

IIHMR New Delhi, works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management.

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Conference-Third International Conference on healthGIS 2009

Date-24th July~ 26th July 2009
Hyderabad, India

Contact name: Dr. Nitin K Tripathi
Organized by: Association of
Geoinformation Technology (AgIT)

Conference- eHealth India 2009

Date: 4th August-6th August, 2009

Venue: India Expo centre, Greater Noida

Conference- International Conference on Biomedical Instrumentation and Healthcare Engineering

Date: 6th August -8th August

Venue: Meenakshi Sundararajan
Engineering College, Chennai, India.



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INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT RESEARCH, NEW DELHI

SYNAPSE..... monthly e-health newsletter

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

SWINE FLU- DECLARED GLOBAL PANDEMIC BY WHO.

The WHO raised the alert for swine flu to “pandemic” level, signalling that a global epidemic of H1N1 virus had begun. The flu is caused by H1N1 strain of influenza that originated in pigs. Globally, the virus has infected 27,737 people in 74 countries and lead to 141 deaths.

HARYANA IS NOW FREE FROM LEPROSY.

Haryana has achieved “elimination of leprosy” status which is determined if the incidence rate of this infection is less than one case per 10,000 population, in the state. This benchmark has been fixed by the Union Health Minister for declaring any state/ union territory having achieved this distinction. The prevalence rate in Haryana was 0.18 per 10,000 populations on March 31st, this year, second lowest in the country after Meghalaya, Daman and Diu. The state health department has identified the “Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences”, in Rohtak, as the nodal centre for reconstructive surgery for leprosy patients having deformity.

GOVERNMENT’S SEX EDUCATION ON CALL IS A NATIONWIDE HIT.

Twenty call centres in Delhi now answer queries on sex, contraception and reproductive health from across India. Launched in June last year by the Ministry of Health’s Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (JSK), the centre has answered 50,961 queries within one year. The conversations are in English and Hindi, and a lot of the calls are from north India. Like most other call-centre employees, the JSK service is run by 23 to 28 years olds. The difference is that they are all science students who have trained with doctors at Delhi’s St Stephen’s hospital and Maulana Azad Medical College. The training apart, the employees have an online bank of 550 questions and answers (www.jsk.giv.in) that they can immediately refer to. Most callers are very hesitant initially and the toll-free number gives them time to open up without worrying about the cost of the call, which is usually from outside Delhi,” said Shailaja Chandra, who launched the service as JSK’s executive director.

EVENTS AT IIMR, NEW DELHI

Forthcoming events

1. Advanced PG Honours Diploma in Clinical Research-Full time (commencing from August 2009, at IIMR, DELHI AND BENGALURU)
2. Diploma in Healthcare-IT- 11 months full time diploma programme commencing from 3rd August.
3. Certificate course in Health Insurance Management – weekend based 16days certificate course commencing from August.
4. National Consultation Meet on GIS mapping of healthcare facilities and services in India sponsored by WHO and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare at IHC, Delhi. (31st August- 1st September)**

MDP

1. MDP on Medical records management in collaboration with Astron. (3rd-7th August)
2. MDP on Health Insurance (21st-22nd August)

NOVARTIS PRODUCES THE FIRST BATCH OF H1N1 VACCINE .

Swiss pharmaceuticals company Novartis AG said it has successfully produced a first batch of swine flu vaccine weeks ahead of expectations. WHO says drug makers will likely have vaccines approved and ready for sale after September. Novartis said it would use the first batch of vaccine for pre-clinical evaluation and testing. It is also being considered for clinical trials. The company said more than 30 governments have requested vaccine supplies, including the US Department of Health and Human Service, which placed a USD 289 million order in May. The vaccine was made in cells, rather than grown in eggs as is usually the case with vaccines. This announcement came a day after the World Health Organization declared swine flu, also known as A(H1N1), a pandemic.

GE PLANS TO INVEST \$6 BILLION ON HEALTHCARE.

GE healthcare launched new, low cost products aimed at developing markets such as India, as the company seeks to spend around \$6 billion on its global strategy to grow its revenues from emerging markets. As a part of its “Healthymaginative” initiative, GE will spend \$3 billion over the period of next 6 years on research and development. Provide \$2 billion of financing over the next 6 years to drive healthcare information technology and health in rural and underserved areas, and invest \$1 billion in partnerships, content and services. GE has also demonstrated a hand held ultrasound machine and a bassinet with the overhead heater among products to be manufactured as a part of the company’s strategy to shift its focus to lower cost products in Washington.

VACCINATING GIRLS CAN PROTECT THEM AGAINST CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer is the number one cancer among women in India, affecting 1.3 lakh women each year. Globally, 5 lakh women are diagnosed with it every year. Half of them die – that’s 2.5 lakh, or one woman every two minutes. “The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recommended three doses of HPV vaccine is given to girls between the ages of 10 and 13, just before the age of sexual initiation. That should be integrated with screening of older women for cervical cancer,” said Dr Linda Eckert, a scientist with the WHO Initiative for Vaccine Research. Countries like India, with non-existent screening for cervical cancer, are likely to benefit the most. The two available vaccines don’t target all the HPV strains but offer some cross-protection to other cancer-causing strains. If you factor in the cross protection, the protection offered by vaccination is up to 75 per cent,” said Dr F. Xavier Bosch, chief, Cancer Epidemiology, Catalan Institute of Oncology in Barcelona.

COSTLY HEALTHCARE PUSHES UP IMR

The Economic Survey 2008-09 for Delhi has revealed that infant mortality rate (IMR) in the capital climbed by 50% per year between 2005 and 2007. Doctors said two major causes of infant deaths are respiratory and gastro-intestinal diseases.

DO YOU KNOW???

1. 24 hour helpline is made available by Delhi govt., to answer any queries related to H1N1 infection.
2. A multi-disciplinary healthcare village has been proposed in Kozhikode (Kerala).
3. Hyderabad-based company Hetero Drugs has bagged the government's 10-million anti-flu drug order.
4. Vaccinating kids controls swine flu.
5. Vangal's Kerala Ayurveda is merging with decades- old Arya Pharmacy.

2ND BATCH PGDHHM (2009-2011) COMMENCED ON 6TH OF JULY

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RECENT RESEARCHES

INDIAN SCIENTISTS ISLOLATE FLU STRAIN.

Scientists from National Institute of Virology (Pune) have successfully isolated the deadly H1N1 influenza virus from the nasal samples of the country's first positive swine flu patient at Hyderabad. This could be the first step towards developing an effective vaccine against the H1N1 virus as they have also managed to grow the virus in both cell lines and chicken eggs.

"INDOOR AIR POLUTION"-CALLS FOR WORRY.

The radiation emitted from your television set, smoke billowing from your stove or chullah or the clouds of dust blown by building construction material these could cause cancer, permanent damage to lungs. A team of doctors from Sir Harkisondas Hospital, Girgaum, led by allergist Dr Pramod Niphadkar, conducted the study, which was published in the Journal of Association of Physicians of India in June. The study revealed that Mumbaiites were at a risk of developing cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, permanent damage to lungs besides other ailments due to over-exposure to indoor air pollution. Experts say this is a cause for worry as India accounts for 80 per cent of premature deaths due to indoor air pollution in South-East Asia, according to the World Health Organisation.

SOON A NASAL SPRAY TO FIGHT LUNG CANCER

Soon, there will be a new weapon to fight lung cancer an inhalable spray that uses gene therapy, say scientists who conducted the study at Seoul National University in Korea which appeared in June 15 issue of the American journal of respiratory and critical care medicine.

****National Consultation Meet on GIS mapping of healthcare facilities and services in India**

Anybody if he/she has core competence in this area please intimate Dr. Sandeep Bhalla (sbhalla@iimrdelhi.org) along with details of the work done. No fee will be charged. It is by invitation only.

NOTE: The newsletter is open for inclusion of any information or advertisement; however selection of information will be governed by the SYNAPSE Team, IIMR, New Delhi

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FURTHER ISSUES, KINDLY MAIL US.