

OPPI's Third Healthcare Access Summit focuses on collaboration to achieve universal healthcare access in India

Key stakeholders discuss solutions for improving access to healthcare

Jaipur Foot awarded the first Healthcare Access Award, for outstanding work providing quality healthcare

Mumbai, August 08, 2014: The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) organised its Third Healthcare Access Summit in Mumbai today. At this summit, leaders from the pharmaceutical industry, healthcare policy experts, consumer activists and other distinguished professionals focused on the importance of partnerships in achieving affordable healthcare access for all. Global best practices in healthcare access were shared and discussions revolved around better standards in healthcare and wellness.

“Understanding the challenge is critical to achieving universal healthcare access and finding sustainable solutions. Government needs to lead the way in collaborating with the industry and all stakeholders. We need holistic solutions and all the stakeholders will have a role to play and the pharma industry is willing to step forward and do its part.” said **Ranjana Smetacek, Director General, OPPI** in her welcome address.

Dr Shailesh Ayyangar, President, OPPI, and Managing Director, India & Vice President, South Asia, Sanofi added “The pharmaceutical industry is more than willing to partner with the Government to achieve the vision of healthcare access for all. Focus on human resource augmentation, last-mile availability of medicines and stronger healthcare distribution will catalyse access to healthcare.”

Pankaj Patel, Chairman and Managing Director, Cadila Healthcare, in his discussion pointed out, that healthcare in the country presently seems to be ‘nobody’s baby’. He added, “Effective access to healthcare can be achieved only with a stable healthcare policy which will address all the critical dimensions. Government needs to encourage innovation and clinical research that will provide access to modern medicines.”

Padma Bhushan D R Mehta, the Founder and Chief Patron of the Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) was the recipient of the first OPPI Healthcare Access Award 2014 for the exemplary work done for the rehabilitation of the physically disabled.

About OPPI

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) was established in 1965. OPPI represents the research-driven pharmaceutical companies in India and remains committed to supporting the nation’s healthcare objectives, collaborating with the Indian Government and other stakeholders to find sustainable solutions; solutions that balance the need for innovation with the necessity for more accessible medicines,



within a robust IP environment. A holistic approach is needed to expand healthcare in India and OPPI believes the pharmaceutical industry can form part of the solution. OPPI supports the Indian government's quest for more accessible and affordable medicines and welcomes a more comprehensive dialogue between private and government stakeholders.

For more information, please visit www.indiaoppi.com

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