

1. [Rule change provides fresh impetus to clinical study: Experts](#) – Business Standard

Medical experts today welcomed the recent draft amendments to Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945, saying the move would encourage academic research, as they called for undertaking more clinical study in India.

"Clinical research in India provides better, safer and more accessible treatment for patients. There was unanimous agreement that the changing regulations in 2015 had provided a fresh impetus to doing clinical research in India and we welcome the more recent draft amendments to the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945 to encourage academic research," they said at the 9th annual conference of the Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR) here.

1. [Rule change provides fresh impetus to clinical study: Experts](#) – Business Standard
2. [Trial subjects come down by 30% with mandatory video-recording of informed consent](#) – Pharmabiz
3. [Medical device industry seeks new policy for sector](#) – Hindu Business Line
4. [Stricter norms for pharma product ads likely soon](#) – Times of India
5. [Pharma cos should improve brand building exercise](#) – Deccan Herald
6. [Healthcare: Another Chapter In Indian Start Up Success Story](#) – Business World
7. [Torrent launches world's second biosimilar of generic auto-immune drug](#) – Business Standard
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2. [Trial subjects come down by 30% with mandatory video-recording of informed consent](#) – Pharmabiz

Government notification making it mandatory for drug companies to video-record the free consent of patients for conducting human trials has hit a major hurdle as patient participation has come down by 20 to 30 per cent, according to clinical research experts associated with the development.

Besides this, it has also made it difficult for drug manufacturers to find subjects for testing new chemical compositions. This is because most patients, taken as subjects for clinical trials in India do not want to reveal it on camera, despite the protocol providing for complete secrecy of the video-recorded consent obtaining process.

3. [Medical device industry seeks new policy for sector](#) – Hindu Business Line

The Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMED) has urged the Centre to unveil a new policy for the medical devices sector.

"Considering the Centre's 'Make in India' vision is good, the policy needs to be rolled out quickly as India is a large importer of medical devices," said Rajiv Nath, Joint Coordinator, AIMED.

Industry watchers point out that more than 80 per cent of medical devices are imported, which included even thermometers, until a few years back.

Medical Devices are a different category of products from pharmaceutical, though they fall under the healthcare vertical. "For some strange reason we have been governed by the Drugs

and Cosmetics Act, 1940, which has thwarted the growth of the medical device industry in India,” said Nath.

4. [Stricter norms for pharma product ads likely soon](#) – Times of India
Advertisers of pharmaceutical products and medical devices may soon face stricter curbs. The government is planning to make amendments to the drug law to keep a check on advertisements which may be misleading consumers.

While advertisement of prescription drugs is prohibited in the country, companies often find loopholes in the law to advertise about therapies or run campaigns related to such products. These products are often tweaked to circumvent the law and instead become qualified as food products which can be marketed through promotions and advertisements. Similarly, there are no stringent regulations for medical device advertisements while many new products are making their way into the market.

5. [Pharma cos should improve brand building exercise](#) – Deccan Herald
Indian generics companies view the US as a key overseas market and export over Rs 26,000 crore (\$4 billion) to the US. To keep the increasing cost of healthcare and insurance premia in check, the US will continue to give opportunities to the Indian generics companies to export quality affordable medicines to that country subject to getting regulatory approval from the USFDA on cGxP viz current Good Clinical Practice, Good Laboratory Practice, and Good Manufacturing Practice. ‘First to File’ opportunities in the US give the legally successful generics company a six-month marketing exclusivity, leading to a big spike in revenue and margins.
6. [Healthcare: Another Chapter In Indian Start Up Success Story](#) – Business World
The need for innovation today is huge, and is providing an excellent business opportunity. For decades, healthcare was a stagnant problem in India, with no one offering promising and long-term solutions, or even the government coming close to deliver what we have always been promised.
7. [Torrent launches world's second biosimilar of generic auto-immune drug](#) – Business Standard
Ahmedabad-based drug major Torrent Pharmaceuticals launched its biosimilar for Adalimumab, a therapy for the treatment of auto immune disorders like rheumatoid arthritis etc, across India today. Torrent's Adfrar would be the second biosimilar of Adalimumab in the world.

Adalimumab has wide applications for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis, ulcerative colitis and plaque psoriasis. It is the largest selling drug globally (the innovator brand Humira, which is owned by AbbVie Inc, has sales of \$15 billion), and Torrent's brand Adfrar will be the second biosimilar Adalimumab in the world.

8. [MNCs eye 'Make in India' opportunity](#) – Hindu Business Line
The Narendra Modi government's Make in India campaign has got foreign companies with operations in India looking at what more they can do in the country.

This was the message the CEOs of Indian arms of four multinational companies conveyed at a plenary session on 'Make in India: drafting India's global manufacturing strategy', at the CII Partnership summit here.

9. [Red tape plagues Central schemes](#) – Deccan Herald
Budgeting is a tricky affair in Central government departments. Bureaucrats need to factor in national priorities, political realities and institutional capabilities to prepare a realistic annual plan. Miss any one of these factors and the plans are almost certain to remain on paper for years. This is exactly what happened with as many as 10 schemes of the Union health ministry, as pointed out by the department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare in its report tabled in the winter session. Some of these stalled projects relate to strengthening of government medical colleges, providing better health insurance for the common man and improving the supply of good quality medicine at an affordable cost –

schemes that are essential to reduce out of pocket expenditure, which is one of the world's highest in India and pushes lakhs of Indians below the poverty line every year.