gravel on Mount Vesuvius and hot springs on Mount Etna in Italy, hot springs in the El Tatio region in northern Chile and southern Chile's Termas del Flaco region, and hot springs in the Uzon caldera in Kamchatka, Russia.

In bacterial cells infected by viruses, molecular memories are stored in special regions of bacterial DNA called CRISPR arrays.

Cells that survive infections pass the memories, small pieces of viral DNA, to their offspring. The order of these memories allows scientists to follow the history of bacterial interaction with viruses over time.

"What we found, however, is that there were plenty of shared memories -- identical pieces of viral DNA stored in the same order in the DNA of bacteria from distant hot springs," Severinov said.

"Our analysis may inform ecological and epidemiological studies of harmful bacteria that globally share antibiotic resistance genes and may also get dispersed by air instead of human travellers," he noted.

Diabetes

Treating diabetes may prevent Alzheimer's disease (New Kerala: 20190327)

https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/118268/treating-diabetes-may-prevent-alzheimers-disease.html

Treating Type-2 diabetes may prevent people from developing Alzheimer's disease, says a new study.

Patients with untreated diabetes develop signs of Alzheimer's disease 1.6 times faster than people who did not have diabetes, according to the study published in the journal Diabetes Care.

Scientists consider Alzheimer's as the result of a cascade of multiple problems including factors ranging from pollution exposure and genetics to heart and metabolic diseases.

"It is possible that the medicines for treating diabetes might make a difference in the progression of brain degeneration," said Daniel A. Nation, Associate Professor at University of Southern California.

"But it's unclear how exactly those medications might slow or prevent the onset of Alzheimer's disease, so that is something we need to investigate," he added.

For the study, the researchers analysed data on nearly 1,300 people aged 55 and older.

Data included biomarkers for diabetes and vascular disease, brain scans and a range of health indicators, including performance on memory tests.

Among 900 of those patients, more than 50 had Type-2 diabetes who did not receive any treatment, whereas nearly 70 were undergoing treatment.

In addition, nearly 530 participants had normal blood sugar levels while 250 had prediabetes.

"Our findings emphasise the importance of catching diabetes or other metabolic diseases in adults as early as possible," Nation said.

"Among people with diabetes, the difference in their rate of developing the signs of dementia and Alzheimer's is clearly tied somehow to whether or not they are on medication for it," he noted.

C-sections

Many C-sections in India, but fewer in poorer regions (New Kerala: 20190327)

https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/118241/many-c-sections-in-india-but-fewer-in-poorer-regions.html

With a lot of deliveries still taking place at home and no national system to track them, it seems difficult to assess the situation. However, the data derived from the latest National Family and Health Survey (NFHS) conducted in the 2015-2016 shed a lot of light on childbirth practices across the country.

The IRD was able to chart some of the main trends and differentials in the country from the data issued from the latest National Family and Health Survey.

"The first finding of this study relates to the rapid increase in the number of cesarean deliveries performed in India since the last survey conducted in 2005-2006, a transformation linked to the increasing proportion of women delivering in hospitals," declared Christophe Z Guilmoto, a demographer at Ceped research unit.

17.2 per cent of births in India was estimated to have been delivered by cesarean in 2010-16. This cesarean rate is already above the benchmark of 10-15 per cent proposed by the WHO and above levels observed in richer countries such as the Netherlands or Finland.

A second finding is that this national average of 17.2 per cent conceals considerable variations across social categories and regions. Many regions still lack access to adequate maternal facilities and cesarean rates in states such as Bihar or Madhya Pradesh lie below the 10 per cent level advanced by the WHO.

But the situation appears even more critical among the poorest quintile of the population (4.4 per cent of births delivered by cesarean), leading to extreme inequality in the access to cesarean within the country.

"During the same period, more than a third of the births are delivered by cesarean section among the richest quintile and in several states of South India such Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Telangana -with rates above 50 per cent reported in some districts," underlined Alexandre Dumont, an epidemiologist in the same unit.

Such elevated rates point to the frequent use of surgical deliveries among low-risk pregnancies, especially in private facilities-this in spite of potential complications such as infection or haemorrhage.

All in all, the study estimated that the shortfall of cesarean deliveries in the poorest regions represented 2.2 per cent of deliveries in 2010-16, while the excess observed in more prosperous populations accounted for 7 per cent of them.

This analysis highlights the double burden faced by India's health authorities: on one hand, the need to improve access to secure deliveries in many districts of North India and among the poor in order to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality, and on the other hand, the challenges presented by the growing overuse of cesarean deliveries in more advanced parts of the country.

For the researchers, current trends and India's economic progress suggest that the proportion of births delivered by C-section will continue to increase in the future well above medically-justifiable levels unless efforts are made to curb the over-medicalization of childbirth.

Delhi swine flu

Delhi swine flu toll this year highest since 2010 (Hindustan Times: 20190327)

http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epaper/viewer.aspx

The death toll from swine flu in Delhi this year (till March 24) is already the highest since 2010 when the H1N1 virus infection killed 77 in the entire year, according to data from the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

The city has recorded 3,512 cases of swine flu this year, the second highest since 2010. In 2010, swine flu infected 2,725 people. The highest number of infections, 4307, was in 2015.

"Six of the dead were Delhi residents. The other 15 deaths were of people from neighbouring states being treated in Delhi. The numbers are high because Delhi shares borders with Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, where the number of cases is high," said an official from the health ministry, on condition of anonymity.

"The sickest H1N1 patients are from other states and are referred here after they do not respond to treatment in their home state. There is a higher chance of these patients dying, and when they do, they get counted in the Delhi numbers," said Dr Desh Deepak from the department of respiratory medicine at Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.
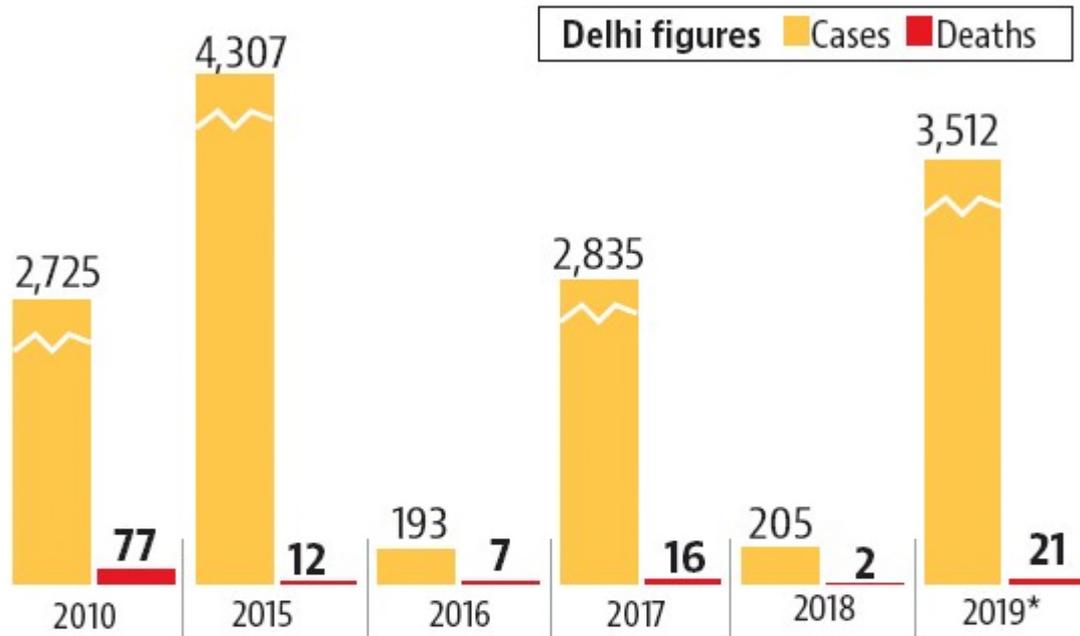
India has already reported 21,982 H1N1 cases and 741 deaths in 2019 (till March 24), according to NCDC data, as against 14,992 cases and 1,103 deaths in 2018.

Clinicians from two of Delhi's biggest government hospitals said heightened awareness is leading to greater reporting of cases.
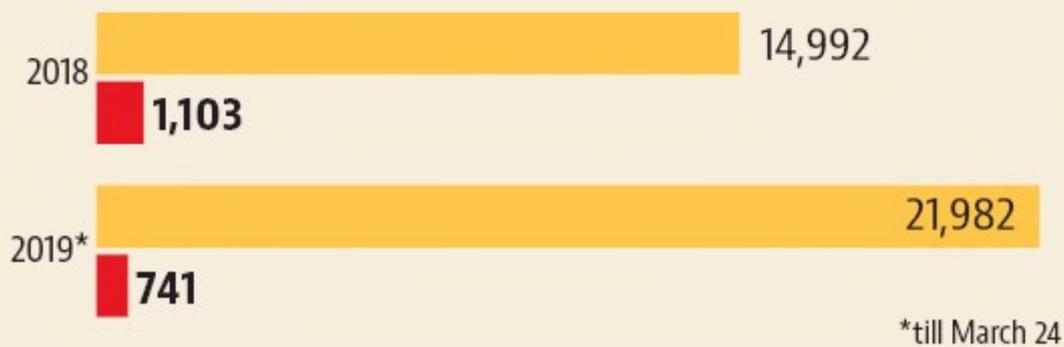
"More cases are being reported now because of the increased awareness and testing facilities, which have led to more people being diagnosed," said Dr Ekta Gupta, additional professor of virology, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS). See page 8

The silent killer

India has reported 21,982 H1N1 cases and 741 deaths this year as against 14,992 cases and 1,103 deaths in 2018

Delhi figures ▮Cases ▮Deaths

Year	Cases	Deaths
2010	2,725	77
2015	4,307	12
2016	193	7
2017	2,835	16
2018	205	2
2019*	3,512	21

All-India figures

Year	Cases	Deaths
2018	14,992	1,103
2019*	21,982	741

*till March 24

TB Malaria (Dainik Gagaran: 20190327)

https://epaper.jagran.com/epaper/article-27-Mar-2019-edition-delhi-city-page_7-7570-12865-4.html

कुछ मिली सेकेंड में टीबी व मलेरिया का लगेगा पता

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली (आइआइटी-डी) के इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर डॉ. मनन सूरी व उनके छात्रों की टीम ने एक ऐसी प्रणाली विकसित की है, जिसकी मदद से मलेरिया, टीबी, सर्वाइकल कैंसर व आंतों में होने वाले संक्रमण का कुछ मिली सेकेंड में पता लग जाएगा।

उन्होंने आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस पर आधारित कम ऊर्जा पर चलने वाले बिजली के एक हार्डवेयर सिस्टम को तैयार किया है, जिससे इन बीमारियों के बारे में पता लगाया जा सकेगा। डॉ. सूरी के साथ शोध के छात्र कुशल सेठी, नारायणी भाटिया, विवेक व श्रीडू वर्मा ने इस पर काम किया है। इस प्रोजेक्ट को राष्ट्रपति भवन में भी प्रदर्शित किया जा चुका है। इस टीम को गांधियन यंग टेक्नोलॉजी इनोवेशन अवॉर्ड 2018 भी मिल चुका है।

ऐसे करता है काम : डॉ. मनन सूरी ने बताया कि हमने चार बीमारियों का पता लगाने वाला आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआइ) पर आधारित कम ऊर्जा पर चलने वाला हार्डवेयर सिस्टम तैयार किया है। यह कुछ मिली सेकेंड (सेकेंड का हजारवां हिस्सा) में ही मलेरिया, टीबी, सर्वाइकल कैंसर, आंतों में संक्रमण जैसी बीमारियों के बारे में पता लगा लेगा। इन बीमारियों का पता लगाने में स्वास्थ्य विशेषज्ञ को एक मिनट से भी ज्यादा का समय लग जाता है। इस प्रोजेक्ट का कार्य प्रगति पर है। इसमें और भी काम करने की जरूरत है।

उन्होंने बताया कि यह हार्डवेयर सिस्टम माइक्रोस्कोप में इन बीमारियों के बारे पता लगाने में सहायता करेगा। हमारे हार्डवेयर सिस्टम को ग्रामीण इलाकों में ले जाया जाए तो वहां काफी लाभ मिलेगा। डॉक्टरों के साथ मिलकर हम इस पर काम करेंगे।

ई-सिगरेट

ई-सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के आदेश पर हाई कोर्ट की रोक (Dainik Gagaran: 20190327)

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जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: निकोटिन फ्लेवर के साथ ई-सिगरेट और ई-हुक्का पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के केंद्र सरकार के आदेश पर मंगलवार को हाई कोर्ट ने रोक लगा दी है। हाई कोर्ट ने कहा कि प्राथमिक तौर पर देखें तो यह उत्पाद कोई ड्रग्स नहीं है। यही नहीं प्राधिकारियों के पास इस तरह का आदेश जारी करने को लेकर कोई अधिकार भी नहीं है।

न्यायमूर्ति विभू बाखरू की पीठ ने कहा कि प्राथमिक तौर पर यह ड्रग्स एंड केमिस्ट एक्ट के तहत ड्रग्स की श्रेणी में नहीं आता है। पीठ ने कहा कि अगर यह ड्रग्स नहीं है तो फिर केंद्र सरकार को इस पर प्रतिबंध लगाने का अधिकार नहीं है। पीठ ने कहा कि मामले पर अगली सुनवाई तक केंद्र सरकार के आदेश पर रोक रहेगी। इस मामले में अगली सुनवाई 17 मई को होगी।

27 नवंबर 2018 को स्वास्थ्य मंत्रलय ने अधिसूचना जारी की थी। इसमें ई-सिगरेट, हीट-नॉट-बर्न, ई-शीशा, ई-निकोटिन जैसे उत्पादों पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया गया था। इस पर केंद्र सरकार ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि अभी यह तय करना है कि ई-सिगरेट सुरक्षित है या नहीं है।

ई-सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के आदेश पर हाई कोर्ट की रोक

Mobile

मोबाइल फोन के ज्यादा इस्तेमाल से खराब हो रही आपकी नींद(Dainik Gagaran: 20190327)

अगर आप मोबाइल फोन का बहुत ज्यादा इस्तेमाल करते हैं, तो सजग हो जाएं। इसके चलते आपकी नींद तक खराब हो सकती है। एक अध्ययन में पाया गया है कि मोबाइल फोन के ज्यादा इस्तेमाल से लोगों की नींद में कमी आ रही है। उनकी उत्पादकता में भी गिरावट आ रही है। यह निष्कर्ष 13 साल तक किए गए अध्ययन के आधार पर निकाला गया है।

ऑस्ट्रेलिया की क्वींसलैंड यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (क्यूयूटी) के शोधकर्ताओं ने गत वर्ष मोबाइल फोन का इस्तेमाल करने वाले 18 से 83 साल की उम्र वाले 709 लोगों पर अध्ययन किया था। इन लोगों से वही प्रश्न पूछे गए थे, जो साल 2005 के सर्वे में पूछे गए थे। इनसे मिले जवाबों की पिछले सर्वे से तुलना की गई। इसमें उल्लेखनीय तौर पर यह पाया गया कि लोगों ने नींद में आ रही कमी के लिए मोबाइल फोन को जिम्मेदार ठहराया। -प्रेट्र