

MicrobioZ

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India

Healthcare
Special
Edition

HUMANIZING HEALTHCARE
BRIDGING TECHNOLOGY
WITH EMPATHY

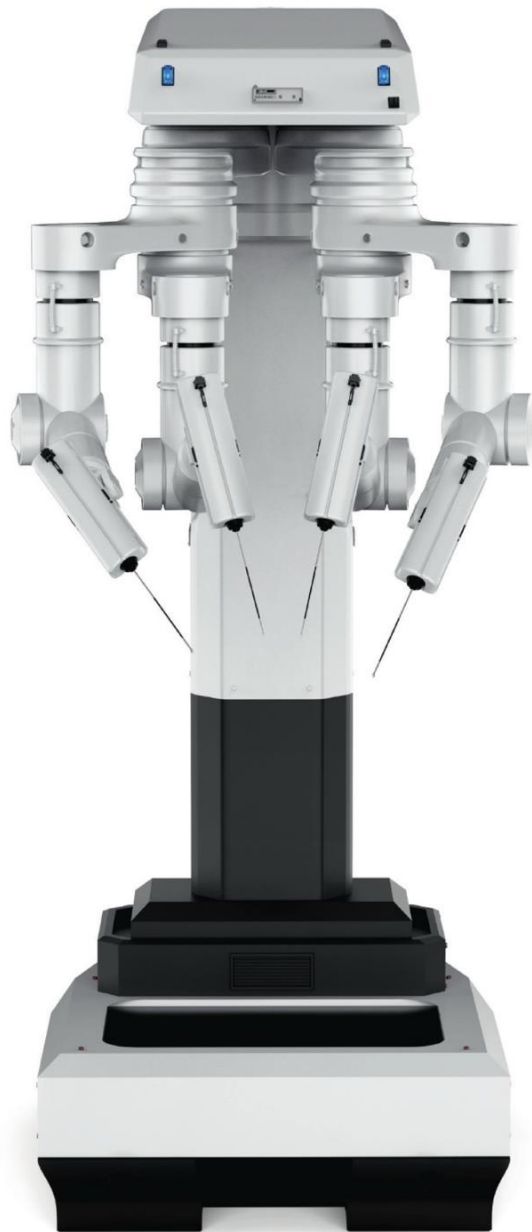


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Services with New Heart Dysfunction Clinic and Pulmonary Embolism
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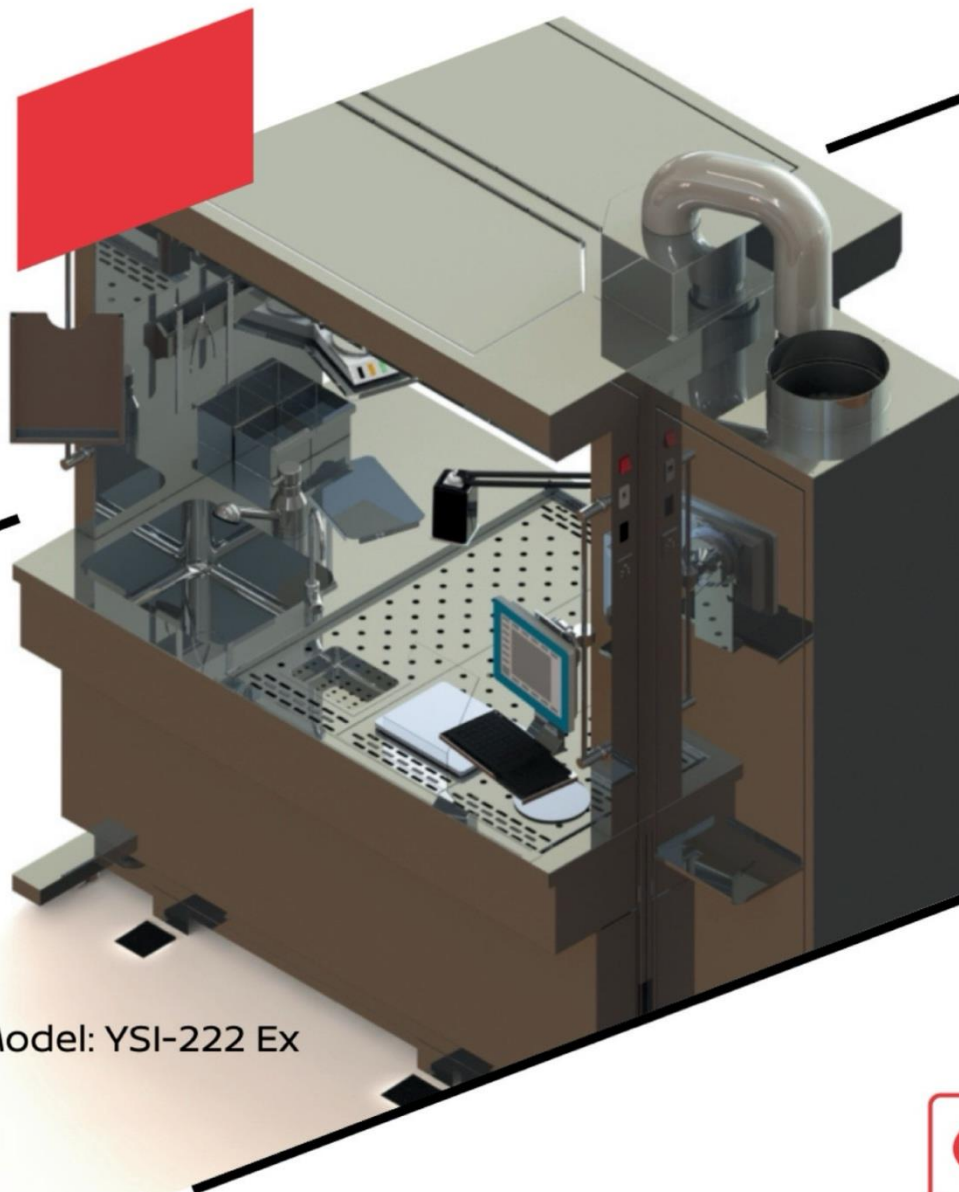
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Ami Polymer

Silicone Cut Piece Cannula Tubing



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Manufacturing Process of Silicone Cut Piece Cannula Tubing

- 1 Raw Material Selection & Preparation
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Editor's Word

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Healthcare & Diagnostics Special Edition of Microbioz India.

It is a pleasure to have you with us once again as we bring you an edition dedicated to one of the most vital transformations of our time—where technology meets compassion to redefine the future of care.

This month's cover story, "**Humanizing Healthcare: Bridging Technology with Empathy,**" explores how innovation is not just advancing healthcare systems, but also making them more patient-centric, responsive, and humane. It captures the delicate balance between cutting-edge technology and the essential human touch that defines truly impactful healthcare.

In this special edition, we have curated a collection of insightful articles, expert perspectives, and compelling features that reflect the rapidly evolving healthcare and diagnostics landscape. Our contributors—leaders, innovators, and visionaries—bring forward their expertise and creativity, offering valuable insights into digital health, diagnostics advancements, and patient-focused innovation.

We are also excited to present our Product Showcase section, featuring the latest launches and technological breakthroughs shaping the industry. This segment reinforces our commitment to keeping you informed about innovations that are driving efficiency, accuracy, and better patient outcomes.

At Microbioz India, we continuously strive to deliver content that is not only informative but also meaningful and engaging. Your continued support inspires us to push boundaries and elevate the quality of every edition we bring to you.

We invite you to stay connected with us through our digital platforms and social media channels—your feedback, ideas, and perspectives play a vital role in shaping our journey forward.

Thank you for being a part of our community. We hope this edition leaves you inspired, informed, and optimistic about the future of healthcare.

Enjoy the read!

Warm regards,

Kumar

Kumar Jeetendra

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HUMANIZING HEALTHCARE

BRIDGING TECHNOLOGY WITH EMPATHY

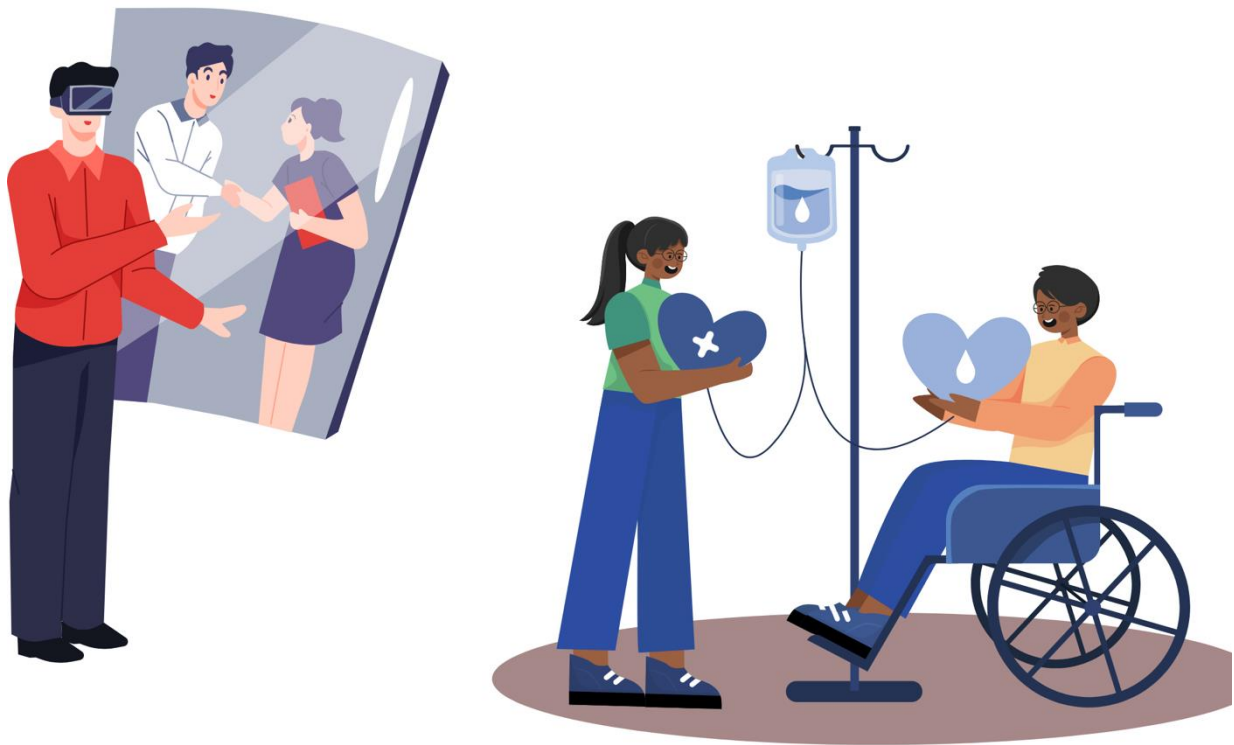


The current state of the healthcare industry indicates a massive digital transformation within the industry. Overall, the industry is experiencing rapid integration of new technologies including digital health technologies, healthcare artificial intelligence, and technologies in data analytics. Technological innovations improve the way healthcare is delivered and serviced, however, the massive transformation raises an important question. In the value of the healthcare service, does the delivered service lose value in the degree of personal interaction received or the empathy shown by healthcare professionals?

The answer is shown in the continuing need of human touch in an integrated digital world.

The Changing of the Delivery of Healthcare.

Creative technologies have been used around the world to maximize the delivery of healthcare services. New innovations and technologies used in Innovative technologies in health have demonstrated to improve the speed of healthcare service delivery and also improve the service.



Innovative techniques have been used in healthcare consulting, diagnostics, and healthcare service delivery.

The newest technologies have the greatest positive impact on delivery and service within the underserved and unpopulated areas. The services and technologies used in digital healthcare solve the problems of distance and accessibility of quality healthcare.

The Psychology in Empathy

The greatest fear of the rapid changes in the health industry is the loss of personal interaction and the compassion demonstrated by healthcare professionals. The loss of empathy and healthcare professionals and the loss of personal interaction and comping. The greatest hope is that the rapid changes in the industry does not change the human touch that is so greatly needed in the current integrated digital world.

The healthcare industry should not view empathy as a luxury; it should view it as a necessity. Research studies have shown that empathy results in increased patient satisfaction, as well as better clinical outcomes and increased adherence to clinical recommendations. The challenge will always be to make sure that technology enhances the human touch and not the other way around.

Developing Patient-Focused Technologies

Although technology can potentially harm the patient experience and take away the human touch, patient-centered technology will improve the experience and, in turn, the outcome. Simple technology, along with individualized options, and explanations will improve patient experience. Technology will not be a replacement for human contact if it acts as a support system.

Designing empathy and the experience into technology should always be the goal. Programs should always be designed to enhance the human experience. More empathy should be designed into all programs, and not a focus on impersonal programming.

Assisting the Patient is the goal of Telehealth.

The goal of Telehealth should be to facilitate contact between the patient and healthcare provider in a meaningful way, not just to facilitate the completion of contact between the patient and healthcare provider.



Empowering Healthcare Providers

Empowering the healthcare provider is also a goal of technology.

It should also focus on the healthcare provider by lessening the administrative burden and increasing the time that the healthcare providers can devote to patient care. Providing healthcare practitioners with decision support tools, care process support, and electronic health records is an effective way to support the provider and increase the human interaction between the provider and the patient.

Both awareness and training are essential. Healthcare professionals should be trained in both the technical and the empathetic aspects of the profession within digital and remote settings. The integration of efficiency and empathy must be developed consciously.

The Humanized Perspective on Data

Data drives decision making in the recent innovations in the healthcare sector.

It is important to remember that every data point represents a real human being and a real human story. Healthcare professionals must be ethically transparent and prioritize the informed consent of their patients in order to maintain trust. Using data is important in making decisions; however, the individual needs and preferences of the patients should not be overlooked.

Data analytics in the field of personalized medicine opens up avenues to achieve both empathy and precision. Apart from the financing and the technology that are essential, the clinician needs to know the science of the patient's genetic composition and the patient's lifestyle and history in order to provide advanced and modern healthcare.

Building Trust in a Digital World

The essence of healthcare is trust. However, it becomes a real challenge to maintain trust when the digital world is used in the healthcare service delivery.

Cover Story

The challenges of data privacy, biased algorithms, and digital service delivery systems are real and must be dealt with.

Trust can be established and maintained through open and honest communication, ethical behavior, and shared decision making with patients. Patients are more likely to become receptive to technology as an adjunct to their care when they feel listened to, treated with respect, and kept informed.

An Integrated Take on Healthcare

To most people, humanizing healthcare would mean some form of modification in the interactions of healthcare staff and patients. While it undoubtedly entails such changes, it encompasses more than just the isolated modification of human behaviors and roles. It entails the incorporation of novel technologies and value driven practices. To ensure this, all relevant parties, from technology developers, healthcare providers, policy makers, to patients themselves, must collaborate to combine all the relevant factors.

In addition to cultivating an environment of empathy, all healthcare systems must strive to integrate all processes and systems, including technology, in such a manner that all technologies, from the most advanced to the most rudimentary, provide the fullest support to the vision of empathy.

In the Future

The positive changes that lie ahead for healthcare are the result of a combination of technologies. AI will help in diagnosing and managing patients. Wearable devices will ensure that all healthcare systems are operating and a holistic solution will be provided.

Digital solutions will ensure the best access to healthcare, while the use of human resources will result in the least remote and most human-centered healthcare.

Redefining the healthcare system so that it truly embodies all the empathy and efficiency that is front and center is a real and achievable goal. The only irrational aspect is the effort needed to provide all the real and positive potentials.

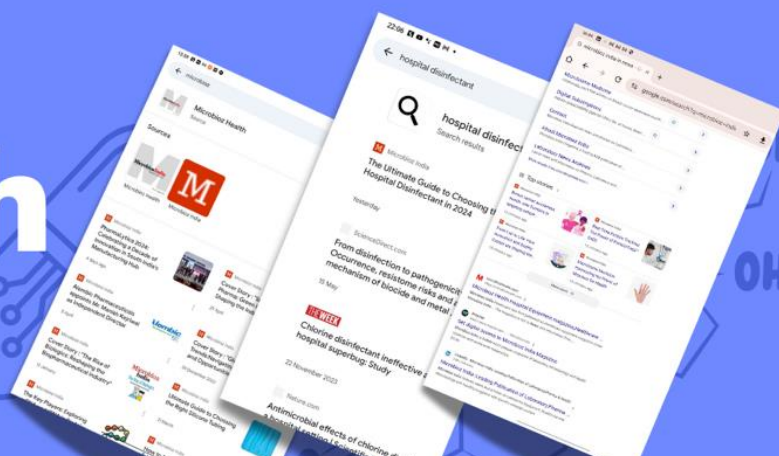
It has surprised most people that the capacity of technology has defined the most recent development and changes in the healthcare systems. While such rapid changes are apparent, providing a human-centered focus for all the changes is a challenge that requires a massive and concerted effort.

The promise that the most positive and rapid changes will occur in technology and the human-centered approach that has not been seen in the past are now apparent in the changes that are transpiring in all aspects of our lives. However, it is the most healthcare systems that need the most rapid and positive changes. For this reason, it is essential that all systems be provided to the healthcare systems to ensure that they are functionally and operationally the most advanced. The Integrated Take on Healthcare is an approach that illustrates the value of combining all the positive resources that are more than the sum of the parts.

Innovative technologies combined with human empathy rather than stifling, purposeful direction. Healthcare system can become innovative, and fast, as well as patient-centered, kind and compassionate.

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Smart Healthcare Systems: Integrating Data, Devices & Decisions

The healthcare system will be revolutionized by intelligent systems. Collecting relevant information such as patient data and medical devices will allow healthcare professionals to make real-time decisions and improve their patient's outcome. Develop customer-centric smart healthcare systems will be the focus for new development in the healthcare system.

As the flow of data becomes more efficient and devices communicate intelligently and decisions informed healthcare will be more proactive and patient focused.

The future of smart healthcare systems is based on healthcare data. It includes digital innovations and intelligent systems to enhance analytics and data workflow. It will enhance the efficiency of healthcare systems by improving streamlining systems in healthcare facilities.

Data-based intelligent systems will allow healthcare organizations to improve data and analytics. Data-based intelligent systems will improve the healthcare system by incorporating electronic health records and improving real-time data collection from wearable devices. It will allow users to provide more comprehensive patient profiles.

Analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) tools can process and analyze data to discover patterns, assess risks, and guide treatment options.

For example, predictive analytics can inform clinicians of potential risks, which allows them to perform preventative actions.

Nevertheless, the most important aspect of data is its integration. While siloed data limits its ability to provide actionable intelligence, integrated data systems can yield actionable intelligence and enhance decision-making.

Next Generation Frontline

The delivery of medical services is being disrupted by the emergence of smart medical devices. Remote monitoring devices and wearable smart health tracking technologies (smartbands, smartwatches, smart glucose monitors, smart digital inhalers) and smart cardiac monitors) allow health tracking and monitoring of patients outside of a clinical setting.

Patients with chronic illnesses can be monitored in real time allowing less visits to the hospital and obtaining the power to manage their illnesses.

The workflow, asset management and patient safety improvement in IoT medical devices is significant. A smart medical device and decision support connected infusion pump system is referred to as the assistant.

Intelligent Decision-Making

The first step toward smart decision making is achieved by the integration of data and devices. Clinical decision support systems (CDSS) use artificial intelligence and machine learning and do not replace clinicians. Conversational AI provides support to the clinician by assisting in decision making, lowering the time spent and the number of care delivery mistakes, and raising the care delivery consistency.

When given real-time data, clinicians have the ability to deliver care in a timely manner. This is especially important in critical care settings, where delays can have fatal consequences.

Furthermore, the application of decision intelligence encompasses more than clinical care. Administrators in hospitals can employ insights from data in ways that improve their ability to distribute resources, handle the movement of patients, and improve overall operational performance.

Enhancing

Patients themselves are also benefitting from changes in the healthcare system. Smart healthcare systems are improving the way patients receive care via custom care plans, online interactive engagement, and telemedicine.

Patients are no longer simply recipients of care and are becoming more engaged. With the help of their data, patients have the ability to make decisions and take control of their well-being.

The healthcare system is becoming more patient-centered, and is consequently witnessing better health outcomes. This is due to patients' increased engagement and adherence to care plans.

Integration Challenges

Many opportunities exist for the integration of data, devices, and decision systems, but there are also diverse problems that accompany this integration. A prominent issue is interoperability; different devices and systems work on different, and often opposing, platforms.

Data privacy and cybersecurity also present problems. A more interconnected healthcare system increases the likelihood of data breaches, so security measures and regulatory compliance become necessities.

Aside from regulation and risk, smart systems require investment. Infrastructure, training, and management of change are costly and complex.

Navigating the challenges listed is essential in order to gain benefit from other integration opportunities.

The Next Steps

Intelligent and integrated systems are the future of smart healthcare. Significant improvements in healthcare systems are coming, and will be the result of emerging technologies such as 5G, edge computing, and digital twins.

Imagine a future in which ecosystems are fully connected and streamlined. Platforms will allow for seamless communication and autonomous devices, while AI will empower devices to manage every decision. This is near.

The backbone of effective smart healthcare systems lies in the partnership of technology developers, healthcare providers, and government.

Conclusion

The expression "Smart Healthcare Systems" involves the creation of novel systems of delivery, management, and experience of care. The amalgamation of data, devices, and decisions is steering the industry towards the future of intelligent and efficient care.

Adopting smart systems comes with the challenge of integrating them for the first time. The future of healthcare will be transformed for the better by improving patient care, providing a higher level of accessibility, and improving patient outcomes.

Innovations in Cannula Tubing

Silicone Cut Piece Tubes as Non-Returnable Valves

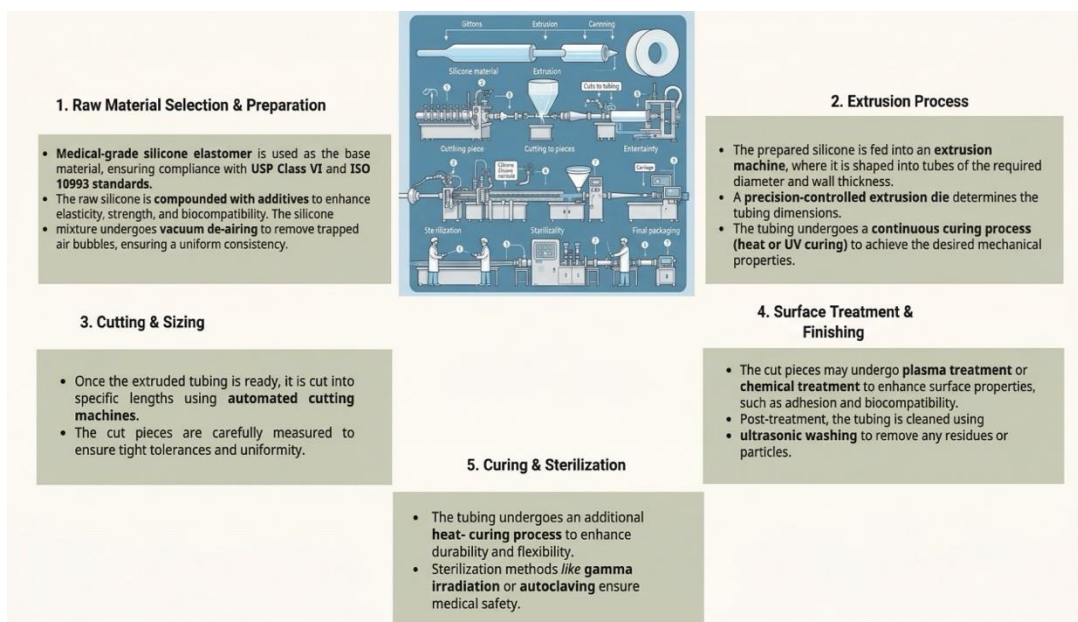
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These precision-cut silicone tubes ensure one-way fluid flow, preventing backflow and contamination in critical medical and industrial applications.

This article explores the manufacturing process, quality control measures, and machinery used in the production of high-quality silicone cut piece cannula tubing.

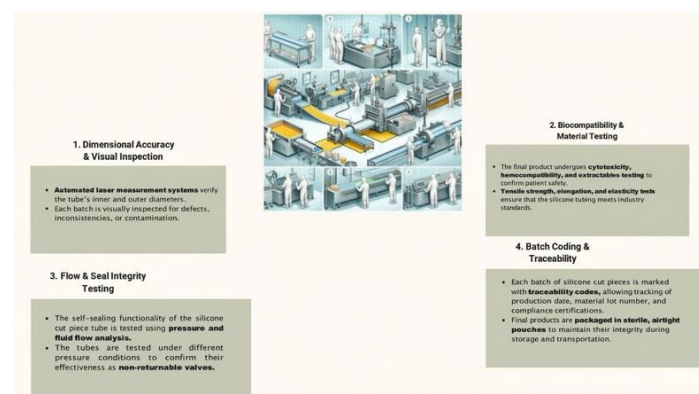
Manufacturing Process of Silicone Cut Piece Cannula Tubing

The production of silicone cut piece tubing involves several precise steps to ensure uniformity, durability, and biocompatibility. Below is a breakdown of the key stages in the manufacturing process:



Quality Control & Identification of the Final Product

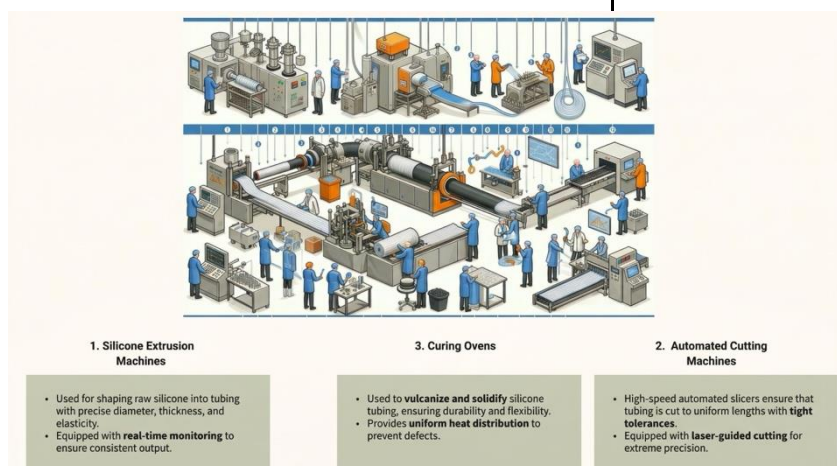
Ensuring the highest quality standards is crucial in medical-grade silicone tubing. The following quality checks and identification processes are implemented:



Featured Article

Manufacturing Machines Used in Production

The production of silicone cut piece cannula tubing involves specialized machinery designed for precision and efficiency:



- 3. State-of-the-Art Manufacturing** – Precision extrusion, cutting, and quality control ensure consistent performance.
- 4. Sterility & Safety** – All products undergo rigorous testing and sterilization to guarantee patient safety.
- 5. End-to-End Quality Assurance** – Each batch is subjected to dimensional, material, and functional testing.

CONCLUSION :

The use of silicone cut piece tubes as non-returnable valves represents a major advancement in fluid management systems. Their ability to prevent backflow, enhance sterility, and ensure reliable fluid flow makes them essential in medical, pharmaceutical, and industrial applications.

Why choose Ami Polymer for Silicone Cut Piece Cannula Tubing?



At Ami Polymer Pvt. Ltd., we specialize in manufacturing high-precision silicone tubing tailored for medical and industrial applications.

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- 2. Customizable Solutions** – Available in various sizes, hardness levels, and wall thicknesses.



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Authored By: Atharwa Mishra
Sales Executive - Healthcare Division
Ami Polymer Private Limited
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Transforming Precision Oncology at Kauvery Cancer Institute

The Clinical Edge of Varian TrueBeam Radiotherapy

At Kauvery Cancer Institute, we are proud to offer advanced radiotherapy with the Varian TrueBeam Linear Accelerator, elevating treatment precision, patient comfort, and clinical outcomes across a broad spectrum of cancers. TrueBeam represents one of the most significant advances in external-beam radiotherapy platforms globally and aligns with our commitment to delivering cutting-edge oncology care that is both effective and patient-centric.

Precision-Driven Tumor Targeting

The TrueBeam system integrates high-resolution imaging with synchronous radiation delivery to localize and treat tumors with millimeter-level accuracy.

Image-Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT): Daily 3D imaging and motion management enable clinicians to visualize tumor position immediately before and even during treatment, improving targeting reliability and minimizing geographic miss.

Motion Compensation: TrueBeam's motion management capabilities, including respiratory gating and breath-hold support, allow treatment of tumors affected by breathing motion, critical for lung, breast, and upper abdominal cancers.

This precision reduces radiation exposure to healthy tissues and critical organs, translating to fewer acute and late toxicities and better preservation of patient function.

Versatile Clinical Applications

TrueBeam supports a full range of advanced external-beam techniques from conventional radiotherapy to highly conformal approaches:

IMRT & VMAT/Rapid Arc: Facilitates complex dose sculpting that conforms tightly to irregular tumor shapes.

Featured Article

Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) & Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS): Enables ultra-precise, high-dose treatments for small tumors in the lung, liver, spine, and brain with few fractions.

Adaptability Across Tumor Sites: Head and neck, breast, prostate, lung, gastrointestinal and CNS tumors can be treated with tailored protocols. This versatility allows individualized treatment planning, facilitating curative intent where feasible and palliative care when appropriate.

Enhanced Efficiency and Treatment Experience

TrueBeam's high dose-rate delivery markedly shortens session times, enhancing patient convenience and throughput.

Rapid Dose Delivery: Capable of delivering radiation up to ~2400 MU/min, roughly twice that of standard systems, allowing many daily fractions to be completed in minutes rather than tens of minutes.

Patient Comfort: Reduced on-table time decreases patient discomfort and lessens motion during treatment, further improving precision and tolerability.

Non-Invasive with Broad Accessibility

Radiation delivered by TrueBeam is entirely non-surgical, eliminating the risks and recovery associated with operative interventions. Patients can undergo therapy with minimal interruption to daily life.

This non-invasive approach broadens treatment options for patients who may be poor surgical candidates due to comorbidities or tumor location.

Clinical Impact at Kauvery Cancer Institute

At Kauvery Cancer Institute, the TrueBeam facility enhances our multidisciplinary oncology pathways by:

1. Enabling precise dose escalation for improved local control while safeguarding organs at risk.
2. Offering SBRT/SRS options that can reduce overall treatment burden compared with conventional fractionation.
3. Supporting complex re-irradiation strategies by leveraging its imaging and motion management tools.
4. Facilitating efficient workflows for high-volume clinics without compromising quality.

Advanced Brachytherapy with Varian GammaMed® HDR

Complementing our external beam capabilities, Kauvery Cancer Institute is equipped with the Varian GammaMed High-Dose-Rate (HDR) Brachytherapy system, enabling highly localized internal radiation delivery. Unlike external beam radiotherapy, HDR brachytherapy places a radioactive source directly within or adjacent to the tumor using image-guided applicators. This approach allows very high radiation doses to the tumor while achieving rapid dose fall-off, thereby sparing surrounding normal tissues.



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Featured Article

GammaMed HDR plays a pivotal role in the management of cervical, endometrial, vaginal, prostate, breast (APBI), head & neck, and selected soft-tissue tumors, and is particularly integral to curative treatment protocols in gynecologic oncology.

The system's remote after loading technology ensures precise source positioning with millimetric control and enhanced radiation safety for patients and staff. By integrating HDR brachytherapy with image-guided external beam radiotherapy on TrueBeam, Kauvery Cancer Institute delivers a comprehensive, multimodality radiation oncology platform aligned with contemporary evidence-based standards.

Conclusion

The integration of Varian TrueBeam technology and GammaMed HDR Brachytherapy into Kauvery Cancer Institute's therapeutic armamentarium reinforces our mission to provide high-precision, evidence-aligned radiotherapy. By combining cutting-edge imaging, dynamic motion management, and versatile dose delivery, TrueBeam improves clinical capability, enhances patient experience, and supports superior oncologic outcomes across a diverse patient population.

Authored By:



Dr. B. Sathish,
Consultant - Radiation Oncology,
Kauvery Cancer Institute, Trichy.

Dr. B. Sathish is a highly qualified Radiation Oncologist based in Trichy – Tennur, with extensive training and experience in the field. He completed his MBBS and MD in Radio Oncology at the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research, followed by a DNB in Radio Therapy from the National Board of Examination. Dr. Sathish is dedicated to delivering comprehensive cancer care, utilizing advanced technologies and techniques to enhance treatment efficacy and improve patient quality of life.

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Celebrating Life Savers - Sitaram Jaipuria Foundation Hosts the 3rd Edition of Medical & Healthcare Excellence Awards

New Delhi, Delhi, India

1. Distinguished doctors honoured with awards totalling INR 90 Lakhs for their contributions to advancing healthcare in India
2. The awards celebrate excellence in clinical care, research, rural healthcare, and medical innovation
3. This initiative, marks the birth centenary of Late Shri Sitaram Jaipuria, and builds on his humanitarian legacy

The Sitaram Jaipuria Foundation (SJF) hosted the third edition of the Medical & Healthcare Excellence Awards, which also marks the birth centenary of the Late Shri Sitaram Jaipuria, recognizing outstanding medical professionals for their transformative contributions to healthcare and patient care across India.

Awards totalling INR 90 lakhs were presented to distinguished doctors whose work continues to strengthen India's healthcare ecosystem and inspire the medical community.



CELEBRATING LIFE SAVERS

Winners of the healthcare awards along with Governing Council and Jury of Sitaram Jaipuria Foundation

The awards ceremony was held in New Delhi as part of the SJF Scientific Symposium and Awards Program. The day-long symposium, organized to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Late Shri Sitaram Jaipuria, brought together leading voices from the medical fraternity for discussions and knowledge exchange on the theme **“Obesity, Diabetes, and Other Cardiometabolic Diseases.”**

Hospital Watch

Hosted by Sitaram Jaipuria Foundation and Chaired by Mr. Ashok Jaipuria, Chairman, SJF and Chairman & Managing Director, Cosmo First Ltd., the event brought together eminent doctors, researchers, and healthcare leaders to deliberate on emerging challenges and innovations in healthcare. The evening concluded with the Medical & Healthcare Excellence Awards ceremony, celebrating individuals whose dedication and leadership are shaping the future of healthcare in India and beyond.

Instituted to recognize exceptional achievements in medicine and healthcare, the awards honour professionals who have demonstrated excellence across areas such as clinical practice, medical research, rural healthcare delivery, public health leadership, and specialised treatment advancements. The initiative reflects the Foundation's continued commitment to acknowledging individuals who have devoted their lives to advancing healthcare and improving patient outcomes.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Ashok Jaipuria, Chairman, Sitaram Jaipuria Foundation and Chairman & Managing Director, Cosmo First Ltd.**, said, *"Guided by the humanitarian values of my father, Shri Sitaram Jaipuria, we are glad to recognize the extraordinary contributions of members of the medical community. The doctors being felicitated today have dedicated their lives to advancing healthcare and improving the lives of countless individuals. Their sheer commitment, compassion, and pursuit of excellence truly reflect the noble spirit of the medical profession."*

Awards totalling Ninety Lakhs Rupees were conferred across various categories:

INR 50 Lakhs for Excellence in Medicine and Healthcare Award

Prof. (Dr) Vinod K. Paul – Member (Health), NITI Aayog, and Former Professor & Head of Paediatrics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi

INR 10 Lakhs for Emerging Young Leader in Medicine and Healthcare Award

Dr Sahajal Dhooria – Additional Professor, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh

INR 10 Lakhs for Exemplary Leadership in Rural Medicine and Healthcare Award

Dr Himmatrao Saluba Bawaskar – Medical Director, Bawaskar Hospital & Clinical Research Centre, Mahad, Maharashtra

Dr Sadanand Dagadu Raut – Consultant Physician & Director, Vighnagar Nursing Home, Narayangaon, Maharashtra

INR 10 Lakhs for Smt. Gayatri Jaipuria Women's Medicine and Healthcare Excellence Award

Dr Thara Rangaswamy – Co-founder & Vice-chairperson, Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF), Chennai

INR 10 Lakhs for Shri Ashwini Kumar Award for Healthcare Excellence in Diabetes and Obesity Care

Dr V. Mohan – Chairman, Dr Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre & The Madras Diabetes Research Foundation, Chennai

"Through the Medical & Healthcare Excellence Awards, we express our sincere appreciation to these healthcare professionals who tirelessly serve the society, often placing the well-being of others above their own. This recognition stands as a tribute to their dedication and a reminder that their invaluable service to humanity is deeply respected and acknowledged," Jaipuria added.

The third edition drew attention with 476 entries and 233 applications, demonstrating commitment to recognizing exceptional contributions.

The event also featured a special session titled **"Celebrating Excellence: Featuring Previous Edition Awardees,"** where distinguished doctors including Prof. (Dr) Raman Krishna Kumar, Dr Ashish Satav, Prof. (Dr) Jeyaraj Durai Pandian, and Prof. (Dr) Pratibha Singhi from earlier editions reflected on their journeys in advancing healthcare and highlighted the evolving challenges and opportunities in the medical and healthcare field.



Indira IVF Research Links High Pollution to 11% Sperm DNA Damage, Potential Risks to Foetal Health

A comprehensive study by Indira IVF has identified a direct correlation between rising atmospheric toxicity and male infertility, revealing that men living in highly polluted regions (AQI >151) experience an 11% decrease in normal sperm integrity compared to those in cleaner environments.



The research, titled “Evaluating the impact of environmental pollution on sperm DNA Fragmentation: A retrospective cohort analysis”, highlights that as the Air Quality Index (AQI) escalates in industrialised cities, there is a corresponding “boom” in male infertility.

The study introduces the concept of “pollution bias”, highlighting that worsening air quality is linked to higher levels of abnormal sperm and a steady decline in normal sperm counts.

To ensure high diagnostic standards, the study followed World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations. The analysis showed that in areas with lower pollution (AQI 50–100), 69.3% of sperm samples were normal, while 30.7% were abnormal. As air pollution increased, normal sperm levels fell. In moderately polluted regions (AQI 101–150), there was an 8.8% drop in normal sperm compared to cleaner areas. The decline was greater in highly polluted zones (AQI above 151), where normal sperm levels decreased by 11%. Overall, the data shows a clear link between worsening air quality and declining sperm DNA health, particularly in regions with moderate to high pollution levels.

Commenting on the research, Dr. Kshitiz Murdia, CEO & Whole-Time Director, Indira IVF Hospital Limited, said, “The implications of these findings extend beyond challenges related to conception. Prolonged exposure to environmental toxins can affect sperm DNA integrity, which may also have a bearing on foetal development, placing air pollution within a wider reproductive and developmental health context. In this study, patients were categorised based on sperm DNA fragmentation scores, with normal defined as less than 25% fragmentation and abnormal as greater than 25%, allowing us to closely assess how varying air quality levels impact sperm chromosome integrity. Our observations suggest that rising air pollution levels can serve as a reliable indicator for disturbed sperm DNA fragmentation, significantly impacting Sperm DNA integrity, particularly in high-pollution urban centres.”

Dr. Vipin Chandra, Chief of Clinical and Lab Operations, Indira IVF Hospital Limited said “We analysed a statistically significant cohort of 3,222 men aged 21 to 40 across 120 Indira IVF centres nationwide. Rather than focusing on conventional semen parameters such as sperm count or motility, the study specifically examined sperm DNA integrity. This enabled a more precise assessment of how exposure to air pollution directly impacts the genetic structure of sperm, offering deeper insight into an often-overlooked contributor to male infertility.”

By linking rising AQI levels with measurable DNA fragmentation, the findings identify air pollution as a key contributor to impaired sperm DNA health. The researchers further note that the increasing burden of male infertility observed in recent years aligns closely with prolonged exposure to poor air quality.

Link to the Research: <https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S1472648324002578>

About Indira IVF

Indira IVF Hospital Limited is a network of fertility clinics in India, supporting aspiring parents in their journey to parenthood through assisted reproductive technologies. Indira IVF consistently aims to improve health outcomes with quality care and technology.

Indira IVF uses technology like closed working chambers, RFID tracking, and Electronic Medical Records (EMR) to support safe and effective treatment. Alongside care, it invests in the future of reproductive medicine by offering National Board of Education-accredited fellowship programs and operating the Indira Fertility Academy to train future fertility specialists.

Indira IVF emphasises consistency and accessibility, ensuring that all patients receive reliable care across its network of clinics.

For more information,
visit: www.indiraivf.com

Livasa Hospitals to Enter Ludhiana with 368-Bed Multi-Speciality Hospital

Expansion strengthens Livasa's growing healthcare network across Punjab

Livasa Hospitals announces its expansion into Ludhiana with the development of a 368-bed multi-speciality tertiary care hospital, marking a significant step in strengthening its healthcare network across Punjab. The new facility will support Livasa's long-term vision of expanding its healthcare footprint to nearly 2,000 beds and improving access to advanced medical care for patients across the region.

The Ludhiana hospital is expected to be operational over the next 15-18 months. Livasa Hospitals has undergone a significant phase of transformation in the recent years, strengthening clinical capabilities, investing in advanced medical infrastructure and equipment, and building a robust institutional healthcare platform across Punjab. The Ludhiana expansion marks another important milestone in the network's growth journey.

The hospital is being developed in partnership with Primewalk Infra Private Limited, a project company associated with OneCrest Infra, on a 9,900+ square yard freehold land parcel with a built-up area of over 3.75 lakh square feet and will be strategically located at Sherpur Chowk along the National Highway, ensuring easy accessibility for patients from Ludhiana and neighbouring districts.



With an overall capital investment of INR 360 crores including the landowner contribution, the Livasa group demonstrates a significant private Healthcare Investment in the region.

Ludhiana, the largest and one of the most economically vibrant cities in Punjab, currently faces a shortage of private healthcare infrastructure, with relatively low private hospital bed availability per 1,000 people compared to other major cities in the state. As a result, many patients are compelled to travel to other cities for specialised treatment. Livasa Hospitals aims to address this gap by bringing high-quality, technology-driven tertiary care services closer to residents of Ludhiana and surrounding regions.

Founded in 2008, Livasa Hospitals currently operates a strong regional healthcare network in Mohali, Amritsar, Nawanshahr (SBS Nagar), Hoshiarpur, and Khanna, offering advanced tertiary and quaternary care across 38+ medical specialties. The network presently has 800+ beds, over 250 senior consultants, 280 ICU beds, 20 modular operation theatres, and 6 advanced cath labs, serving patients across Punjab and neighbouring states. IndiaRF, a leading private equity firm, acquired a controlling stake in the group in September 2023.

Hospital Watch

With this expansion, Livasa Hospitals will further strengthen its ability to serve Punjab more effectively while continuing to advance its vision of 'Swasth Punjab.'

Commenting on the expansion, **Mr. Anurag Yadav, CEO, Livasa Hospitals**, said: *"Ludhiana represents a key milestone in Livasa's growth journey. As one of the most important cities in Punjab, it deserves access to advanced, high-quality healthcare close to home. With our upcoming hospital, we aim to bring our clinical expertise, modern infrastructure, and patient-centric approach to the people of Ludhiana and neighbouring districts. This expansion also strengthens our growing network across Punjab and reflects our commitment to building a trusted healthcare ecosystem for the region."*

Commenting on the expansion, **Shantanu Nalavadi, Managing Director of IndiaRF**, said, *"Livasa has undergone tremendous transformation since our investment two years ago. IndiaRF has since professionalized the management, re-branded the group, and has invested in modernizing the existing facilities and acquiring the advance equipment. As we strengthen our new identity, it is now the right time to execute our expansion strategy by entering the largest city of Punjab – Ludhiana. We remain committed to expand the Livasa's network through similar opportunities in the region and are actively looking to make more investments in this platform."*

About Livasa Hospitals

Livasa Hospitals, operating under Careivy Hospitals Private Limited, is a leading corporate healthcare network in Punjab with NABH-accredited hospitals in Mohali, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Nawanshahr, and Khanna. The network offers advanced multi-speciality care across Cardiology, Cardiac Surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, Urology, Oncology, Nephrology, Gastroenterology, 24×7 critical and emergency care and Organ Transplant, currently operating 850+ beds and treating over 3,60,000 patients annually. Livasa continues to expand its footprint with a vision of building a 2,000-bed healthcare network across Punjab and North India.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals Performs India's First Leadless Pacemaker Implantation Through a Metallic Prosthetic Tricuspid Valve

In a significant advancement in cardiac care, specialists at **Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals** successfully performed a complex leadless pacemaker implantation in a 65-year-old patient with a metallic prosthetic tricuspid valve.



The procedure, performed by Dr Vanita Arora, marks the first time in India that a leadless pacemaker has been implanted through a metallic prosthetic valve, offering a safer, non-surgical treatment option for patients with similar complex cardiac histories.

The patient had a long and complicated medical journey. He underwent pancreaticojejunostomy (surgical procedure that connects the pancreas to the jejunum (small intestine) to drain pancreatic enzymes), in 1998, after which he developed fungal infective endocarditis affecting the tricuspid valve. In 2000, he required cardiac surgery with debridement of the tricuspid valve. Over time, he developed severe tricuspid regurgitation that led to symptoms of right-sided heart failure. In 2018, his condition required tricuspid valve replacement with a 31 mm metallic bileaflet mechanical prosthesis (Artivion On-X valve).

Recently, the patient developed dizziness and episodes of presyncope. Evaluation revealed symptomatic sinus node dysfunction along with atrioventricular conduction disease, making permanent pacemaker implantation necessary.

However, conventional pacemaker implantation was not feasible because pacing leads cannot safely pass through a mechanical tricuspid valve, as this may damage the prosthesis and increase the risk of valve dysfunction, thrombosis and lead failure. In addition, repeat open-heart surgery to place epicardial leads was considered high risk because the patient had already undergone multiple cardiac procedures.

The cardiac electrophysiology team led by Dr Vanita, therefore opted for a leadless pacing system. Unlike traditional pacemakers that require leads placed through veins into the heart, a leadless pacemaker is a small self-contained device that is delivered directly into the heart through a catheter inserted via a vein in the leg. This approach eliminates the need for leads and avoids interference with the prosthetic valve.

In this case, a dual-chamber Aveir leadless pacemaker capable of maintaining atrioventricular synchrony was implanted. The procedure required careful planning, including detailed mapping of the heart, safe navigation across the mechanical valve and precise fixation of the device within the right ventricle. The successful implantation restored normal heart rhythm while preserving the function of the prosthetic valve.

Dr Vanita Arora, Clinical Lead – Cardiac Electrophysiology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, said, *“Patients with mechanical tricuspid valves who require pacing present a unique challenge because conventional pacemaker leads cannot be passed across the valve. Leadless pacing technology allowed us to safely restore heart rhythm without repeat open-heart surgery, offering an important option for patients with complex surgical histories.”*

The patient recovered well after the procedure and has been discharged in stable condition. Dr. Vanita Arora’s pioneering work in this case not only demonstrates the potential of innovative electrophysiology techniques but also opens the door for safer and less invasive treatment options for high-risk cardiac patients across India.

This landmark procedure highlights the growing role of leadless pacing technology in managing complex cardiac cases and opens new possibilities for patients with prosthetic tricuspid valves who previously had limited treatment options.

About Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, India's first JCI accredited hospital, is a joint venture between the Government of Delhi and Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited. Commissioned in July 1996, it is the third super-specialty tertiary care hospital set up by the Apollo Hospitals Group. Spread over 15 acres, it houses 57 specialties with more than 300 specialists and more than 700 operational beds, 19 operation theatres, 138 ICU beds, round-the-clock pharmacy, NABL accredited laboratories, 24-hour emergency services and an active air ambulance service. Apollo Hospitals Delhi has the leading programme in kidney and liver transplant in the country. The first successful paediatrics and adult liver transplants in India were performed at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. The hospital is at the forefront of medical technology and expertise. It provides a complete range of latest diagnostic, medical and surgical facilities for the care of its patients. The Hospital has introduced the most sophisticated imaging technology to India with the introduction of 64 slice CT and 3 Tesla MRI, Novalis Tx and the integrated PET Suite.

In a groundbreaking advancement, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals has recently introduced the ZAP-X Gyroscopic Radiosurgery Platform, revolutionizing brain tumor treatment across South Asia.

This state-of-the-art technology offers a non-invasive alternative to traditional brain surgery, promising improved patient outcomes and comfort. Backed by the experience and expertise of Radiation Oncologists and technical team, Indraprastha Apollo also brings the revolutionary RADIXACT - X9 that combines imaging and treatment delivery to precisely target a wide variety of Cancers.

Indraprastha Apollo has pioneered the concept of preventive health check programmes and has created a satisfied customer base over decades. The Hospital has been consistently ranked amongst the best 10 hospitals in India by The Week survey for the past few years.

World Obesity Day - Choose Treatment, Choose Health

A 54-Year-Old Woman Reduces Insulin Dependence from 115 Units to 16 After Bariatric Surgery

This is a sentence doctors hear almost every day. It reflects not failure, but deep frustration. On the occasion of [World Obesity Day](#), it is important to recognise that obesity is not merely a lifestyle issue - it is a chronic, progressive disease that often requires structured medical care.

A 54-year-old woman recently walked into our clinic weighing 109.5 kilograms, with a body mass index (BMI) of 50.7 - categorising her condition as severe obesity. For years, she had been battling uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension.

Despite taking four oral anti-diabetic medications and a staggering 115 units of insulin daily, her blood sugar levels remained poorly controlled, with an HbA1c of 11.8%.

Further medical evaluation revealed additional complications, including severe fatty liver disease, gallstones and symptoms strongly suggestive of obstructive sleep apnea - a condition often linked with obesity and associated with increased cardiovascular risk.



After careful medical evaluation and preparation, she underwent Roux-en-Y gastric bypass surgery along with laparoscopic gallbladder removal. The procedure was performed using minimally invasive techniques, allowing for faster recovery and reduced surgical trauma.

Within two days of surgery, her medications were reassessed and significantly reduced, and she was safely discharged on the third postoperative day.

The results over the next six months were remarkable. She lost 25 kilograms, and her insulin requirement dropped dramatically from 115 units per day to just 16 units, along with only one oral diabetes medication. Her HbA1c improved from 11.8% to 7%, indicating much better diabetes control. Her liver enzymes normalised, reflecting recovery from fatty liver disease, while her blood pressure medications were reduced and cholesterol medication was discontinued.

Commenting on the case, [Dr. Saravana Kumar](#), Lead Consultant – Department of Obesity & Diabetes Surgery Centre, GEM Hospital, Coimbatore, says, “*World Obesity Day reminds us that obesity is not simply about weight — it is a complex metabolic disease. Patients often struggle for years with diets and medications before seeking medical help. Metabolic surgery offers a scientifically proven option for individuals with severe obesity and uncontrolled diabetes. In many cases, it not only helps patients lose weight but also significantly improves or even reverses diabetes and other metabolic conditions, helping them regain health and quality of life.*”

This case highlights the powerful role of bariatric surgery, not merely as a weight-loss intervention but as a treatment for metabolic disorders. For many patients struggling with severe obesity and uncontrolled diabetes, timely medical intervention can reduce medication dependence and dramatically improve overall wellbeing.

Billroth Hospital Launches Advanced Cardiac & Pulmonary Specialty Services with New Heart Dysfunction Clinic and Pulmonary Embolism Referral Center

Unveils comprehensive integrated care programmes and gifts Rs. 20 lakhs to a heart transplant survivor, reinforcing its commitment to advanced medicine and patient-first philosophy

Billroth Hospitals, one of the city’s leading multispecialty centres and a pioneer in advanced laparoscopic and laser procedures, marked a significant milestone with the launch announcement of its comprehensive Cardiac & Pulmonary Specialty Services, with a new Heart Dysfunction Clinic and Pulmonary Embolism Referral Center recently at Hotel The Leela Palace, Chennai.

Dr. Rajesh Jeganathan, Chairman, Billroth Hospitals, presented a cheque of Rs. 20,00,000 to a successful Heart Transplant patient

The newly introduced specialty programmes — including the Cardiac Transplant Programme, Cardiac Dysfunction Clinic & Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre, Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic, and Pulmonary Embolism Referral Centre — strengthen integrated heart–lung care, delivering seamless, high-precision, and patient-centric services under one roof. By integrating advanced technology, multidisciplinary clinical expertise, and coordinated treatment pathways, the hospital reinforces its commitment to comprehensive, compassionate and holistic healthcare. The highlight of the event was a deeply moving moment when Dr. Rajesh Jeganathan, Chairman, Billroth Hospitals, presented a cheque of Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Only) to a successful Heart Transplant patient.



The heartfelt gesture symbolized not only the life-saving impact of advanced cardiac care but also the institution’s unwavering commitment to supporting patients well beyond the surgery.

Cardiac Centre of Excellence, Emergency & Advanced Care Capabilities

The Cardiac Department, which commenced operations in 2003, has since evolved into a centre of excellence, consistently adopting advanced techniques and cutting-edge technologies to manage complex cardiac conditions. Building on a legacy of over 50,000+ Cath Lab procedures and 10,000+ CTVS surgeries, the hospital continues to set new standards in cardiac excellence. It further strengthens its emergency preparedness with 24x7 Advanced Cardiac Emergency Services at its Shenoy Nagar and R.A. Puram units, ensuring immediate expert intervention and round-the-clock critical care when every second counts.

Hospital Watch

The cardiac division houses three state-of-the-art Cath Labs equipped with advanced technologies such as IVUS (Intravascular Ultrasound), FFR (physiological lesion assessment), Rotablator (rotational atherectomy), and advanced EP study facilities, supported by comprehensive CTVS surgery capabilities for complex cardiac and vascular procedures. These cutting-edge systems enhance clinical precision, optimise patient outcomes, and enable the confident management of high-risk and complex cases.

For more details, please visit: www.billrothhospitals.com.

About Billroth Hospital

Billroth Hospital was founded by the late Dr. V. Jeganathan on November 30, 1990, beginning as a modest 30-bed facility. Within six years, it expanded with an additional 70 beds, eventually growing into a 650-bed multi-specialty hospital. Guided by Dr. Jeganathan's vision, the hospital remains committed to delivering quality, affordable healthcare to people from all walks of life.

This mission is upheld by a dedicated team of skilled doctors, advanced medical technology and well-trained paramedical staff, all working together to ensure comprehensive care and support for every patient.

Committed to innovation, precision, and compassionate healthcare, Billroth Hospitals continues to set new benchmarks in delivering world-class cardiac and pulmonary care to the community.

Sakra World Hospital Launches Integrated Institute of Cancer Care and Blood Disorders

~The institute integrates medical, surgical and haematological expertise to deliver comprehensive, patient-centred cancer care. ~

Sakra World Hospital, India's first 100% FDI-funded tertiary care hospital, today launched its integrated and advanced **Institute of Cancer Care and Blood Disorders**, a dedicated centre aimed at delivering precision-driven, technology-enabled and patient-centric cancer and hematology care under one roof. Guided by the philosophy **"Helping the Body — Healing the Soul,"** the institute will place strong emphasis on compassionate care, clear communication, and continuity across every stage of treatment. The institute was inaugurated in the presence of Chief Guest **Sri Aravind Limbavali**, Former Minister of Forest, Government of Karnataka and Former MLA.



The newly launched institute brings together **end-to-end oncology services**, including medical oncology, surgical oncology, breast oncology, haematology, anaesthesiology, critical care, and advanced surgical specialties, supported by **modern diagnostics** and **multidisciplinary tumour boards**.



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This integrated model ensures coordinated decision-making and personalised treatment pathways tailored to individual patient needs. The initiative marks a significant step in Sakra World Hospital's commitment to improving cancer outcomes through early diagnosis, precision treatment, and holistic care.

Speaking at the launch, **Sri Aravind Limbavali**, Former Minister of Forest, Government of Karnataka and Former MLA, said, *"Sakra Hospital has consistently served our constituency with commitment and compassion, especially during the challenging times of COVID. In a rapidly growing region where timely access to healthcare is critical, the launch of the Oncology Department is a significant step forward. It strengthens local healthcare infrastructure and ensures that advanced cancer treatment is available closer to home for our community."*

Dr Vineet Gupta, Director & Head – Institute of Cancer Care and Blood Disorders, Sakra World Hospital, said, *"Advances in medical research and technology have significantly improved cancer outcomes, with many cancers today being highly treatable when detected early. In India, cancer incidence continues to rise, with over 14 lakh new cases reported every year, yet a large proportion of patients still present at advanced stages due to delayed diagnosis and low awareness. Timely detection, supported by education and access to quality care, can make a decisive difference. Cancer care today demands a collaborative and personalised approach, and through this institute, we aim to deliver evidence-based treatments, seamless coordination across specialities, and compassionate care that addresses both the clinical and emotional needs of patients and their families."*

The institute will focus on **organ-specific oncology, minimally invasive and robotic surgeries, chemotherapy, supportive and palliative care, and long-term survivorship programmes**, ensuring continuity of care from diagnosis through recovery and beyond. Strong emphasis will also be placed on **preventive oncology, patient education, and community awareness initiatives** to promote early detection.

Highlighting the hospital's vision, **Mr Yuichi Nagano**, Managing Director, Sakra World Hospital, said, *"The launch of the Institute of Cancer Care and Blood Disorders reinforces Sakra's focus on combining Japanese precision, advanced medical technology, and clinical excellence to deliver globally benchmarked healthcare in India."*

Mr Kei Iiyama, Deputy Managing Director, Sakra World Hospital, added, *"The institute aligns with Sakra's strategy of building integrated, high-acuity centres that address the growing burden of complex diseases."*

"By bringing multidisciplinary expertise, advanced technology, and streamlined care pathways together, we aim to improve clinical outcomes while enhancing efficiency and accessibility in cancer care delivery."

Echoing this, **Mr Lovekesh Kumar Phasu**, Group Chief Operating Officer, said, *"With cancer cases rising steadily, there is a pressing need for integrated institutes that reduce treatment delays and improve coordination. This institute is designed to provide patients faster access to expert opinions, advanced therapies, and comprehensive support under one roof."*

The launch event also featured the unveiling of the institute board, launch of a dedicated web page, introduction of the specialist team, and patient stories, underscoring Sakra's commitment to trust, transparency, and patient-first care.

With this initiative, Sakra World Hospital further strengthens Bengaluru's oncology ecosystem, reaffirming its commitment to delivering quality, accessible, and outcome-driven cancer care.

About Sakra World Hospital, Bengaluru:

Sakra World Hospital is the first multinational corporation (MNC) and 100% FDI hospital in India, a Japanese company run by Secom and Toyota Tsusho Corporation. It is situated in Marathahalli on the Outer Ring Road in Bengaluru, Karnataka. It is a 350-bed hospital that offers medical treatment in all areas, including emergency and trauma care, Cardiac sciences, digestive and hepatobiliary sciences, Renal science, Rehabilitation, orthopaedics, women's and children's health, and neurosciences. There are 15 integrated modular operating theatres (OTs) with cutting-edge, modern technology, including an OR integration solution that allows video input from various sources, including surgical cameras, periphery cameras, and MIS cameras, to be recorded, saved, and shown.

Hospital Watch

Apollo Hospitals Strengthens Presence with New Advanced Care Facility in Mumbai

Apollo Hospitals has announced the launch of a **state-of-the-art multi-specialty hospital in Mumbai**, marking a significant expansion in its nationwide healthcare network. The new facility is designed to deliver world-class clinical care supported by cutting-edge medical technologies.

The hospital will feature specialized departments including **cardiology, oncology, neurology, and organ transplantation**, addressing the growing demand for advanced tertiary care in urban India. With a focus on patient-centric services, the facility aims to enhance treatment outcomes and overall healthcare experience.



Apollo has integrated **digital health solutions**, including AI-assisted diagnostics, electronic medical records, and telemedicine services, ensuring seamless patient management. This aligns with the group's broader strategy of building a connected and technology-driven healthcare ecosystem.

The expansion is also expected to generate **significant employment opportunities**, including roles for doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals, contributing to the local economy and strengthening healthcare infrastructure.

This development reinforces Apollo Hospitals' leadership in India's private healthcare sector and reflects its commitment to expanding access to high-quality medical care.

Fortis Healthcare Expands Oncology Network with New Cancer Care Units

Fortis Healthcare has announced a major investment to expand its **oncology services across North India**, including the launch of new cancer care centers equipped with advanced treatment technologies.

The new facilities will offer comprehensive oncology care, including **radiation therapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and precision oncology services**. This initiative aims to address the rising burden of cancer cases in the region by improving access to specialized treatment.



Fortis is also incorporating **advanced diagnostic tools**, such as molecular imaging and genomic profiling, enabling personalized treatment plans tailored to individual patients.

This approach is expected to improve clinical outcomes and reduce treatment-related complications.

The expansion includes partnerships with global technology providers to bring **latest-generation radiotherapy systems and robotic-assisted surgery platforms** to Indian patients. These technologies enhance precision and reduce recovery times.

With this strategic move, Fortis Healthcare is strengthening its position as a leader in oncology services while contributing to the advancement of cancer care infrastructure in India.

Max Healthcare Introduces AI-Driven Smart Hospital Ecosystem

Max Healthcare has unveiled its **AI-powered smart hospital initiative**, aimed at transforming patient care through advanced digital technologies and automation. The initiative will be implemented across its flagship hospitals in major Indian cities.



The smart hospital ecosystem integrates **AI-based diagnostics, predictive analytics, and automated patient monitoring systems**, enabling faster and more accurate clinical decision-making. These technologies are designed to improve efficiency while enhancing patient safety.

Max Healthcare is also focusing on **digital patient engagement**, offering mobile apps for appointment scheduling, real-time health tracking, and teleconsultations. This ensures a seamless and convenient healthcare experience for patients.

The initiative includes the deployment of **robotic process automation (RPA)** to streamline administrative tasks, reducing operational burden on healthcare staff and allowing them to focus more on patient care.

This move positions Max Healthcare at the forefront of digital transformation in India's hospital sector, setting new benchmarks for smart and connected healthcare delivery.

Narayana Health Strengthens Mission with Expansion of Low-Cost Cardiac Care

Narayana Health has announced the expansion of its **affordable cardiac care network**, focusing on providing high-quality heart treatments at lower costs across India.

The expansion includes the establishment of new cardiac units in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, ensuring that advanced treatments such as **angioplasty, bypass surgery, and pediatric cardiac care** are accessible to underserved populations.



Narayana Health continues to leverage its **high-volume, low-cost healthcare model**, which optimizes operational efficiency while maintaining high clinical standards. This approach has made it a pioneer in affordable healthcare delivery.

The hospital network is also adopting **telecardiology services**, enabling remote diagnosis and consultation for patients in rural areas. This ensures timely intervention and reduces the need for long-distance travel.

This initiative reinforces Narayana Health's commitment to democratizing healthcare and addressing disparities in access to specialized medical services across India.



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Manipal Hospitals Expands Footprint Through Strategic Acquisition

Manipal Hospitals has announced the acquisition of a regional hospital chain, significantly expanding its presence in key Indian markets. The deal is part of the group's strategy to strengthen its position in the competitive healthcare sector.

The acquisition adds multiple hospitals to Manipal's network, increasing its **bed capacity and geographic reach**. This expansion is expected to improve access to quality healthcare services in both metropolitan and semi-urban regions.



Manipal Hospitals plans to upgrade the acquired facilities with **advanced medical equipment, digital health systems, and specialized care units**, ensuring consistent standards across its network.

The integration will also focus on **clinical excellence and operational efficiency**, leveraging Manipal's expertise in hospital management and patient care.

This move highlights the ongoing consolidation in India's hospital sector, with leading players expanding through acquisitions to enhance scale and competitiveness.

Medanta Establishes Advanced Organ Transplant Center in Gurgaon

Medanta has launched a **Center of Excellence for Organ Transplantation** at its flagship facility in Gurgaon, aiming to provide comprehensive transplant services under one roof.



The center will offer advanced procedures including **liver, kidney, heart, and lung transplants**, supported by cutting-edge surgical infrastructure and highly experienced medical teams. This initiative addresses the growing demand for organ transplantation in India. Medanta has integrated **state-of-the-art ICUs, robotic surgery systems, and advanced immunology labs**, ensuring high success rates and improved patient outcomes. The facility is designed to handle complex and high-risk transplant cases. The hospital is also focusing on **patient awareness and organ donation programs**, encouraging greater participation and addressing the shortage of donor organs in the country. This launch strengthens Medanta's position as a leading healthcare institution in India and highlights its commitment to delivering advanced, life-saving medical treatments.



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Cipla Foundation partners with Tata IISc Medical School to set up Centre for Pulmonary Medicine to Advance Respiratory Care & Research

Cipla Foundation today announced its partnership with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) to support the establishment of a state-of-the-art Cipla Foundation Centre for Pulmonary Medicine at the Tata IISc Medical School in Bengaluru. The Centre will offer diagnostics, outpatient and inpatient services, a dedicated ICU, and high-dependency units to deliver cutting-edge treatment for respiratory illnesses.



The Centre for Pulmonary Medicine will strengthen India's respiratory health ecosystem through early diagnosis and advanced research, as well as skill development.

It will support the development of India-specific guidelines for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD), and asthma, alongside research in biomarkers, pharmacogenomics, AI-based lung diagnostics, and therapeutics.

The Centre will also train pulmonologists and allied specialists, promote knowledge-sharing through workshops and global collaborations, and drive community programs on early screening, air quality awareness, smoking cessation, and preventive lung health.

India continues to carry a significant burden of respiratory illnesses, including COPD and asthma, making lung health an important public health focus. Factors such as rising air pollution, tobacco use, occupational exposure, and limited awareness contribute to this challenge. At the same time, the availability of trained pulmonologists and specialised care facilities remains uneven, particularly outside of major cities, affecting timely access to quality respiratory care.

Anurag Mishra, Head, Cipla Foundation, said, *"At Cipla Foundation, 'Caring for Life' means standing alongside communities and strengthening the public health systems they depend on. Our support for the Centre for Pulmonary Medicine at IISc is rooted in this belief, bringing quality respiratory care closer to people while building the skills and capabilities needed to serve them better."*

Business News

As respiratory illnesses continue to affect millions, particularly the most vulnerable, this partnership builds on our work to nurture the next generation of respiratory health leaders. By linking care, training and research, we aim to ensure that innovation translates into real, lasting impact for communities that need it the most."

Emphasising the long-term impact of the collaboration, **Prof. Govindan Rangarajan, Director, IISc, said,** "respiratory diseases are among the most pressing public health challenges for the 'next 7 billion people', particularly in regions facing worsening air quality. Through our partnership with Cipla Foundation, the Tata IISc Medical School will strengthen respiratory care, interdisciplinary research, and innovative medical solutions discovered and nurtured in India for local and global benefit. This collaboration will also enable the training of healthcare professionals while ensuring equitable access for underserved populations."

About Cipla Foundation

Cipla Foundation is committed to building a world where no individual suffers from unmanaged symptoms or loneliness during a health crisis. With a presence in 20 states and partnerships supporting over 60 projects, the Foundation continues to transform India's palliative care landscape, guided by the principle of "Caring for Life." For further information or to access palliative care support, please contact the Cipla Foundation palliative helpline at 1800-202-7777 or visit www.ciplapalliativecare.org.

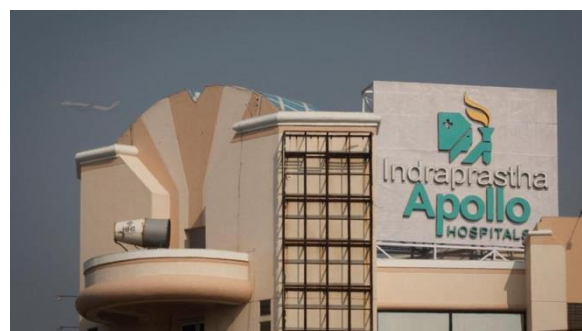
About IISc:

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) was established in 1909 by a visionary partnership between the industrialist Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, the Mysore royal family and the Government of India. Over the last 116 years, IISc has become India's premier institute for advanced scientific and technological research and education. Its mandate is "to provide for advanced instruction and to conduct original investigations in all branches of knowledge as are likely to promote the material and industrial welfare of India." In 2018, IISc was selected as an Institution of Eminence (IoE) by the Government of India, and it consistently figures among the top Indian institutions in world university rankings. IISc is also in the process of establishing the Tata IISc Medical School with the Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital. While providing quality care to society at large, this endeavour also aims to provide advanced facilities for diagnostics, treatment, and research.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals Launches Varian Edge® Radiosurgery System with Hyperarc Technology, Advancing Precision Cancer Care

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals has launched the Varian Edge® Radiosurgery System with Hyperarc Technology, strengthening its advanced cancer care capabilities and expanding treatment options for complex and hard-to-reach tumours.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals launches Varian Edge radiosurgery system



The introduction of the Varian Edge® system marks a significant milestone in radiation oncology, combining precision and advanced motion management to deliver highly targeted radiation therapy while minimising exposure to surrounding healthy tissue. The technology enables doctors to treat tumours even as they move during breathing, ensuring consistent accuracy throughout treatment.

The platform also supports advanced motion-management techniques such as Deep Inspiration Breath Hold (DIBH), which is particularly beneficial in left-sided breast cancers by helping reduce radiation exposure to the heart.

Its enhanced imaging clarity further strengthens precision in abdominal, liver, lung, gastrointestinal and genitourinary tumours, where internal organ movement and gas interference can otherwise impact treatment accuracy.

A key clinical advantage of the Varian Edge® platform is its ability to treat multiple metastases in a single session, often reducing overall treatment time to less than one-third of conventional LINAC or SRS treatments. The system's synchronised movement of the radiation beam and treatment couch allows for continuous, precise radiation delivery, resulting in fewer radiation "hits" and improved patient comfort.

Dr G.K. Jadhav, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, noted, *"The Varian Edge platform gives us a sharper and more versatile tool to manage a wide spectrum of tumours from tiny lesions to large, complex cases, even in challenging locations. It meaningfully expands our treatment options and enhances clinical outcomes."*

Dr Sapna Manocha Verma, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, added, *"What sets apart this technology is the radiation beam continuously tracks and adjusts to the tumour's position, even as it shifts during breathing, while surrounding healthy tissue is carefully protected. The platform also supports advanced motion-management techniques such as Deep Inspiration Breath Hold (DIBH), which is particularly beneficial in left-sided breast tumours and in select liver and lung tumours. For patients, this translates into shorter treatment times, fewer side effects, and faster recovery."*

Dr Robin Khosa, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, said, *"The Varian Edge® Radiosurgery System with Hyperarc Technology represents a major advancement in precision radiation therapy. Its ability to track tumours in real time and deliver radiation with submillimetre accuracy allows us to treat complex cases including multiple brain metastases and tumours previously considered difficult or untreatable with greater safety and confidence."*

The launch was also marked by the presence of Dr Mano Bhaduria, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology; Dr Aditi Agarwal, Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals; and Dr Devashish Tripathi, Senior Consultant in Radiation Oncology at Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi.

The system is particularly impactful in treating tumours located in delicate or hard-to-reach areas, where precision and motion management are critical. Enhanced imaging quality, sharper resolution, and improved accuracy enable clinicians to reduce treatment margins, safely deliver higher radiation doses when required, and potentially improve cure rates while lowering normal tissue toxicity.

With the launch of the Varian Edge® Radiosurgery System, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals continues to reinforce its commitment to combining cutting-edge technology with deep clinical expertise. Backed by a multidisciplinary team of oncologists, neurosurgeons, physicists, and radiation specialists, the hospital remains focused on pushing the boundaries of what is possible in cancer care ensuring better outcomes, fewer side effects, and more time for patients to focus on living.

About Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, India's first JCI accredited hospital, is a joint venture between the Government of Delhi and Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited. Commissioned in July 1996, it is the third super-specialty tertiary care hospital set up by the Apollo Hospitals Group. Spread over 15 acres, it houses 57 specialties with more than 300 specialists and more than 700 operational beds, 19 operation theatres, 138 ICU beds, round-the-clock pharmacy, NABL accredited laboratories, 24-hour emergency services and an active air ambulance service. Apollo Hospitals Delhi has the leading programme in kidney and liver transplant in the country. The first successful paediatrics and adult liver transplants in India were performed at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals.

The hospital is at the forefront of medical technology and expertise. It provides a complete range of latest diagnostic, medical and surgical facilities for the care of its patients. The Hospital has introduced the most sophisticated imaging technology to India with the introduction of 64 slice CT and 3 Tesla MRI, Novalis Tx and the integrated PET Suite.

In a groundbreaking advancement, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals has recently introduced the ZAP-X Gyroscopic Radiosurgery Platform, revolutionizing brain tumor treatment across South Asia. This state-of-the-art technology offers a non-invasive alternative to traditional brain surgery, promising improved patient outcomes and comfort. Backed by the experience and expertise of Radiation Oncologists and technical team, Indraprastha Apollo also brings the revolutionary RADIXACT - X9 that combines imaging and treatment delivery to precisely target a wide variety of Cancers.

Indraprastha Apollo has pioneered the concept of preventive health check programmes and has created a satisfied customer base over decades. The Hospital has been consistently ranked amongst the best 10 hospitals in India by The Week survey for the past few years.

Tata 1mg Strengthens HealthTech Presence with Nationwide Diagnostics Expansion

Tata 1mg has announced a major expansion of its **diagnostics network across India**, aiming to strengthen its position in the rapidly growing digital healthcare ecosystem. The move includes the addition of new labs, sample collection centers, and partnerships with regional diagnostic providers.

The expansion is designed to improve access to **affordable and reliable diagnostic services**, particularly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities.



By leveraging its digital platform, Tata 1mg enables patients to book tests, access reports, and consult doctors seamlessly from their homes.

The company is also integrating **AI-driven diagnostics and predictive analytics**, allowing for faster and more accurate test interpretations. This technology-driven approach enhances early disease detection and supports preventive healthcare strategies.

In addition, Tata 1mg is strengthening its **e-pharmacy and teleconsultation services**, creating a comprehensive healthcare ecosystem that covers diagnosis, treatment, and medicine delivery under one platform.

This strategic expansion reflects the growing demand for **integrated digital healthcare solutions** in India and positions Tata 1mg as a key player in the health-tech revolution.

Practo Secures New Investment to Expand International Healthcare Services

Practo has raised a new round of funding aimed at accelerating its **global expansion strategy** and enhancing its digital healthcare offerings. The investment is expected to support the company's growth in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and other emerging markets.

The company plans to use the funds to expand its **telemedicine platform, digital health records, and AI-based consultation tools**, improving patient engagement and healthcare accessibility. Practo has already established a strong presence in multiple international markets.

A significant portion of the investment will be directed toward **technology innovation**, including machine learning models for disease prediction and personalized healthcare recommendations. This aligns with the company's vision of delivering smarter and more efficient healthcare solutions.



Practo is also focusing on strengthening partnerships with **hospitals, clinics, and diagnostic centers**, creating a connected ecosystem that benefits both healthcare providers and patients.

This funding round highlights investor confidence in the digital health sector and underscores Practo's ambition to become a global leader in health-tech services.

PharmEasy Diversifies Business with Preventive Care and Health Insurance Offerings

PharmEasy has announced its expansion into **preventive healthcare and health insurance services**, marking a strategic shift beyond its core e-pharmacy business. The move aims to create a more comprehensive healthcare ecosystem for its growing customer base.



The company is introducing **subscription-based health check-up packages**, enabling users to monitor their health regularly and detect potential issues early. This preventive approach is gaining traction as consumers become more health-conscious.

PharmEasy is also entering the **digital insurance space**, offering customized health insurance plans in partnership with leading insurers. This integration allows users to manage their healthcare expenses more effectively.

To support these initiatives, the company is investing in **data analytics and personalized health insights**, helping users make informed decisions about their health and wellness.

This diversification reflects a broader trend in the healthcare industry, where companies are moving toward **holistic health management platforms** that combine services across the care continuum.

HealthifyMe Introduces AI-Powered Coach to Transform Digital Wellness

HealthifyMe has launched an **AI-powered virtual coach**, designed to deliver personalized fitness and nutrition guidance at scale. This innovation aims to enhance user engagement and drive better health outcomes.



The AI coach uses **machine learning algorithms and user data** to create customized diet plans, workout routines, and lifestyle recommendations. This level of personalization is expected to significantly improve user adherence and results.

HealthifyMe is also integrating the AI coach with **wearable devices and health tracking tools**, enabling real-time monitoring and feedback. This creates a dynamic and interactive user experience.

The company plans to expand this feature globally, targeting markets where demand for **digital wellness solutions** is rapidly increasing. The AI coach is positioned as a scalable alternative to traditional personal trainers.

This launch highlights the growing role of **artificial intelligence in preventive healthcare and wellness**, positioning HealthifyMe as a leader in digital health innovation.

One Step RT-qPCR Master Mix (2x)

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One Step RT-qPCR Master Mix (2x) accelerates your RNA research by integrating high-efficiency reverse transcription and real-time PCR amplification into a streamlined, single-tube protocol. By eliminating intermediate steps required in conventional two-step methods, it significantly reduces the risk of cross-contamination while saving valuable laboratory time.

Why Choose It?

- ✓ **True One-Step Workflow** – Reverse Transcription + qPCR in a single reaction
- ✓ **High Sensitivity & Specificity** – Reliable detection of low copy RNA targets
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- ✓ **Thermostable Reverse Transcriptase** – Efficient cDNA synthesis
- ✓ **Optimized Buffer System** – Consistent and reproducible performance
- ✓ **Compatible with ROX & Probe-based assays** (appropriate TaqMan probe needs to be added separately based on the specific assay requirements)

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Superior Results

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Apollo HealthCo Expands Integrated Healthcare Model with Omni-Channel Approach

Apollo HealthCo, the digital arm of Apollo, has announced a major push toward an **omni-channel healthcare strategy**, integrating online and offline services to deliver seamless patient experiences.



The company is expanding its network of **pharmacies, clinics, and digital platforms**, ensuring that patients can access healthcare services through multiple touchpoints. This approach enhances convenience and improves continuity of care.

Apollo HealthCo is also leveraging **data analytics and AI tools** to provide personalized health recommendations and optimize patient journeys. This integration supports better clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction.

The strategy includes strengthening its **medicine delivery and teleconsultation services**, enabling faster and more efficient healthcare access, particularly in urban and semi-urban areas. This initiative reflects the evolving healthcare landscape, where **hybrid care models** are becoming essential for delivering accessible and efficient healthcare services.

Reliance Retail Health Enters Primary Care Segment with Retail Clinic Rollout

Reliance Retail Health has announced its entry into the **primary healthcare segment** with the launch of retail clinics across major Indian cities. This move marks a significant step in its strategy to build an integrated healthcare ecosystem.



The retail clinics will offer **basic medical consultations, diagnostic services, and pharmacy support**, providing convenient and affordable healthcare solutions to consumers. The model is designed to bring healthcare closer to communities.

Reliance is leveraging its extensive retail network to scale the initiative rapidly, ensuring widespread accessibility. The company also plans to integrate **digital health platforms and electronic medical records**, enabling seamless patient management.

The expansion is expected to disrupt the primary care market by combining **retail efficiency with healthcare delivery**, creating a new benchmark for accessibility and convenience.

This development underscores the increasing interest of large conglomerates in the healthcare sector, driven by the growing demand for **affordable and accessible health services**.



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The AKAS SYRU 1947 is built for real hospital conditions, where devices are used continuously and there's no time to second guess.

From general wards to OTs and critical care, it delivers steady infusion you can rely on throughout the day.

Simple to use.

A clear display and simple controls make operation easy. Setup is quick, helping you get started without delay.

Alerts are distinct but not overwhelming, keeping you informed when it matters.

Reliable when it counts

The pump runs quietly and performs consistently. The battery backup supports use during transport and handles power cuts without interrupting therapy.

It's solid in hand, mounts securely, and is built to keep working day after day without needing constant attention.

Why choose us

Decades of experience in infusion technology allows AKAS to develop pioneering solutions in the drug delivery systems incorporating advanced engineering, clinical, and global quality integrations.

Who are we

AS 9001:2000 certified manufacturers concerning critical care devices, AKAS produces world-standard drug delivery systems and volumetric infusion syringes and pumps for hospitals and medical institutions.



One of the largest infusion pump manufacturers in India, AKAS was founded in 1996 in a garage in Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu by two engineers.

As of today, the company has two manufacturing plants located in Tiruchirapalli and Chennai and has extended its market to over 15 countries within the Indian subcontinent.



Apart from engineers and R&D professionals, a good number of medical practitioners form the multidisciplinary workforce that most push AKAS to the frontline, creating devices that are of the most optimum standards in performance, safety and reliability.

For More Information

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Product Launches



Sakura Finetek and Hamamatsu Photonics Partner to Advance End-to-End Digital Pathology Workflows



The global alliance aims to reduce slide rework and scanning delays by aligning high-quality slide preparation with whole slide imaging.

Sakura Finetek and Hamamatsu Photonics K.K. have announced a global partnership designed to connect slide preparation with digital imaging into a single, streamlined anatomic pathology workflow—from biopsy processing through whole slide image review.

The collaboration brings together Sakura Finetek's automated tissue and slide preparation technology with Hamamatsu's NanoZoomer whole slide imaging systems. According to a release, both companies aim to reduce variability and rework in digital pathology laboratories by aligning slide quality standards with imaging performance.



“Across Europe, laboratories are under increasing pressure to do more with less, while maintaining uncompromising quality,” says Jaap Stuut, president, Sakura Finetek Europe, in a release. “By combining Sakura’s proven expertise in producing consistently high-quality slides with Hamamatsu’s imaging excellence, we are creating a workflow that empowers pathologists to focus on what truly matters: confident, timely diagnoses for every patient.”

Product Launches

Connecting Slide Preparation to Whole Slide Imaging

A central premise of the partnership, according to both companies, is that **digital pathology** output quality is directly dependent on the quality of the slide that enters the scanner.

“Digital pathology can only be as strong as the slide that enters the scanner,” says Tadashi Maruno, president, Hamamatsu Photonics K.K., in a release. “NanoZoomer systems are built to deliver high-quality whole slide images. This partnership with Sakura Finetek reinforces a ‘one complete workflow’ mindset, supporting consistent slide preparation and clear imaging so pathologists can focus on what matters most: arriving at the right diagnosis for each patient.”

The agreement between Sakura Finetek and **Hamamatsu Photonics** is structured around three areas of joint support for clinical laboratories, according to the release:

- Workflow alignment between slide preparation steps and digital scanning to help reduce rework, rescans, and delays
- Joint customer engagement to help laboratories evaluate and design end-to-end workflows from histology through digital review
- Shared educational resources highlighting best practices for scan-ready slide production and reliable whole slide imaging

Phased European Rollout Planned for Mid-2026

The global partnership launched on March 20, 2026, with a phased regional rollout to follow. According to the release, the European phase is expected to begin toward the end of June 2026, launching first in Germany, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Italy, and the Netherlands, with additional European markets to be added as the partnership develops.

The initiative reflects broader pressures facing **anatomic pathology** laboratories, which are increasingly seeking integrated solutions that reduce manual intervention, limit the need for rescans, and support faster turnaround from specimen receipt to diagnosis. According to the release, the two companies plan to collaborate directly with pathologists and laboratories to design workflows that realize these efficiencies in practice.

Photo credit: Sakura Finetek

FDA Approves MyChoice CDx as Companion Diagnostic for Zejula in Ovarian Cancer



The approval makes MyChoice CDx the sole FDA-approved test in the US to identify HRD-positive patients eligible for niraparib maintenance therapy.

Mylriad Genetics has received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of its MyChoice CDx Test as a companion diagnostic (CDx) for Zejula (niraparib), a PARP inhibitor developed by GSK, for patients with advanced ovarian cancer. The approval, announced March 17, 2026, establishes MyChoice CDx as the only FDA-approved companion diagnostic for Zejula in the US, according to a release from Myriad Genetics.

The approval is based on final data from the PRIMA trial, in which the MyChoice CDx Test was used to determine homologous recombination deficiency (HRD) status and stratify patients with advanced ovarian cancer.

How the Test Works

Product Launches

MyChoice CDx identifies patients with HRD-positive (HRD+) status by leveraging next-generation sequencing (NGS) technology to assess BRCA1/2 genes—including large rearrangements—alongside a tumor genomic instability score (GIS). The GIS incorporates three genomic signatures: loss of heterozygosity, telomeric allelic imbalance, and large-scale state transitions.

MyChoice® CDx

HRD Companion Diagnostic Test

Zejula is indicated as a maintenance treatment for adult patients with advanced epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer whose cancer is associated with HRD+ status, defined by a deleterious or suspected deleterious BRCA mutation and/or genomic instability, following a complete or partial response to first-line platinum-based chemotherapy.

Clinical Significance of HRD Testing

According to Myriad Genetics, nearly 50% of patients with advanced ovarian cancer have HRD+ tumors, making accurate identification of this patient population critical for guiding appropriate use of PARP inhibitor therapy and informing personalized treatment decisions.

Best practices for HRD testing have been a growing focus in the clinical laboratory community, with guidance emphasizing the need for validated, standardized assays that can reliably assess tumor genomic instability alongside BRCA mutation status.

“By enabling precise identification of patients who may benefit from PARP inhibitors, MyChoice CDx helps ensure that treatment decisions are guided by robust genomic insights,” says Brian Donnelly, chief commercial officer, Myriad Genetics, in a release.

Expanding the MyChoice CDx Footprint

This is not the first FDA approval for the MyChoice CDx platform in the companion diagnostic space. The test was previously approved as a companion diagnostic for Lynparza (olaparib), and an earlier iteration of the MyChoice test was approved to identify patients eligible for Zejula treatment. The current approval is based on final PRIMA trial data and expands the test’s regulatory standing for the niraparib indication.

Myriad has also pursued a broader strategic partnership with Illumina in oncology and, more recently, partnered with SOPHiA GENETICS on a global liquid biopsy companion diagnostic, reflecting the company’s continued investment in molecular diagnostics across oncology.

“The FDA approval reinforces Myriad’s long-standing leadership in ovarian cancer diagnostics and underscores the clinical importance of comprehensive HRD testing,” says Donnelly, in a release.

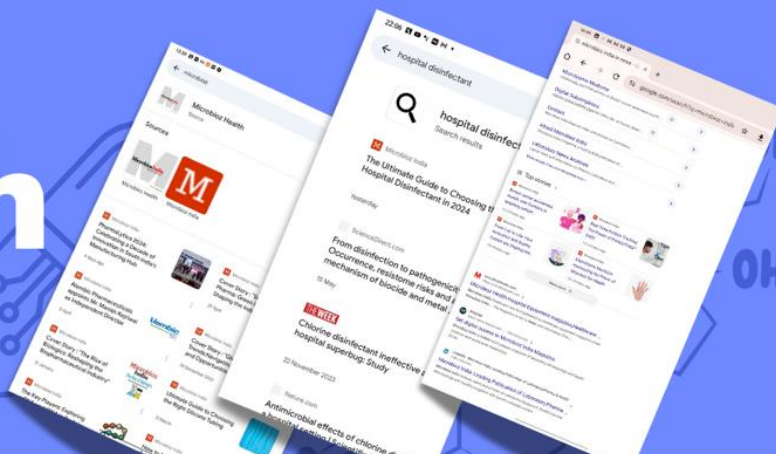
The latest approval adds to a broader landscape of companion diagnostic development in oncology, where NGS-based assays are increasingly being used to match patients with targeted therapies. Research has also explored whole-genome sequencing algorithms for PARP inhibitor selection, indicating that the field continues to investigate broader genomic approaches to treatment stratification.

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Next-Generation Sequencing Library Prep System for Lower-Throughput Labs Launches



The system brings real-time, per-well amplification control to labs running targeted panels, rare variant studies, and low-input clinical samples.

n6 has launched the icon16, a 16-well next-generation sequencing (NGS) library preparation instrument designed for clinical and research labs that [process lower sample volumes](#) but require the same data quality standards as [high-throughput operations](#).

The icon16 is built on AutoNorm, the adaptive [amplification technology](#) that n6 introduced in 2024 with the icon96, a 96-well instrument that gained adoption at [genomics cores](#) and research institutions in more than 22 countries, including the Broad Institute and the University of California San Francisco, according to the company.

Rather than running every sample through a fixed number of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) cycles, AutoNorm monitors fluorescence in real time at the individual well level and stops amplification the moment each sample reaches a user-defined threshold—independently of the other wells on the plate. The approach eliminates overcycling artifacts, sample dropout, and the manual quantification and cleanup steps that are typically required before pooling, according to n6. Libraries are normalized by biology rather than by protocol, the company says.

“PCR is the starting point for every NGS library, and if that starting point is compromised, everything downstream is compromised,” says Pranav Patel, PhD, MBA, co-founder and chief executive officer of n6, in a release. “The icon16 exists because the icon standard shouldn’t be limited to high-throughput labs. Whether you’re running 16 samples or 96, every researcher deserves data they can trust.”

Designed for Low-Input and Specialized Applications

The icon16 is aimed at labs performing targeted panels, rare variant studies, low-input clinical samples, and [specialized sequencing applications](#) where 96-well capacity exceeds routine needs, according to n6. In low-input workflows—where a failed library can mean an unrecoverable sample—the consequences of suboptimal amplification are particularly acute.

The instrument is reagent-agnostic and compatible with major [library preparation kits](#), requiring no changes to [existing NGS workflows](#), according to the company.

Researchers already using AutoNorm technology in higher-throughput settings have noted its impact on established workflows. “There are not many technologies that actually from the get-go can have a significant impact on established workflows,” says James Docker, NGS lead and multi-omics scientist at the University of Oxford Centre for Human Genetics, in a release.

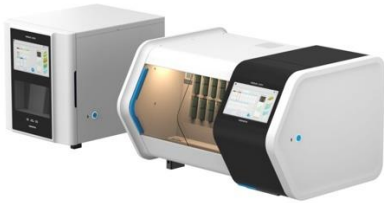
“But with [AutoNorm] technology we’re able to really change the way you approach PCR in library prep in general.”

Availability and Upcoming Conference Presence

The icon16 is available for purchase as of March 30, 2026. The launch coincides with the [Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities 2026 annual meeting](#), taking place March 28–31.

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Vieworks Debuts Dual-Application Slide Scanner for Cytology and Histology



The VISQUE DPS LH210 supports up to 210 slides per batch and scans at 23 seconds per slide, expanding Vieworks' digital pathology lineup.

Vieworks will make the global debut of its VISQUE DPS LH210 digital slide scanner at the [United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology \(USCAP\) Annual Meeting](#), held March 23 to 25 at the Henry B. González Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas.

The LH210 is a mid-capacity scanner designed to handle both cytology and histology slides on a single system, addressing growing laboratory demand for flexible, scalable digital pathology workflows.

The scanner supports up to 210 slides per batch and delivers a scan speed of 23 seconds per slide at 15 × 15 mm at 40×, according to the company.

A key design focus of the LH210 is data efficiency. The system produces high-resolution whole slide images while reducing file size, which Vieworks says helps lower storage requirements and improves data transfer performance across [digital pathology](#) workflows.

Realtime Extended Focus Technology

The LH210 incorporates Vieworks' proprietary Realtime Extended Focus (Realtime EF) technology, the same system used in the existing VISQUE DPS LH510. The technology uses a 3-camera structure to simultaneously capture multiple focal images and fuse them in real time into a single whole slide image. According to the company, this approach maintains high scanning speed while keeping file sizes optimized for routine and research environments.

Expanding the VISQUE DPS Lineup

The LH210 joins the LH510, Vieworks' high-throughput solution designed for large hospitals, reference laboratories, and research centers. Together, the two scanners are intended to cover a broad range of laboratory throughput requirements under the VISQUE DPS platform.

VIEWORKS

“We are pleased to introduce the LH210 to the global market at USCAP 2026,” says a Vieworks representative, in a release. “With the expansion of the VISQUE DPS lineup, we aim to provide [scalable digital pathology solutions](#) that combine fast scanning, optimized data management, and scalable throughput. By supporting both cytology and histology on a single system, Vieworks will continue to help laboratories improve workflow efficiency as digital pathology adoption accelerates worldwide.”

Vieworks will showcase the LH210 and LH510 during the USCAP 2026 exhibition.

Photo caption: Vieworks' VISQUE DPS LH Series



Product Launches

Ibex Medical Analytics Launches Next-Generation AI Pathology Platform



Ibex 4 introduces end-to-end breast cancer diagnostic workflows, zero-click immunohistochemistry tools, and expanded laboratory integrations.

Ibex Medical Analytics has unveiled Ibex 4, its next-generation artificial intelligence (AI)-powered pathology, designed to support pathologists facing rising case volumes and increasing diagnostic complexity. Built on clinically validated algorithms and developed in collaboration with pathology laboratories, Ibex 4 expands the company's breast cancer diagnostic offering to support end-to-end workflows for biopsies and excisions, from hematoxylin and eosin staining through immunohistochemistry (IHC) analysis. "Ibex 4 was designed to help pathologists 'see more and click less,' focusing their expertise where it matters most," says Chaim Linhart, chief technology officer at Ibex Medical Analytics, in a release. "One example is Ibex Breast's 'zero-click' IHC quantification and visualization tools, which are particularly useful in identifying a few stained cells and very low levels of HER2 expression, as well as quickly calculating Ki67 proliferation index. Ibex is empowering pathologists to overcome interobserver variability and ensure every patient receives the most precise diagnostic results and insights."

Expanded Breast Diagnostic Capabilities

Central to the Ibex 4 release is the expansion of the Ibex Breast offering, which now covers the full diagnostic workflow for breast biopsies and excisions. The platform's IHC tools include quantification and visualization support for HER2, estrogen receptor, progesterone receptor, and Ki67 markers. Ibex Lymph Node, initially available for research use, is slated for broader availability in the near future, according to the company.

The platform also introduces a redesigned user interface, customized reporting capabilities, and advanced workflow integrations intended to increase laboratory efficiency.



Regulatory Status and Industry Presence

Ibex Breast includes solutions that are CE-IVD certified and registered with regulatory bodies including the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency in the United Kingdom, the Therapeutic Goods Administration in Australia, the Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária in Brazil, AMAR in Israel, and Swissmedic in Switzerland. One solution holds Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clearance in the United States, while others are designated Research Use Only by the FDA.

The company also recently announced an expansion of its biopharma business, extending its AI-powered product offering into biomarker development, according to the release.

Details on Ibex 4 and live demonstrations will be available at the 115th United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, March 21–26.



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Siemens Healthineers Expands Brain Health Research Portfolio with New Blood-Based Tau Assays



Siemens Healthineers has announced the availability of two new **blood-based biomarker** assays for research use: the Atellica IM Phosphorylated tau 217 (pTau217) and Atellica IM Brain Derived Tau (BDTau) assays. The launch marks an expansion of the company's brain health research portfolio, with the tests designed to help scientists better understand neurological function and disease progression in conditions such as **Alzheimer's disease**.

Both assays use chemiluminescent immunoassay technology to provide quantitative measurements of brain-derived p-tau217 and BD tau from blood samples, and are run on the **Atellica** Solution IM and Atellica CI Analyzers. According to Siemens Healthineers, the blood-based approach offers a less-invasive alternative to cerebrospinal fluid testing, which requires a lumbar puncture.

The launch comes amid a significant and growing global burden of **neurodegenerative disease**. According to the World Health Organization, nearly 10 million new cases of dementia are diagnosed worldwide each year, with Alzheimer's disease accounting for 60–70% of those cases.

"Siemens Healthineers is laser focused on expanding researchers' access to blood testing that can reduce the burden of invasive testing to better understand these diseases and help address the growing societal impact of neurodegenerative conditions," says Jim Freeman, head of core laboratory solutions research and development for diagnostics at Siemens Healthineers, in a release.



"Our Atellica IM instrument enables the high sensitivity required to detect neurological biomarkers in blood."

Instrument Engineering as a Key Factor For researchers working with blood-based neurological biomarkers, analytical sensitivity is a critical consideration.

Henrik Zetterberg, MD, PhD, a neuroscientist known for his research on biomarkers of Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative disorders, highlighted the role of platform engineering in achieving reliable results.

"Analyzer engineering is very important for amplifying the signal we need to achieve reliable results using blood tests," says Zetterberg, in a release. "Blood tests are much easier for both patients and doctors—you can scale testing, follow patients, or perhaps prepare a biomarker portfolio."

Active Research Collaborations

Siemens Healthineers reports that several multi-cohort research collaborations are currently underway using the p-tau217 and BD tau biomarkers, including studies with PREDICTOM, ACCESS-AD, and Banner Sun Health Research Institute.

Nicholas Ashton, PhD, senior director of the Fluid Biomarker Program at Banner Sun Health Research Institute in Arizona, described the work being conducted with the plasma p-tau217 assay across diverse patient populations.

"We value the opportunity to work with the leading diagnostics companies to advance the fight against Alzheimer's disease, and this is a great example," says Ashton, in a release.

"We're working to validate the clinical utility of the plasma p-tau217 biomarker across diverse patient populations to advance early detection of Alzheimer's disease.

Our findings appear to support the promise of this Alzheimer's blood biomarker in the clinical setting. We look forward to further advancing this research."

Product Launches

Additional Biomarkers in Development

Beyond the pTau217 and BDTau research-use assays, Siemens Healthineers also offers a Neurofilament Light Chain assay—available with CE mark and for research use only in the US—intended to help predict the risk of future [multiple sclerosis](#) disease activity. The company says development efforts are also underway for [Apolipoprotein E-ε4 \(ApoE-ε4\)](#), a protein subtype implicated in both Alzheimer's disease and cardiovascular diseases.

The pTau217 and BDTau assays are for research use only and are not cleared or approved for clinical decision-making.

Roche's Mass Spectrometry Steroid Assays Receive FDA Moderate Complexity Designation



Roche announced that the Food and Drug Administration has categorized its Ionify steroid assays for mass spectrometry as “moderate complexity” under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA), a designation the company says will broaden access to advanced diagnostic testing that has historically been confined to highly specialized laboratories.

The Ionify steroid assay panel includes Estradiol, DHEA, DHEA-S, Progesterone, 17-Hydroxyprogesterone, and Androstenedione.

All six assays run on Roche's cobas i 601 analyzer as part of the cobas Mass Spec solution, which combines the sensitivity and specificity of mass spectrometry with a standardized, automated workflow designed to reduce variability across laboratories.

“This technology fundamentally transforms mass spectrometry, moving it from an intricate specialty process to a seamless engine for routine diagnostics,” says Brad Moore, president and CEO of Roche Diagnostics North America, in a release. “By delivering a broad and expanding mass spectrometry menu with automation and standardization, we are empowering laboratories to operate more efficiently and enabling clinicians to make critical decisions sooner—helping ensure the right treatment reaches the right patient without delay.”



Expanding the Moderate Complexity Portfolio
The newly designated steroid assays join the previously launched Ionify 25-Hydroxy Vitamin D total assay, which also carries a CLIA moderate complexity designation, forming what Roche describes as a growing US portfolio for the cobas Mass Spec solution. According to the company, the moderate complexity classification is significant because it removes the requirement for specialized operators, enabling routine laboratories to offer clinical mass spectrometry testing without the staffing and infrastructure demands typically associated with the technology.

Roche says it maintains an active pipeline of additional clinical mass spectrometry assays currently in development and under regulatory review, with the stated goal of further extending system and assay availability.

Recognition and Context

Mass spectrometry is widely regarded as a diagnostic gold standard for measuring steroid hormones in endocrinology and for 25-hydroxyvitamin D testing, according to Roche. The cobas Mass Spec solution received the “Best New Clinical Diagnostics Instrumentation of 2024” award in the Scientists' Choice Awards 2025, presented by SelectScience, an honor determined by nominations and votes from the global scientific community.

Product Launches

Sarstedt's Tempus1800 Sample Transport System Earns Vizient Innovative Technology Contract



Sarstedt Inc, the US subsidiary of global medical technology company Sarstedt, announced that its Tempus1800 Sample Transport System has received an **Innovative Technology contract** from Vizient, a provider-driven healthcare performance improvement company.

The contract, awarded March 1, 2026, followed a review by hospital experts serving on one of Vizient's client-led councils. According to Vizient, Innovative Technology contracts are recommended after review and interaction with products submitted through the company's Innovative Technology Program, which identifies technologies with the potential to enhance clinical care, patient safety, healthcare worker safety, or improve business operations of healthcare organizations.

"Tempus1800 demonstrates Sarstedt's commitment to improving precision and speed throughout the diagnostic workflow. By enabling direct, continuous sample transport, laboratories can eliminate bottlenecks, reduce process variability, and achieve more consistent performance," says Brett Bartles, chief executive officer and president of Sarstedt Inc, in a release. "Shorter, more reliable turnaround times support timely clinical decisions and ultimately enhance patient care. With seamless integration into laboratory automation and a scalable infrastructure design, Tempus1800 positions laboratories to meet rising operational demands—now and in the years ahead."

How the Vizient Evaluation Process Works

Vizient client-led councils assess submitted products for meaningful differentiation within the current healthcare landscape. If a product is determined to be innovative, Vizient may award a contract outside of the competitive bid cycle.

"Through the Vizient client-led council evaluation process, Tempus1800 demonstrated the potential to offer meaningful differentiation in today's competitive landscape. After careful review, the council recommended an **Innovative Technology contract** to Sarstedt Inc," says Kelly Flaharty, associate vice president of contract operations for Vizient, in a release.

Vizient represents a diverse client base that includes academic medical centers, pediatric facilities, community hospitals, integrated health delivery networks, and non-acute healthcare providers, with a portfolio representing more than \$156 billion in annual purchasing volume.

Photo caption: Tempus1800 Sample Transport System

Photo credit: Sarstedt Inc

A graphic with a blue background featuring chemical structures (OH, O, OH) and a circuit-like pattern. On the left, the word "publish" is written in large white letters, with "Google News Indexed Press Releases" below it. On the right, there are three overlapping smartphone screens displaying various news articles related to hospital disinfection and antimicrobial resistance. The top screen shows a search for "hospital disinfectant" with results from Microbioz India. The middle screen shows an article titled "From disinfection to pathogen kill: Occurrence, resistance risks and mechanism of biocides and metal". The bottom screen shows an article titled "Chlorine disinfectant ineffective: hospital superbug: Study".

Product Launches

SPT Labtech Partners to Develop Automated Genomics Platform for Smaller Labs

SPT Labtech announced a collaboration with Illumina to develop an automated sample preparation platform designed to streamline genomics workflows in decentralized healthcare environments.

The partnership will focus on creating a platform that supports laboratories using Illumina's MiSeq i100 benchtop sequencing system, enabling smaller labs to access the same level of automation and precision as large core facilities. The collaboration aims to help labs support improved patient care in oncology by enabling broader access to high-quality genomic characterization of disease.

“This next phase of collaboration with Illumina reflects our shared focus on enabling efficient and accessible genomics workflows, further expanding SPT Labtech's presence in the clinical genomics market,” says Rob Walton, chief executive officer at SPT Labtech, in a release. “With the rapid global adoption of Illumina's MiSeq i100 platform and the recent shipment of its 1,000th system, there is a growing demand from laboratories seeking to perform their sequencing operations in-house, thereby maximizing control and reducing turnaround times.”

Building on Existing Partnership

The collaboration builds on the success of an existing partnership between the companies, including development of automated library preparation methods on SPT Labtech's firefly platform. The new platform will provide standardized, automated workflows designed to enable laboratories to achieve rapid, high-quality insights closer to where critical decisions are being made.



The solution is designed to make high-quality next-generation sequencing more accessible to labs around the world by bringing advanced automation to laboratories of all sizes and settings, according to the companies. This approach aims to accelerate the delivery of actionable insights from sample to result.

“Labs around the world rely on Illumina for high-quality, reliable insights and end-to-end workflows that make it easier for them to unlock crucial genomic insights faster,” says Todd Christian, senior vice president of services, arrays, and genomic access at Illumina, in a release. “This collaboration builds on that history and doubles down on our commitment to expand access to next-generation sequencing for labs of all sizes, ultimately enabling researchers and clinicians to drive breakthroughs that matter for the patients they serve.”

The novel platform will enable decentralized labs to access automation capabilities that were previously available primarily to large core facilities, potentially reducing turnaround times and increasing control over sequencing operations for smaller laboratory settings.

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AND AED



AED

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- SPIROMETER
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