

1. [Bristol's drug pricing under fire as UK agency rejects Opdivo](#) – Economic Times
Bristol-Myers Squibb's closely watched new drug Opdivo, one of the first of a new wave of cancer medicines that boost the immune system, has been rejected as too expensive for treating lung cancer by Britain's cost watchdog.

In draft guidance issued on Wednesday, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) said using Opdivo, or nivolumab, in non-small cell lung cancer after chemotherapy did not represent a cost-effective use of resources. The U.S. drugmaker said the NICE decision was "deeply disappointing".

2. [Commerce Ministry plans to put IPR policy before Cabinet in a month](#) – Economic Times
Commerce and Industry Ministry plans to approach the Cabinet for approval on the national Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy within a month, a top official said today.

Asked when the IPR policy will be placed before the Cabinet for its nod, DIPP Secretary Amitabh Kant told PTI: "We are trying to push it (IPR policy) within a month's time."

Also appeared in [Business Standard](#) and [DNA](#)

3. [Though it can't be quantified, poor health affects economic outcomes: Stefan Kapferer](#) – Mint
India's healthcare system is arguably one of the worst compared with other middle-income countries and public spending as percentage of gross domestic product is relatively low. A recent paper by health journal Lancet shows India has a weak primary healthcare system, human resources are not optimally utilized and the sector largely remains unregulated. Drawing from his experience working in the field of healthcare across the world, Stefan Kapferer, deputy secretary-general of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), a club of rich nations, spoke about the solutions that can work in India and the immediate steps that could improve the system here.
4. [1000 companies may be part of Make in India week](#) – Economic Times
The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) is hoping that the 'Make in India' initiative will provide momentum to the domestic companies as well as increase the share of manufacturing in India's GDP to 25% from about 17% at present. In order to give a boost to the initiative, the government plans to hold a 'Make in India week' in Mumbai in February 2016.

The event will see the participation of over 1,000 companies, DIPP secretary Amitabh Kant said on Thursday. "Despite the global slowdown we must continue to liberalise economy and grow foreign direct investment by 30%...We have vigorously opened up economy for FDI," Kant said, making a case for domestic manufacturing.

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5. [Turing CEO Martin Shkreli arrested for securities fraud](#) – Times of India
6. [Clinical trial trap: No payment for deaths of human guinea pigs](#) – India Today
7. [Universal coverage is the only cure for health scandals](#) – Hindustan Times

5. [Turing CEO Martin Shkreli arrested for securities fraud](#) – Times of India

Martin Shkreli, who caused public outrage after raising the price of a prescription drug by more than 5,000 percent, was arrested on Thursday for engaging in what US prosecutors said was a Ponzi-like scheme at his former hedge fund and a pharmaceutical company he previously headed.

At least two separate Congressional probes have been launched since September on the pricing issues of Daraprim, which had long been available as a generic drug used to treat toxoplasmosis in AIDS patients.

Turing is also under investigation by the New York state attorney general for antitrust concerns.

At a Senate hearing on drug pricing last week, a doctor who treats babies with life-threatening toxoplasmosis testified that a course of treatment with Daraprim went from about \$1,200 to no less than \$69,000.

Also appeared in [DNA](#), [Hindustan Times](#) and [Mint](#)

6. [Clinical trial trap: No payment for deaths of human guinea pigs](#) – India Today

Over 300 deaths took place this year during clinical trials and zero compensation was paid to the victims.

And with the international companies on the lookout for a diverse patient pool, the clinical trial trap is only getting tighter, with no benefits for the human guinea pigs. So in case of death during these trials, who pays the price? It's simple - the families of the volunteers who die during these trials.

According to latest data available with the Drugs Controller General (India) (DGCI), in 2015, there were 302 deaths during clinical trials and the families received no compensation, while in 2014, out of 443 deaths, only in 12 cases compensation was paid and in 2013, out of 590 deaths, compensation was paid only in 38 cases.

7. [Universal coverage is the only cure for health scandals](#) – Hindustan Times

India's healthcare system is one of the greatest stains on the conscience of our modern State, for it is one of the most regressive in the world. At one end of the healthcare spectrum, people get pampered in hospitals, which could comfortably double-up as luxury hotels, receiving unnecessary interventions aimed primarily at recouping the investments of their promoters, while at the other end, people who desperately need medicines or surgeries are denied their basic right to life.

Indeed, this sorry situation is a major reason why the country, according to latest UN report released earlier this week, ranks behind 129 other nations on human development.