



**News Updates: July 10, 2014**

#### OPPI

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Headline: [Budget 2014: Pharma industry's expectations](#)**

**Synopsis:** OPPI represents the research-driven pharmaceutical companies in India and remains committed to supporting the nation's healthcare objectives by collaborating with the Indian Government and other stakeholders to find sustainable healthcare solutions. A holistic approach is needed to expand healthcare in India and OPPI believes that there is a need to balance innovation with access and affordability, within a robust IP environment. The BJP manifesto had laid out the vision of universal healthcare that is not only accessible and affordable but also effective and reduces the OOP (out-of-pocket) spending for the common man. In his Pre-Budget meeting with States and UT Finance Ministers, Mr Arun Jaitley, the Union Finance Minister had also emphasised the importance of healthcare access and quality. He recognised that not only do we need to improve healthcare access but also ensure a quantum jump in the quality of health services at an affordable price.

#### Universal Health Coverage

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [Economic Survey 2014: 'More needs to be done to give quality, affordable healthcare'](#)**

**Synopsis:** Stating that a mere 1.4 per cent of GDP is spent on healthcare, the Economic Survey today highlighted the need for more vigorous efforts to provide quality and affordable healthcare to the country's population, particularly to the poor and the underprivileged. "Expenditure on health is just 1.4 per cent of GDP. A lot more needs to be done to provide quality and affordable healthcare for the large Indian population," the Economic Survey for 2013-14 said. The allocations for the health sector have increased over the years, it added.

#### **Similar reports in-**

**Business Standard- ['More needs to be done to give quality, affordable healthcare'](#)**

**NDTV- [More Needs to be Done to Give Quality, Affordable Healthcare: Economic Survey](#)**

**Mint- [Economic Survey indicates no reduction in social sector expenditure](#)**

**Publication: The Indian Express**

**Edition: National**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Opinion piece: K. Srinath Reddy, president, Public Health Foundation of India**

**Headline: [Assurance, not insurance](#)**

**Synopsis:** Health assurance is different from health insurance — often incorrectly used as the basis for universal health coverage (UHC) — in three major ways. First, it denotes a concept of health that goes beyond healthcare. It correctly emphasises the need for providing health in all dimensions, from promotion of positive health and disease prevention to effective illness care. In contrast, health insurance usually covers only clinical care for developed diseases — often selective even in that. Policies in sectors other than health have a profound impact on the health and nutritional status of populations. Potable water, sanitation, environment, agriculture, food processing,

education and urban transport are among the sectors where policies and programmes can either enable or erode health. Health insurance does not touch any of these.

### Modi government/ Budget expectations

**Publication: Daily News & Analysis**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [Budget 2014: Will universal healthcare be on the radar for Arun Jaitley?](#)**

**Synopsis:** A mere 1.4% of GDP is spent on healthcare according to the Economic Survey for 2013-14 tabled in the Parliament today by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Wednesday. The report highlighted the need for more vigorous efforts to provide quality and affordable healthcare to the country's population, particularly to the poor and the underprivileged. India is still among countries in the world that spend lowest on healthcare. "Expenditure on health is just 1.4% of GDP. A lot more needs to be done to provide quality and affordable healthcare for the large Indian population," the Economic Survey said. However allocations for the health sector have increased over the years, it added. The central government outlay for the health sector in the 12th Plan has been increased by about 200% to Rs 3,00,018 crore over the actual outlay of Rs 99,491 crore in the 11th Plan, the survey said. The pre-Budget document said in selected parameters, the progress made in health sector, however, has been impressive.

**Publication: Business Today**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Bhasker Iyer, Divisional Vice President and head of Abbott's pharmaceuticals in India**

**Headline: ['Govt should lower barriers to critical therapies in Budget'](#)**

**Synopsis:** Any policy should be measured against two key goals: supporting the needs of patients today, and supporting the future by sustaining an economic environment that fosters continued investment in India. Pharmaceutical policies should benefit patients by creating sustainable access to innovative products and ensuring availability of quality medicines. These policies should also build a robust and competitive pharmaceutical environment which encourages and promotes manufacturing, R& D and innovation as well as continued investment. To maintain India's growth momentum, there is a need to create an atmosphere of confidence and trust which will enable the government to achieve its goals on access and essential drugs. A substantial increase in allocation towards health care will support the government as it seeks to increase access to health care for its citizens.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Headline: [Budget 2014: India Inc's expectations](#)**

**Synopsis:** Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Thursday will present the general budget for the 2014-15 fiscal on Thursday, after the BJP won a landslide victory in May to form the first majority government of the country in three decades. The budget is expected to unveil bold reforms in a bid to turn around an economy growing at decade-lows. But there won't be major changes to taxes, according to a Reuters survey. Expectations for the healthcare sector- 1. Tax incentives to spur investment in research and development 2. Simpler tax norms, including rapid implementation of GST 3. Increase tax exemption for setting up hospitals 4. Infrastructure status along with tax benefits 5. Revive clinical trials in India 6. Double healthcare expenditure to 8 percent in next 5 years.

**Similar report in-**

**NDTV- [Budget 2014: India Inc's Expectations For Key Sectors](#)**

**Website:** [India.com](http://India.com)

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 9, 2014

**Headline:** [Union Budget 2014: Will Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's Budget meet the expectations?](#)

**Synopsis:** Health sector is the only sector which has made progress in the last years. The pharma market grew about 12% in 2012 and a 10% growth is expected in 2014-15. Although it has been making progress in numbers, there is huge lack in the quality of goods. Loses hits this sector when the drugs made in the country do not pass the United States guidelines thus not getting credibility license. Financial support with Budget 2014 to keep a track of the quality of medicines will help the sector multiply the country's profits.

**Publication:** Deccan Chronicle

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 10, 2014

**Headline:** [High taxes hit medical devices](#)

**Synopsis:** Will the new Central budget look into healthcare costs which have increased by 30 to 40 per cent as the devices used for treating diseases are imported from abroad? This is the question being raised in medical circles as the treatment for heart diseases, gastro-intestinal diseases, liver and transplants require devices that are imported from abroad. The medical device market is tipped to be worth Rs 30,000 crore, and is bound to increase due to the rising healthcare costs. The commonly used devices are stents, pace makers, valves for heart surgeries, orthopedic surgery plates, screws and fixation devices. Gastrointestinal surgeries require staplers, meshes, artificial blood vessels and numerous drugs required with these devices. While 80 per cent of the medical devices are imported from abroad it is the patient who is paying the high cost.

**Website:** Manorama online

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 9, 2014

**Headline:** [Budget 2014: Biocon chief wants fewer essential drugs](#)

**Synopsis:** India's \$15 billion healthcare industry has taken hits on several fronts in recent years, from slow approvals for drugs in clinical trials to several run-ins with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration over the quality of its generic drugs. Market growth fell to less than 10 percent last year after the increase in the number of drugs that the government said should be subject to price caps so that poor and middle-class people could afford them (Only 15 per cent of India's 1.2 billion people have health insurance).

**Website:** Manorama online

**Edition:** Online

**Date:** July 10, 2014

**Headline:** [Budget 2014: Wishlist from healthcare sector](#)

**Synopsis:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has its work cut out if it wants to transform the country's health system and provide a universal health insurance programme. India has just 0.7 doctors per 1,000 people, and 80 per cent of this workforce is in urban areas serving 30 percent of the population, according to industry lobby group NATHEALTH. Less than 25 per cent of the population has access to any form of health insurance. And India's public and private expenditure on health is around 4 percent of its GDP, the lowest among BRICS countries. India is seeing a rise in lifestyle diseases and is on its way to become the world's diabetes capital with more than 60 million diabetics, a number that the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI) estimates will cross 85 million in 2030, or nearly 8 per cent of the population today. India Insight spoke to stakeholders in the healthcare sector about their wishlist for the budget.

**Publication: Pharmabiz**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [Global cos reluctant to introduce latest cancer drugs due to fear of patent infringement allegations: HCG chief](#)**

**Synopsis:** Global pharma companies are reluctant to introduce the latest cancer drugs because they fear patent infringement allegations from India. The stalling of clinical trials since January 2013 has also made access to advanced cancer drugs impossible in the country, said Dr. BS Ajaikumar, chairman, Healthcare Global Enterprises (HCG) which is India's largest network chain of 27 dedicated cancer care centres in the country. The hostile response from global pharma majors to boycott new cancer medicines into India ensues Novartis' Gleevac drug which lost its patent protection here. This has turned painful for the scores of cancer patients in the country as they do not have access to the advanced targeted therapies. In this regard, HCG has made a representation to the new government and its health minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan to take a look into the issue and provide remedial measures at the earliest.

**Website: Reuters**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [U.S. lawmakers differ on how to stop abusive patent-demand letters](#)**

**Synopsis:** Members of a U.S. House of Representatives panel disagreed on Wednesday on elements of a bill to rein in companies that demand licensing fees for invalid patents or are otherwise dishonest in writing what are known as "demand letters." The measure would give the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) the power to impose civil penalties on patent assertion entities, sometimes called "patent trolls," which make dishonest licensing demands.

## R&D/ Innovation

**Publication: The Financial Chronicle**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Headline: [Pharma sector looks for incentives, R&D push, NIMZ to drive growth](#)**

**Synopsis:** The Rs 70,000 crore pharma industry is at a turning point where it has pinned hopes on a booster dose from the government that could get them back on track. Financial incentives, a push for R&D and revival of bulk drugs are what the sector is eyeing. Lately, the only excitement for pharma companies is the setting up of eight new national investment and manufacturing zones (NIMZ) of a total of 16 announced by the previous government. Through such zones the sector may get the much-needed API (active pharmaceutical ingredients) manufacturing push, which has slackened owing to cost competitiveness from China.

**Publication: The Economic Times**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Headline: [India trails China in R&D spend and innovation capacity: Economic Survey 2014](#)**

**Synopsis:** India accounts about 3 per cent of USD 1.6 trillion of global gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) in PPP ( purchasing power parity), which is around five times lower than that of its neighbour China, the Economic Survey said today. The pre-Budget document also said India's innovation capacity is also lower than that of the other BRICS nations, except Russia.

**Publication: Business World**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 9, 2014**

**Opinion piece: Antony Alex, CEO of an education portal - myLaw.net**

**Headline: ['Promote Entrepreneurship To See Growth'](#)**

**Synopsis:** The start-up Inc in India has seen a boom in the decade, but nothing close to the potential. Innovation and enterprise seem to take a back seat in a nation known for its on the fly jugaad mind set. Unlike nations abroad where major impetus is given to new ideas, technologies and research here, we are still stuck in the old established practices whether about the running of a business or starting a business. Antony Alex, CEO of an education portal - myLaw.net - says start-ups need to be prioritised in the upcoming budget. A start-up himself offering online learning platform on Indian laws, he questions the inability of India to establish even a singly innovation hub like the Silicon Valley in USA.

### Obamacare

**Website: Reuters**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [New form of U.S. healthcare saves money, improves quality, one insurer finds](#)**

**Synopsis:** In one of the largest tests of a novel way to deliver and pay for healthcare, insurer CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield announced on Thursday that 1.1 million people receiving care through its "patient-centered medical homes" last year were hospitalized less often and stayed for fewer days compared to patients in traditional fee-for-service care. Medical homes, a centerpiece of President Barack Obama's healthcare reform, have been heralded as one of the best hopes for reducing the cost of U.S. healthcare, the highest in the world, and improving its quality, which lags that of many other wealthy countries.

### General industry

**Publication: Pharmabiz**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [Pharma cos & CROs opt for cloud computing to propel competence in data integration for clinical studies](#)**

**Synopsis:** Indian pharma and clinical research organisations (CROs) are adopting cloud technology solutions to accelerate drug development, enable data compilation, create efficiency and decrease the time-to market. Following changes on the global regulatory landscape, there is an increased dependence on reliable data which has led pharma companies and CROs opt for cloud computing to nurture innovation and improve productivity, according to industry experts. A recently concluded DIA workshop on 'Evolving landscape of clinical data management: Focus on technology and data standard' indicated that in the current competitive landscape, pharma industry was looking to collaborate with the clinical data management service providers to garner regulatory compliance and improve efficiency.

**Publication: Business Insider India**

**Edition: Online**

**Date: July 10, 2014**

**Headline: [How Your Doctor And Insurer Will Know Your Secrets - Even If You Never Tell Them](#)**

**Synopsis:** Some hospitals and health insurers have started buying consumers' personal data in order to identify "high-risk" patients and curtail bad health habits. Consumers may know that their online activities are tracked. But most don't realize the mountain of personal information that is being collected, analyzed and sold by companies called data brokers. While your actual medical records are protected by HIPAA, lots of personal health information can be inferred from your credit or debit card purchase history, as well as other sources, which may reveal whether you buy

fast food or have a gym membership or go to the drug store regularly. You may not mind that Amazon makes recommendations based on your previous purchases. But how would you feel if your doctor and insurer did the same?