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THE ASIAN AGE
Delhi | Mumbai | Kolkata | London

Date: 01.10.2025

Specialised cancer care in 18 Maha hosps soon: The Asian age, 1st Oct. 2025

Specialised cancer care in 18 Maha hosps soon

BHAGWAN PARAB
MUMBAI, SEPT. 30

In Maharashtra, specialised cancer treatment will soon be available at the district level too. On Tuesday, the state government passed a comprehensive cancer care policy to provide quality treatment to patients through a three-tier integrated system. Under the policy, specialised cancer treatment will be made available in 18 hospitals across the state.

"To support this initiative, the state government will establish a new entity the Maharashtra Cancer Care, Research and Education Foundation with an initial corpus of 100 crore rupees for capital investment, alongside funding through Mahatma Phule Jan Arogya Yojana, CSR, donations and clinical trials," said state health minister Prakash Abitkar.

Under a three-tier structure, 18 hospitals will provide advanced facilities including radiotherapy, chemotherapy, diagnostics, surgeries, palliative care and research. Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai will serve as the apex Level-1 centre, with eight government medical colleges designated as Level-2 and nine hospitals as Level-3 centres.

The Indian EXPRESS
JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

Date: 01.10.2025

Maharashtra to have cancer cure policy, 3-tier hospital structure: The Indian Express, 1st Oct. 2025

Maharashtra to have cancer cure policy, 3-tier hospital structure

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE MAHARASHTRA cabinet on Tuesday cleared a cancer cure policy to ensure quality treatment for cancer patients in the state. For this, Maharashtra Cancer Care, Research and Education Foundation (Mahacare Foundation) will be established and through this, cancer-related specialty treatment will be provided in 18 hospitals across the state.

According to this policy, cancer hospitals have been structured in three tiers: L-1, L-2 and L-3 (LI, L2 and L3). These centres will provide radiotherapy, chemotherapy, post-graduate and super-specialty education, diagnosis of all types of cancer, surgery, physiotherapy, psychological support and treatment, research, palliative care, availability of drug facilities and awareness activities.

Tata Memorial Hospital has been identified as the L-1 level apex institution. The Mahacare Foundation will be established to provide manpower, funding and guidance to these L-2, L-3 centres as per requirement. Apart from this, a Command-and-Control Center will be established for coordination between all these centres. An expert executive board will be appointed for the day-to-day management of the foundation as well. The foundation will rely on the cooperation of NGOs in palliative care activities for cancer treatment.

Along with developing new treatment methods for cancer, appropriate and cost-effective health programmes will be designed at the local level. Activities will be implemented to increase awareness about research in health services and lifestyle changes to prevent diseases. The foundation will work to facilitate the exchange of information between health care centres across the country.

An initial fund of Rs 100 crore will be made as share capital to Mahacare Foundation with 20 per cent of the fees received by cancer hospitals approved to be given under the Mahatma Phule Jan Arogya Yojana to Mahacare Foundation. Apart from this, the foundation will raise funds through clinical trials.

the northlines

Date:06.10.2025

NDS organises awareness camp on breast cancer: the northlines, 6th Oct. 2025

NDS organises awareness camp on breast cancer

NL CORRESPONDENT

Jammu Tawi, Oct 05 Nami Dogri Sanstha, in collaboration with the Home For Aged And Afirm Ambphalla, organized a special program on October 5, 2025, to commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The event aimed to educate and empower women residents about Breast Cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

Dr. Samia Mohan MBBS., MS., General Surgery delivered an informative lecture on BreastCancer, emphasizing the significance of early detection in treating this life-threatening disease. She also conducted individual consultations and screenings for the inmates, providing personalized guidance and support.

In his opening address, Capt. Lalit Sharma, IFS (Retd), Convener NDS, praised the tireless efforts of health warriors, stating, "Our health warriors are our pride, and their voluntary endeavors can go a long way in raising awareness and combating various ailments through doorstep advice and diagnosis."

The program was made possible by the personal initiative and support of Shri Dinesh Gupta Ji, Secretary of Vridh Ashram Ambphalla. Dr. Samia Mohan was ably assisted by Dr. Rajinder Tthappa and Dr. Priyanka Sharma.

Other dignitaries who attended the event included S. Rajinder Singh, former ZEO,Prof. Anupama Sharma, Patron NDS; and Advocate Dogra Harish Kaila, President NDS. Yash Pal Yash, General Secretary NDS, conducted the proceedings and extended a vote of thanks.

millenniumpost

Date:08.10.2025

AstraZeneca to sell cancer drug in India: millenniumpost, 8th Oct. 2025

The company has received approval to import, market and distribute Trastuzumab Deruxtecan. AP

AstraZeneca to sell cancer drug in India

AstraZeneca Pharma on Tuesday said it has received approval from the national drug regulator to market a cancer treatment drug in the country.

The company has received approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation to import, market and distribute Trastuzumab Deruxtecan for an additional indication in India, the drug firm said in a statement.

With this approval, Trastuzumab Deruxtecan is now indicated for the treatment of adult patients with unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive solid tumours, who have received prior systemic therapy and have no satisfactory alternative treatment options, it added.

This marks the first and only antibody drug conjugate in India with a tumour-agnostic indication, representing a significant advancement in precision oncology, the company said.

Trastuzumab Deruxtecan is already approved in India for the treatment of metastatic breast cancer (HER2-positive, HER2-low, and HER2-ultralow) and locally advanced or metastatic gastric cancer. PTI

the northlines

Date:08.10.2025

AIIMS Vijaypur achieves milestone in advanced Oral Cancer Surgery: the northlines, 8th Oct. 2025

AIIMS Vijaypur achieves milestone in advanced Oral Cancer Surgery

NL CORRESPONDENT

Jammu Tawi: Doctors at AIIMS Vijaypur have successfully performed the hospital's first microvascular onco-reconstructive surgery for advanced-stage oral cancer, a landmark achievement for cancer care in Jammu and Kashmir.

The surgery was conducted on a 60-year-old woman from Budhi village, Kathua, who had late-stage oral cancer affecting her right cheek, palate, and upper jaw. The medical team reconstructed the defect using a microvascular free radial forearm flap, carefully transferring skin, soft tissue, and tiny blood vessels from the patient's forearm to the face, reconnecting them under a microscope. This complex procedure restores both appearance and vital functions such as swallowing and speech.

The milestone was achieved through multidisciplinary collaboration, involving the Onco-surgery team led by Dr. Paras Khanna, Plastic Surgery team led by Dr. Rahul Gorka and Dr. Shavi Rayoo, and OMF Surgery team led by Dr. Amanjot Kour. The Anaesthesia and ICU teams, under Dr. Sunana Gupta, ensured patient safety, while nursing staff provided crucial intra-operative support. The patient recovered smoothly and was discharged.

Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, called the surgery a "proud moment" and highlighted the hospital's vision of providing world-class oncological care closer to home, eliminating the need for patients to travel to metros like Delhi or Chandigarh for such advanced procedures.

सन्मार्ग
खबरें अनेक सच्चाई एक
sanmarg.in

Date: 08.10.2025

कैंसर मरीज ने बच्चों की हत्या के बाद आत्महत्या की-सन्मार्ग,08th Oct. 2025

कैंसर मरीज ने बच्चों की हत्या के बाद आत्महत्या की

द्वारका : गुजरात के द्वारका में कैंसर से पीड़ित लांबा गांव निवासी मेरामन छेत्रिया (40) ने अपने 2 नाबालिग बच्चों को जहरीला पदार्थ खिलाकर मार डाला और फिर आत्महत्या कर ली। पुलिस ने बताया, 'वह 5 साल से कैंसर से पीड़ित था। वह चिंतित रहता था कि उसकी मौत के बाद उसके बच्चों का क्या होगा? 'उसने गांव में अपने घर पर पहले 5 साल की बेटी और 3 साल के बेटे को जहरीला पदार्थ दिया और फिर खुद भी जहरीले पदार्थ का सेवन कर लिया।

THE ASIAN AGE
Delhi | Mumbai | Kolkata | London

Date:12.10.2025

'Junk, fatty, processed and frozen food key reason'

Breast cancer cases rising; docs blame lifestyle: The Asian Age, 12th Oct. 2025

■ 'Junk, fatty, processed and frozen food key reason'

Breast cancer cases rising; docs blame lifestyle

Mumbai, Oct. 11: Breast cancer accounts for 30 per cent of all cancers in women in India and the number could rise to around two lakh cases per year by 2030, experts said on Saturday at a conference here. Lack of physical activity is linked to almost doubling the risk of breast cancer, said Dr Shalaka Joshi, breast cancer surgeon at the Tata Memorial Hospital.

She was speaking at the annual conference on breast cancer management by Women's Cancer Initiative and Tata Memorial Hospital.

"Breast cancer is considered to be the most common cancer among women. One in 20 or 4 per cent of women in India have the risk of developing breast cancer in their lifetime. It is predicted that by 2030, we will diagnose almost two lakh cases per year," Dr Joshi told reporters.

Rapid urbanisation, westernization of lifestyle as well changes in reproductive behaviour and dietary pattern are some of the reasons for the increasing incidence, she said.

"We eat a lot of junk food, fatty food, processed and frozen food, which was not the situation earlier. All this also leads to an increase in the risk of breast cancer. Lack of exercise or lack of physical activity is associated with almost doubling the risk of breast cancer. Obesity is also an important factor, not just breast cancer but also for other lifestyle-related diseases like high blood pressure, diabetes, heart diseases among others," she added.

Approximately 10 per cent of breast cancers can be genetic and may be inherited across families, said Tata Memorial Centre medical oncologist Dr Prabhat Bhargava. — *PTI*

DECCAN Chronicle

Date: 13.10.2025

RUN FOR CANCER AWARENESS HELD-Deccan Chronicle, 13th Oct. 2025

Hyderabad police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, cyberabad police commissioner Avinash Mohanty and others during the 8th edition of Global Grace Cancer Run at Gachibowli Stadium, on Sunday. — *R. PAVAN*

RUN FOR CANCER AWARENESS HELD

Hyderabad: IT minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu said cancer awareness was a collective social responsibility and affirmed the government's commitment to building a 'Healthy Telangana' with accessible, quality healthcare, as he inaugurated the 8th Global Grace Cancer Run at Gachibowli Stadium on Sunday. Organised by the Grace Cancer Foundation, the event aimed to raise cancer awareness and promote health screening. He stressed the importance of a healthy, stress-free lifestyle. The event was attended by ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Vakiti Sridhar, Chief Minister's adviser Vem Narender Reddy, police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, Sports Authority of Telangana chairman Shiv Sena Reddy, and Grace Cancer Foundation founder Dr Chinababu Sunkavalli, alongside fitness enthusiasts and volunteers.

DECCAN Chronicle

Date: 14.10.2025

Crystal Lowe diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer-Deccan Chronicle, 14th Oct. 2025

Crystal Lowe diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer

The 44-year-old actor shares the emotional and physical toll of the disease and how she is finding strength to fight

Crystal Lowe, best known for her role in Hallmark's *Signed, Sealed, Delivered* movie series, has revealed she is battling Stage 3 breast cancer.

In a heartfelt essay for *People* magazine, the 44-year-old actor and director opened up about the devastating moment she learned of her diagnosis. She described how the cancer has both spiritually and physically "stripped" her down, and detailed how she is summoning the strength to fight what she calls her hardest battle to date.

"Like many women, I have always had a love-hate relationship with my body," Lowe wrote. "Long before it gave me my two beautiful children, I was a bikini model in magazines like Maxim, and early in my acting career, I spent many years playing roles that were hyper-focused on how I looked. And I felt that pressure, constantly checking my body, adjusting, second-guessing whether I was 'enough'. It was a quiet battle, fought daily."

LOWE AIMS TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL TOLL OF CANCER, WHILE INSPIRING OTHERS FACING SIMILAR STRUGGLES TO STAY COURAGEOUS IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.

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sanmarg.in

Date: 14.10.2025

कोलकाता की कैंसर योद्धा तरुणिका ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया में बनाया वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड!-सन्मार्ग,14th Oct. 2025

कोलकाता की कैंसर योद्धा तरुणिका ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया में बनाया वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड!

सिडनी (ऑस्ट्रेलिया) : मौत के मुंह से लौटी कोलकाता की बेटी तरुणिका घोष ने दुनिया को हैरान कर दिया। ब्लड कैंसर जैसी जानलेवा बीमारी को मात देने वाली इस 22 वर्षीय एथलीट ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया के सिडनी एथलेटिक्स स्टेडियम में आयोजित इंटरनेशनल रेस वॉक चैंपियनशिप में महिलाओं की 1500 मीटर रेस वॉक में नया वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड बनाया। पिछले साल पैरा-स्विमिंग में सिल्वर मेडल जीत चुकीं तरुणिका ने 6 मिनट 45 सेकेंड का समय निकालकर पुराना रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया, जो अब तक 6 मिनट 52 सेकेंड का था। दर्शकों के जयकारों के बीच फिनिश लाइन पार करते ही स्टेडियम

तालियों से गूंज उठा। यह उपलब्धि न सिर्फ भारत के लिए गर्व का विषय है, बल्कि उन सभी कैंसर सर्वाइवर्स के लिए प्रेरणा का स्रोत बनी है जो हार मानने को तैयार नहीं होते। तरुणिका की कहानी किसी फिल्म से कम नहीं। मात्र 18 महीने की उम्र में जुवेनाइल रूमेटॉइड आर्थराइटिस का शिकार हुईं तरुणिका को बचपन से ही कई बीमारियों ने घेरा। 10 साल की उम्र में ब्लड कैंसर होने पर 32 दिनों के लिए कोमा में चली गईं। 80 प्रतिशत दृष्टि क्षति के बावजूद, उन्होंने हार नहीं मानी। पिता संजीव घोष, जो एक रिटायर्ड क्लब जीएम हैं, और मां की मेहनत से हाइड्रोथेरेपी के जरिए स्विमिंग शुरू की। फिर धीरे-धीरे एथलेटिक्स की ओर रुख किया। मैंने कभी सोचा नहीं था कि कैंसर मेरी ताकत बन जाएगी। ऑस्ट्रेलियाई दर्शकों ने उन्हें 'इंडियन वॉरियर' कहकर सम्मानित किया। वर्ल्ड एथलेटिक्स फेडरेशन ने आधिकारिक रूप से इस रिकॉर्ड को मान्यता दे दी है।

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Date: 16.10.2025

सर्वाइकल कैंसर से निपटने के लिए कोलकाता में हुआ वैक्सीनेशन कैंप-सन्मार्ग,16th Oct. 2025

सर्वाइकल कैंसर से निपटने के लिए कोलकाता में हुआ वैक्सीनेशन कैंप

सन्मार्ग संवाददाता
कोलकाता :

सर्वाइकल कैंसर के बढ़ते असर को बेअसर करने के लिए विंडामेयर की पहल पर विधान शिशु उद्यान में एक वैक्सीनेशन का कार्यक्रम किया गया। जहां तकरीबन ढाई हजार लड़कियों को वैक्सीन दिया गया। इस मौके पर मानिकतला की विधायक श्रुति पांडे, युवा तृणमूल की नेत्री श्रेया पांडे, पार्षद शांतिरंजन कुंडू, एलोरा साहा, के अलावा कई महत्वपूर्ण हस्तियां मौजूद थी। इसके पहले आरसीजीसी के हाल में कोलकाता अड्डा का आयोजन किया गया था। जहां लोगों वैक्सीनेशन के कार्यक्रम की रूप रेखा तय किया। प्रदीप सुरेखा, ऑर्किटेक्ट सुबीर बासु, इंद्रजीत भालोठिया, सलोनी प्रिया, निर्मल अग्रवाल,समेत अन्य लोग मौजूद थे। कार्यक्रम का आयोजन करने वाले विंडामेयर के निदेशक हेमंत राज लोढ़ा ने बताया कि कैंसर देश में जिस तेजी से बढ़ रहा है वो सेहतमंद देश के लिए एक बड़ा खतरा है। देश की दवा निर्माता कंपनी सीरम ने सर्वाइकल कैंसर से निपटने के लिए जिस वैक्सीन को बनाया है उसे देश की हर बच्ची को देने का लक्ष्य रख वो लोग आगे बढ़ रहे है। इस कार्यक्रम को रोटरी क्लब के सहयोग से अंजाम तक पहुंचाया गया। विंडामेयर के निदेशक हेमंतराज लोढ़ा ने बताया कि जापान की कंपनी टॉपसेन जो खिड़कियों के निर्माण कार्य से जुड़ी हुई है। उसकी आमदनी का एक बड़ा हिस्सा जो सीएसआर के तहत होती है वो इस नोबल कार्य के लिए खर्च किया जाएगा।

thehindu businessline.

Date: 17.10.2025

The stigma over breast cancer must be challenged: Business Line, 17th Oct. 2025

The stigma over breast cancer must be challenged

Preetha Reddy

India's women have been achieving major milestones in recent times — Sonali Ghosh, the Kaziranga Park's Field Director, becoming the first Indian to receive the Kenton Miller Award for global conservation leadership, Divya Deshmukh winning the FIDE Women's World Cup trophy and women scientists in ISRO scripting success in space missions.

Yet, amid these extraordinary successes, there is a challenge that demands urgent attention. Breast cancer continues to affect millions of women across the country, and in too many cases, the diagnosis comes late. This gap is more about silence, stigma, and delay — barriers that must be dismantled.

In India, nearly 60 per cent of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at advanced stages, while in high-income countries the figure is only 10-20 per cent. This reflects how women's health is often postponed, overlooked, or silenced. When detected early, survival rates can rise to over 90 per cent.

Three challenges keep this problem alive. The first is the nature of the disease itself. In its early stages, breast cancer is often asymptomatic. A woman may feel perfectly healthy while the disease grows quietly. This is why regular mammography is not a formality but a necessity at the age when it is recommended.

The second challenge is silence. Stigma still surrounds open conversations about breast health with many hesitating to talk about it .

The third is misplaced reassurance. When a lump or change is noticed, many women dismiss it as something hormonal or temporary. Precious weeks and months are lost while the disease progresses. These three obstacles can be solved with awareness, conversation, and the will to act.

However, an equally big challenge is that for generations, women in India have placed their health at the end of an endless list of responsibilities. Fatigue and pain are brushed aside, routine check-ups are postponed, and discomfort is endured in silence. The consequence is diagnosis at later stages, tougher treatment journeys, higher financial burdens. An individual health issue eventually grows into a social and economic challenge.

A breast cancer awareness walk

The cost of late-stage treatment can be up to three times higher than early-stage care. It can disrupt livelihoods, strain household savings, and leave lasting emotional scars on families.

Hence for positive change to begin, the shift must start with how women value their own health. A mammogram is not a luxury. Talking about breast health is not shameful. Seeking medical advice is not weakness. These are acts of power. A woman who takes charge of her health is safeguarding her future and protecting her family's stability.

It is vital that every woman learns about self-examination, schedules regular screenings, and seeks medical help without delay. Likewise, families should encourage and support these decisions. Joining the effort, workplaces and the community should create safe spaces for conversations as breast health must become a matter of routine, and not hesitation. India's women are shaping families, communities, workplaces, and the nation's future. This collective force must be channelled to prevent onset of breast cancer, or help catch it early.

The writer is the Executive Vice Chairperson of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd

Hindustan Times

Date: 17.10.2025

AI BREAKTHROUGH FINDS NEW CANCER THERAPY APPROACH-Hindustan Times, 17th Oct. 2025

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sanmarg.in

Date: 19.10.2025

ब्लड कैंसर की दलील भी नाकाम रही-सन्मार्ग,19th Oct. 2025

ब्लड कैंसर की दलील भी नाकाम रही

नहीं मिली हाई कोर्ट से अंतरिम जमानत

जितेंद्र, सन्मार्ग संवाददाता

कोलकाता : पिता के ब्लड कैंसर के मरीज होने की दलील भी काम नहीं आई। हाई कोर्ट के वैकेशन बेंच की **जस्टिस चैताली दास दे** ने हत्या के एक मामले में अंतरिम जमानत देने से इनकार कर दिया। राज्य सरकार की तरफ से इसका तीखा विरोध किया गया। जस्टिस दास ने अपने आदेश दिया है कि रेगुलर बेंच में इस बाबत अपील करें।

पीटिशनर रोहित बनवास की तरफ से बहस करते हुए एडवोकेट **कौस्तव बागची** की दलील थी कि वह 280 दिनों से जेल हिरासत में है। उसके पिता ब्लड कैंसर के मरीज हैं और उनकी देखभाल करने वाला कोई नहीं है। इसके अलावा पीटिशनर का कोई पूर्व आपराधिक रिकार्ड भी नहीं है। पीटिशनर के पिता ईएसआई अस्पताल में भर्ती हैं। भद्रेश्वर में एक फुटबाल मैच के बाद हुए विवाद के दौरान उत्तेजना के क्षणों में पीटिशनर ने मृतक पर चाकू से हमला कर दिया था। राज्य सरकार की तरफ से अंतरिम जमानत का विरोध करते हुए कहा गया कि इस मामले का ट्रायल शुरू हो चुका है और 25 गवाहों में से कुछ ने अपना बयान भी दर्ज कराया है। इसके अलावा राज्य सरकार की तरफ से आशंका जतायी गई कि अगर उसे जमानत दी जाती है तो वह बिहार भाग सकता है। इसके जवाब में एडवोकेट बागची की दलील थी कि पीटिशनर का पिता भद्रेश्वर में एक जूट मिल का मजदूर है और इसमें काम करने वाले अधिकांश बिहार के हैं, पर वे अब यहीं रचबस गए हैं। इसलिए फरार होने की कोई आशंका नहीं है। जस्टिस दास इस दलील से संतुष्ट नहीं हो पायी और रेगुलर बेंच में अपील करने का आदेश देते हुए अंतरिम जमानत की याचिका खारिज कर दी।

Business Standard

Date: 20.10.2025

ICICI Bank and Tata Memorial building cancer centre in Maha: Business Standard, 20th Oct. 2025

ICICI Bank and Tata Memorial building cancer centre in Maha

ICICI Bank in collaboration with Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) has started construction of a new cancer care building at TMC's Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research & Education in Cancer in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra. It will be named as 'ICICI Foundation Block for Radiation Oncology' and the construction is expected to be completed by 2027. It is funded through the Bank's CSR contribution of ₹625 crore, the facility will have radiation therapy centres, equipped with cutting-edge cancer treatment technologies. This is part of the bank's larger commitment of ₹1,800 crore to TMC for setting up of three state-of-the-art cancer care buildings — one each at Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Mullanpur (New Chandigarh) in Punjab and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

BS REPORTER

THE HINDU

Date: 20.10.2025

How robotic cancer surgery aids recovery: The Hindu, 20th Oct. 2025

How robotic cancer surgery aids recovery

PRECISION CARE. Shorter hospital stays, lower risk of complications

Team BL

ISTOCK

Advanced robotic surgery allows for faster recovery for patients in cancer treatment, even as it helps cut overall healthcare costs.

Conventional surgery often results in substantial physical trauma, while robotic methods help minimise this trauma.

"This helps reduce the body's stress response and quickens recovery," says Dr Venkat P, a member of the Veritas Cancer Care team, who is also associated with the Apollo Cancer Centre.

For example, conventional open surgery for colorectal cancers typically requires hospital stay of 7-9 days, followed by about a month of recovery at home. Robotic surgery reduces this to just two days in hospital and about one week at home, according to the Veritas Cancer Care team, led by Dr Venkat and Dr Priya Kapoor.

Here's how it works: robotic surgery requires the surgeon to manoeuvre the instruments from a console that is at a distance from the patient.

MINIMAL SCARS

Dr Venkat says the team pioneered the robotic nipple-sparing mastectomy in the country in November 2023. It has 58 cases under its belt, he says, among the highest in the country. This is an important option for young patients anxious to retain an aesthetic appearance after surgery. Using robotics to remove muscle and skin from the patient's back for breast reconstruction results in smaller scars, reduced tissue trauma and faster recovery.

The team also performed the first robotic cytoreductive surgery for complex ovarian cancers. Combined with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy or HIPEC, the procedure helps significantly improve outcomes.

HIPEC is a surgical procedure in which heated chemotherapy drugs are directly circulated into the abdominal cavity after cancer tumours have been surgically removed.

This treatment is used for advanced abdominal cancers like those in the appendix, colon, stomach and ovaries, as the heat increases the drugs' ability to penetrate cancer cells while reducing side effects.

COST FACTOR

But doesn't robotics involve high investment, thereby raising the overall costs for the patient?

Dr Kapoor agrees but points out that "shorter hospital stays and lower risk of complications, such as wound infections, help lower the need for expensive post-operative care and medicines".

For patients who are working, returning to their workplaces earlier adds to the long-term benefit.

Likewise, for those who travel to a different city for the surgery, shorter hospital stays bring down associated expenses.

But not all cancers can be removed using robotic methods. 'Surgical selection' remains paramount, she emphasises. Keyhole surgery cannot help in the case of complex, large tumours (for instance, an ovarian mass measuring 30 cm).

As the tumour must be removed whole, in such cases too a large incision may be needed, whether or not robotic methods are used.

Hindustan Times

Date: 23.10.2025

EU studying cancer risk from ethanol in biocides: Hindustan Times, 23rd Oct. 2025

EU studying cancer risk from ethanol in biocides

Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

BENGALURU: The European Union is considering classifying ethanol used in biocidal products such as hand sanitizers as a dangerous substance over increasing risks of cancer, the Financial Times reported on Tuesday.

An internal recommendation on October 10 by one of the working groups within the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) flagged ethanol as a toxic substance, which increased the risk of cancer and pregnancy complications and needed to be replaced in cleaning and other products, the FT said.

The ECHA's Biocidal Products Committee is set to meet between November 25 and November 27.

The ECHA told Reuters in an emailed statement that the regulator was currently assessing ethanol for biocidal use.

The regulator said if its expert committee concluded that ethanol had the potential to cause cancer or harm human reproduction, it would recommend its substitution.

It added that assessments were still ongoing and no conclusions had been made. The final decision will be taken by the European Commission following the committee's scientific opinion.

millenniumpost

Date:23.10.2025

COVID-19 vaccines may help some cancer patients fight tumours: millenniumpost, 23rd Oct. 2025

COVID-19 vaccines may help some cancer patients fight tumours

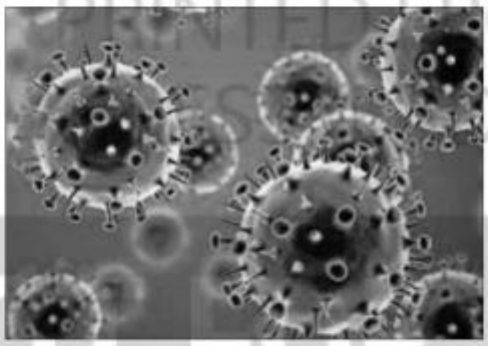
'The vaccine acts like a siren to activate immune cells throughout the body'

WASHINGTON: The most widely used COVID-19 vaccines may offer a surprise benefit for some cancer patients – revving up their immune systems to help fight tumours.

People with advanced lung or skin cancer who were taking certain immunotherapy drugs lived substantially longer if they also got a Pfizer or Moderna shot within 100 days of starting treatment, according to preliminary research being reported Wednesday in the journal Nature.

And it had nothing to do with virus infections.

Instead, the molecule that powers those specific vaccines, mRNA, appears to help the immune system respond better to the cutting-edge cancer treatment, concluded researchers from MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston and the University of Florida.



The vaccine "acts like a siren to activate immune cells throughout the body," said lead researcher Dr. Adam Grippin of MD Anderson. "We're sensitising immune-resistant tumours to immune therapy."

Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has raised scepticism about mRNA vaccines, cutting USD 500 million in funding for some uses of the technology.

But this research team found its results so promising that it is preparing a more rigorous study to see if mRNA coronavirus vaccines should be paired with cancer drugs called checkpoint inhibitors — an interim step while it designs new mRNA vaccines for use in cancer.

A healthy immune system often kills cancer cells before they become a threat. AGENCIES

Takeaways

» 'People with advanced lung or skin cancer who were taking certain immunotherapy drugs lived substantially longer if they also got a Pfizer or Moderna shot within 100 days of starting treatment'

» Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has raised scepticism about mRNA vaccines

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sanmarg.in

Date: 23.10.2025

डेसुन अस्पताल में ब्रेस्ट कैंसर क्लिनिक की शुरुआत-सन्मार्ग,23rd Oct. 2025

डेसुन अस्पताल में ब्रेस्ट कैंसर क्लिनिक की शुरुआत

कोलकाता : भारत में महिलाओं में सबसे आम कैंसर ब्रेस्ट कैंसर है। वर्ष 2025 में ही अनुमानित 2.3 लाख नए मामले सामने आए है, जिनमें 15,000 से अधिक मामले पश्चिम बंगाल से हैं। चिंताजनक बात यह है कि ब्रेस्ट कैंसर के आधे से अधिक मामले एडवांस स्टेज में सामने आते हैं, और पश्चिमी देशों की तुलना में भारतीय महिलाओं में यह कैंसर औसतन 10 साल पहले होता है। इन चुनौतियों के बीच डेसुन अस्पताल ने एक विशेष ब्रेस्ट कैंसर क्लिनिक शुरू किया है, जो ब्रेस्ट कंजरवेशन सर्जरी पर केंद्रित है। डेसुन अस्पताल की कंसल्टेंट मेडिकल ऑन्कोलॉजिस्ट डॉ. **श्रेया मल्लिक** ने बताया, टारगेटेड थेरेपी, प्रिसिजन कीमोथेरेपी और पोस्ट-ऑप रेडियोथेरेपी के साथ बीसीएस अब एक सुरक्षित विकल्प बन चुका है। ब्रेस्ट सर्जन डॉ. **ज्योति गुप्ता**, ने कहा, हम उन्नत इमेजिंग और सर्जिकल प्लानिंग का उपयोग करते हैं जिससे इलाज के साथ सौंदर्य भी बरकरार रहता है। मनोवैज्ञानिक अनुशिला दत्ता ने कहा, भावनात्मक उपचार भी जरूरी है, जिससे महिलाएं आत्मविश्वास के साथ जीवन में वापसी कर सकें। डेसुन ग्रुप के चेयरमैन **सजल दत्ता** ने कहा, 'हमारा लक्ष्य केवल इलाज नहीं, बल्कि हर महिला को गरिमा और उम्मीद के साथ ठीक करना है।'

THE HINDU

Date: 24.10.2025

Life after mastectomy: navigating challenges, heralding new beginnings: The Hindu, 24th Oct. 2025

Life after mastectomy: navigating challenges, heralding new beginnings

India has taken giant strides in creating breast cancer awareness and promoting early detection, and survival rates are improving significantly; but true healing includes emotional rehabilitation, body acceptance, and a compassionate support system that acknowledges the full weight of what women go through after a mastectomy

Shraddha Modi

When I meet a woman diagnosed with breast cancer, the first thing I notice is not fear, but determination. Beneath the disbelief, fear, and anger that follow later, lies quiet resilience. That strength becomes evident when we start discussing treatment options, particularly a mastectomy – the surgical removal of one or both breasts, either to treat or prevent breast cancer.

For most women, a mastectomy is more than just a procedure. It represents survival, and also a profound personal loss. The breast, associated with femininity, motherhood, and identity, holds an emotional significance that medicine cannot measure. When a woman agrees to part with it to save her life, she is making one of the bravest decisions imaginable.

The emotional landscape

The journey after a mastectomy is complex – it involves the mind and the body. While the physical scar is visible, the emotional one often is not.

Women may withdraw from daily activities, avoid social interactions, or decline invitations to family gatherings. They may fear judgement, feel self-conscious, or worry about how others – children, spouses, friends, colleagues – perceive their changed bodies. This self-consciousness can amplify feelings of isolation and anxiety.

One of the most profound challenges is intimacy. Cancer itself can disrupt relationships; but breast cancer and mastectomy often affect intimacy on an entirely different level. Women may feel disconnected from their partner or fearful of sexual rejection, and partners may struggle to understand the emotional and physical adjustments required.

Counselling, therefore, must extend beyond the patient. Involving spouses and close family members in therapy or support sessions is crucial. When couples communicate openly, with guidance from professionals, intimacy can gradually be rebuilt, and partners can become active allies in the healing process. Support groups for families also help loved ones understand the realities of recovery, fostering a compassionate environment at home.

The physical recovery

Physical recovery after a mastectomy requires patience. Some women experience stiffness, numbness, or swelling in the arm due to lymphoedema. Simple physiotherapy routines, arm elevation, and gentle stretching exercises can help restore strength and flexibility.

Lifestyle, too, becomes part of the healing process. A balanced diet, moderate exercise, adequate sleep, and regular follow-ups with the oncology team are essential not only for recovery but for preventing recurrence.

Health campaign: CanWalk, a breast cancer awareness walkathon organised by the Thrissur Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society in Kerala. K.K. MUSTAFA

A balanced diet, moderate exercise, adequate sleep, and regular follow-ups with the oncology team are essential not only for recovery but for preventing recurrence

This is also a time to reflect on long-term wellness – to eat consciously, manage stress, and cultivate habits that nurture both physical and emotional health.

Practical tips

Reconnecting socially: Start small. Attend close family gatherings before larger social events. Bring a trusted friend or family member for support in public spaces. Give yourself permission to decline invitations until you feel ready – there's no timeline for comfort.

Navigating intimacy: Open communication with your partner is key. Share fears, needs, and feelings. Consider couple counselling to rebuild emotional and physical closeness. Take small steps to re-ignite intimacy with touch, conversation, or non-sexual affection before moving to sexual activity.

Family involvement: Educate family members about the physical and emotional aspects of recovery. Encourage loved ones to attend counselling or support group sessions with you. Empathy and patience from family members significantly boost emotional recovery.

Self-compassion and body acceptance: Practice self-care routines with gentle exercises, skincare, and mindful activities. Mirror exercises or journaling can help rebuild confidence. Reframe your "normal" as life after mastectomy as a new chapter.

Professional support: Physiotherapy, nutrition counselling, and mental health support are integral parts of recovery. Survivor networks can provide inspiration, guidance, and a sense of belonging.

Redefining normal

Advances in reconstructive surgery have transformed what life after a mastectomy can look like. Women can now choose from several options, from silicone implants to autologous reconstruction using their own tissue, allowing for a more natural look and feel. These procedures can be performed immediately during the mastectomy or at a later stage, depending on the treatment plan and patient preference.

But reconstruction isn't the only path to healing. Many women choose to "go flat," opting not to reconstruct; and that is equally empowering. This choice, when made freely and without societal pressure, reflects a powerful acceptance of one's new body and identity.

A mastectomy creates a new normal and I have seen many patients rediscover themselves in extraordinary ways – through art, writing, community service, or advocacy. Some become mentors for newly-diagnosed patients; others focus on simply living more intentionally.

One of my patients, a 38-year-old mother of two, once told me: "Cancer took my breast, but it gave me back my voice." That sentence has stayed with me because it captures what many survivors come to realise – that survival is not the end of the story, but the beginning of a different, deeper one.

Awareness, diagnosis, support

A mastectomy may change how a body looks, but it rarely diminishes the courage, grace, or spirit of the woman who lives through it.

Life after mastectomy is not one of loss, but of resilience – of women who emerge stronger, wiser, and ready to live again, on their own new terms.

(Dr. Shraddha Modi is associate consultant, breast oncology & oncoplastic surgery, Narayana Health City, Bengaluru. shraddha.modi.dr@narayanahealth.org)

THE GIST

- The journey after a mastectomy is complex – it involves the mind and the body. While the physical scar is visible, the emotional one often is not
- One of the most profound challenges is intimacy. Counselling, therefore, must extend beyond the patient. Involving spouses and close family members in therapy or support sessions is crucial
- Advances in reconstructive surgery have transformed what life after a mastectomy can look like. Women can now choose from several options; from silicone implants to autologous reconstruction using their own tissue, allowing for a more natural look and feel

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Date: 24.10.2025

कैंसर की वापसी के शुरुआती संकेतों की पहचान में नई दिशा-सन्मार्ग,24 th Oct. 2025

कैंसर की वापसी के शुरुआती संकेतों की पहचान में नई दिशा

IIT खड़गपुर का 'TRACER' मॉडल

सन्मार्ग संवाददाता

कोलकाता : IIT खड़गपुर के बायोसाइंस और बायोटेक्नोलॉजी विभाग के छात्रों ने कैंसर की वापसी (रीलैप्स) के शुरुआती संकेत पहचानने के लिए 'TRACER' नामक एक अभिनव सिंथेटिक बायोलॉजी आधारित शोध मॉडल विकसित किया है। यह परियोजना इंटरनेशनल जेनेटिकली इंजीनियर्ड मशीन (iGEM) 2025 प्रतियोगिता** में संस्थान की आधिकारिक प्रविष्टि है। टीम में कृष्ण कांत, अक्षरा संक्रांति, कैरव बरुआ, भनवी कुमार, श्रेया मोहंती और आयुष मुंशी शामिल हैं, जबकि प्रोफेसर अरिंदम मंडल, अग्न्यो गांगुली, विनय पटेल और मैनक बोस इसका मार्गदर्शन कर रहे हैं। टीम 28 से 31 अक्टूबर तक पेरिस में आयोजित iGEM प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेगी। शोधकर्ता वर्तमान में ऐसी स्तनधारी कोशिकाओं (mammalian cells) पर काम कर रहे हैं, जिन्हें भविष्य में विभिन्न आणविक संकेतों जैसे कैंसर या वायरल संक्रमण को पहचानने के लिए अनुकूलित किया जा सके। यह मॉडल कैंसर निदान और उपचार में क्रांतिकारी योगदान दे सकता है।

the northlines

Date:26.10.2025

AIIMS Jammu hosts CME on ' Next-Gen Cervical Cancer Control': the northlines, 26th Oct. 2025

AIIMS Jammu hosts CME on 'Next-Gen Cervical Cancer Control'

NL CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU TAWI, OCT 25 The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at AIIMS Jammu successfully organized the Mid-Term ISCCP CME on "Next-Gen Cervical Cancer Control: From Vaccines to Visualization" in collaboration with the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), Indian Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ISCCP), FOGSI Oncology Committee, Jammu Obstetric and Gynaecological Society (JOGS), and NIGF.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from faculty members, postgraduate students, and gynecologists across the region.

Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Jammu, inaugurated the CME. In his address, he underscored the importance of early screening, HPV vaccination, and community awareness in reducing cervical cancer incidence. He also highlighted the availability of Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) at AIIMS Jammu for personalized cancer management.

Eminent national experts, including Dr. Aruna Nigam, Dr. Vijay Zutshi, Dr. Saritha Shamsunder, and Dr. Nidhi Gupta, delivered lectures on screening protocols, colposcopy techniques, and management of pre-invasive lesions. Scientific sessions focused on cervical screening strategies, Swede Scoring nomenclature, HPV vaccination, and recent innovations in visualization technologies.

Participants also gained hands-on experience in colposcopy, thermal ablation, and LEEP techniques under expert supervision.

Prof. (Dr.) Meeta Gupta, Dean Academics and Head of the Department, led the organizing team, ensuring smooth conduct of scientific and practical sessions. The CME concluded with a panel discussion and a vote of thanks, reaffirming AIIMS Jammu's commitment to advancing women's health and preventive oncology through education and collaboration.

The Indian EXPRESS
JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

Date: 27.10.2025

Painting targets on cancer cells: The Indian Express, 27th Oct. 2025

Painting targets on cancer cells

Google DeepMind's AI model generated a 'novel hypothesis' about how cancer cells behave, confirmed through lab experiments. What is this breakthrough, and what can it mean for cancer treatment?

EXPLAINED INTERVIEW

SHEKOOFEH AZIZI

GOOGLE DEEPMIND recently announced that its AI model C2S-Scale had generated a "novel hypothesis" about how cancer cells behave, which was later confirmed through lab experiments. The research was conducted in collaboration with Yale University. The lab believes this marks a milestone for AI in science and opens up a promising new direction for developing cancer treatments.

Shekoofeh Azizi, Staff Research Scientist and Research Lead at Google DeepMind, speaks with ***Kaunain Sheriff M*** about the significance of this breakthrough.

In simple terms, what is C2S-Scale, how does it 'read' the language of individual cells, and why do you consider it a breakthrough in single-cell analysis?

C2S-Scale is a family of large language models (LLMs) built upon Google's Gemma-2 architecture. Think of it as a specialised AI model that we've taught to understand the language of biology in the form of gene expression inside of cells. We do this by taking the complex gene activity inside a single cell — measured by a technique called single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) — and translating it into a simple "cell sentence," which is a list of the most active genes in order of their activity.

The model "reads" these sentences across millions of cells and learns the patterns of gene expression that define what a cell is and what it's doing. The paradigm shift is that this approach bridges the gap between raw genomic data and human language, and allows LLMs to perform complex tasks on cells in natural language.

C2S-Scale generated a new hypothesis about cancer cell behavior, which you then confirmed in living cells. Can you explain that hypothesis?

Our immune system is constantly looking for unhealthy or diseased cells, but cancer cells are often good at hiding. We asked our model to find drugs that could make cancer cells more "visible" to the immune system by acting as a conditional amplifier: increasing antigen presentation in cancer cells when in the presence of low levels of interferon (a key immune signaling protein).

Immune-context-neutral cell

Immune-context-positive cell

Blog.google

WHAT THE DISCOVERY COULD LEAD TO

- The breakthrough points towards a new generation of 'context-aware' cancer therapies.
- Instead of a drug that's always 'on,' treatments can be developed that act as amplifiers, working in specific scenarios when they are needed.
- This can lead to more effective therapies that can treat cancer with potentially fewer side effects.

Our model predicted that a drug called silmitasertib would significantly boost antigen presentation in the immune-context-positive setting. This prediction serves as a promising hypothesis that now requires rigorous validation through research and clinical trials.

Single-cell RNA sequencing lets scientists peek inside individual cells, but the data is massive and complicated. How does C2S-Scale make sense of all that information and understand what's happening inside a cell?

The key is in its training. Before we asked it to do a complex task like drug screening, we put C2S-Scale through a rigorous pre-training phase. We trained it on a massive dataset of over 50 million cells from public repositories like the Human Cell Atlas, covering a wide range of human and mouse tissues, diseases, and conditions.

During this pre-training, we gave it a series of fundamental tasks, like predicting a cell's type based on its "cell sentence," identifying its tissue of origin, or even generating a realistic new cell from scratch. By mastering these foundational tasks, the model learns the fundamental patterns of gene expression. This biological intuition is what allows it to make sense of new, complex information and perform sophisticated reasoning in later stages.

This model has 27 billion parameters, which is huge. Why does the scale of the AI matter when it comes to discovering new biology?

Scale is critical because biology is unimaginably complex. A large model, like our 27 billion-parameter C2S-Scale, has a greater capacity to learn and remember the countless subtle relationships between genes, cells, and tissues. There's a well-known phenomenon in AI called "scaling laws," where larger models don't just get incrementally better, they often develop entirely new, emergent capabilities that smaller models lack. For a problem as vast as understanding life at the cellular level, that massive scale is essential for the model to have enough capacity to uncover genuinely new biological insights.

The model predicted that a drug called silmitasertib could make certain cancer cells more visible to the immune system, but only under very specific conditions.

How did you test this in actual cells, and how did you confirm that the AI's prediction really works in the lab?

To validate the AI's prediction, we took it to the lab. We used human neuroendocrine cancer cell lines that the model had never seen before, and set up a controlled experiment with two scenarios: cells treated with silmitasertib alone, and cells treated with a low dose of the immune signal (interferon) along with silmitasertib.

The results confirmed the AI's prediction. The drug by itself had no effect on the cells' visibility markers. But when we combined it with low levels of interferon signaling, we saw a marked and significant increase in the molecules that make cancer cells visible to the immune system. It was a clear demonstration of the synergy the model had predicted, moving an AI-generated hypothesis from the computer to a real biological outcome.

It's important to note the limitations of this validation: these experiments were conducted in vitro, not in a living organism. Furthermore, this was observed in a specific neuroendocrine cancer cell line. While these results are highly promising, significant further research and clinical trials would be required to understand if this effect translates into a safe and effective therapy for patients.

If C2S-Scale can find ways to make cancer cells more visible to the immune system, what does that mean for developing new treatments or speeding up drug discovery?

Traditional drug discovery involves physically screening thousands of compounds in a lab, which is incredibly slow, expensive, and often misses the mark. C2S-Scale allows us to perform these massive screening experiments in silico — inside the computer — at a scale and speed that would be impossible in the real world. This shows AI can be a powerful accelerator for science.

This doesn't replace scientists, but it empowers them. It allows us to rapidly identify and prioritise the most promising and often non-obvious drug candidates. By narrowing the search space, AI can help researchers focus their lab experiments where they're most likely to succeed, dramatically shortening the timeline from an initial idea to a potential new therapy.

AI can connect different sources of knowledge to come up with new ideas. In this case, C2S-Scale didn't just look at cell data, it also read other biological notes. How does it combine all that information to generate something new?

This gets to the heart of our multimodal approach. During its training, C2S-Scale wasn't just fed raw cell sentences. It saw them alongside the human-generated context they came from — things like scientific annotations, tissue and disease labels, and even summaries from the research papers where the data was published.

By being trained on this rich mixture of biological data and natural language simultaneously, the model learns to connect the dots. It understands that a certain pattern of genes is not just a list, but corresponds to a "T-cell in a kidney from a patient with this disease," as described in a scientific abstract. This ability to bridge the world of cellular data with the world of human knowledge is what allows it to generate novel hypotheses.

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