

OPPI Coverage Dossier

September 2025

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Wires

Publication	PTI
Date	4 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."

Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

Publication	IANIS
Date	4 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.

GST on individual health and life insurance premiums has been reduced to nil (which currently stands at 18 per cent).

Print

Publication	Millennium Post
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

Export to 

MILLENNIUM POST

Head Line: GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

Date: 05-Sep-2025	Edition: Delhi	Page No: 10
Page Name: Business	By Line:	Keyword: Company Specific News
Circulation: 84000	Reader Ship: 252000	AVE: 356400
Width: 18	Height: 10.77	Area Sq cm: 198

Text View




Opacity
Grayscale


GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

NEW DELHI: The government's decision to slash GST on medicines and medical devices while exempting lifesaving drugs from the levy has been hailed as a landmark reform by the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry. Stakeholders said on Thursday that the move will bring direct relief to patients and families while substantially easing their financial burden.

Industry leaders noted that the reforms will improve affordability, expand access to quality healthcare, and align with the government's vision of universal healthcare. Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance Secretary General Sudarshan Jain said exempting cancer and lifesaving drugs



from GST will immediately ease costs for families. "Equally, the reduction in GST on a wide range of medicines from 12 per cent to 5 per cent will make essential therapies more affordable," he added.

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai described the reform as "historic and compassionate," pointing out that 33 essential drugs

have moved from 12 per cent GST to nil, while three critical medicines for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe conditions have shifted from 5 per cent to nil. He said the reductions on medicines, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies would make healthcare more accessible across households and hospitals.

"This move realigns the GST structure, prioritises patient well-being, and strengthens India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai added.

NATHEALTH President and Metropolis Healthcare Executive Chairperson Ameera Shah said standardising GST

rates would support preventive, curative, and rehabilitative care. "By easing costs, the measure will enhance access to services, promote early disease detection, and ensure consistency across the healthcare ecosystem," she said.

Apollo Health Co Ltd Executive Chairperson Shobana Kamineni welcomed zero GST on health and life insurance, calling it "a masterstroke" that makes protection a right rather than a privilege.

Industry leaders unanimously called the reforms a transformative step toward building a patient-centric, equitable, and resilient healthcare system in India.

AGENCIES

Online

Publication	The Economic Times
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</u>

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare, he added.

Publication	New Indian Express
Date	4 September
Edition	Online
Headline	Big win for public health, says Nadda after GST cut on life-saving drugs, medical devices

Anil Matai, Director General, the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), said that the decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines - bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from five per cent to nil - is both historic and compassionate.

Publication	Deccan Herald
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."

Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare, he added.

Publication	The Print
Date	4 September
Edition	Online
Headline	Drug costs form chunk of out-of-pocket spending on health in India. This could change with GST reforms

Anil Matai, the director-general of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), a network of foreign drugmakers, called the restructuring of the GST framework a historic and compassionate step for reducing the financial strain patients and their families experience.

“By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India’s journey towards universal health coverage. The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare,” Matai underlined.

Publication	The Week
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs medical devices to provide relief to patients Industry players

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."

Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

Publication	News18
Date	5 September
Edition	Online

Headline

[Govt Slashes GST On Medicines, Devices & Diagnostics, Industry Hails Relief For Patients](#)

Anil Matai, director general, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI)—lobby of foreign drugmakers such as MSD, Sanofi, Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk among others—commended the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. “The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines—bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to NIL and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to NIL is both historic and compassionate.”

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Publication	Free Press Journal
Date	5 September

Edition	Online
Headline	<u>GST Cuts On Medicines A Game Changer, Healthcare To Become More Affordable: Industry Players</u>

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, 'The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families.' Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

Publication	Rediff
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>GST cut on drugs, medical devices to help patients</u>

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Publication	Udayavani
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

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Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

Publication	Newsdrum
Date	5 September

Edition	Online
Headline	GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

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Publication	NewsarenaIndia
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Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	Pharma industry terms GST cut on drugs, medical supplies 'histori

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"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai added.

Publication	New Kerala
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines – bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.

Publication	Tennews
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u>

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GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.

GST on individual health and life insurance premiums has been reduced to nil (which currently stands at 18 per cent).

Publication	Lokmat
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

Publication	Financial Express
Date	26 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>The Backbone of Breakthroughs: When Infrastructure Becomes Innovation</u>

FE HEALTHCARE

The Backbone of Breakthroughs: When Infrastructure Becomes Innovation

India's pharmaceutical sector has earned global recognition as the pharmacy of the world. We supply high-quality medicines to over 200 countries and contribute significantly to global health security. While this scale is impressive, the next frontier lies in innovation. To be able to discover and deliver next-generation therapies, we need a robust, future-ready infrastructure that can support pharmaceutical innovation at a transformative level.

The Indian pharmaceutical market is currently valued at around US\$55 billion and is projected to grow 2.2 to 2.4 times by 2030, reaching US\$120–130 billion. This will increase India's share of the global market to nearly 5% by 2030. Supporting this momentum is a robust industrial backbone, comprising over 10,000 manufacturing facilities, more than 3,000 pharmaceutical companies, and ~650 US FDA-approved plants.

Publication	Express Pharma
Date	8 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>DoP eases compliance under UCPMP 2024</u>



DoP eases compliance under UCPMP 2024

The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has announced key amendments to the Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) 2024 to simplify annual reporting format.


This move was in response to industry concerns over the complexity and duplicative nature of monthly marketing expenditure disclosures.

Anil Matai, Director General, OPPI said "We welcome the Department of Pharmaceuticals' updated guidelines under the amended UCPMP, 2024, which bring greater clarity and streamlining to compliance requirements for the industry. The simplification of disclosure formats, merger of CEO undertakings with declarations, and rationalisation of submission timelines reflect a pragmatic approach to ensure ease of adherence while strengthening accountability."

The circular released by DoP on 1st September, also updates Clause 5.1 of the UCPMP 2024 to mandate that free samples be valued per unit—such as per tablet, vial, or millilitre—using these pricing standards; aimed at reducing compliance burden while maintaining transparency and ethical practices in pharmaceutical marketing.

Additionally, the circular also stated that the valuation of free drug samples given to healthcare professionals must now be based either on the average price charged to stockists or the average annual purchase price for the same dosage and strength.

Publication	Pharmabiz
Date	5 September
Edition	Online
Headline	<u>OPPI sees reducing processing time from 90 to 45 days for BA/BE studies to boost faster access to medication</u>



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OPPI sees reducing processing time from 90 to 45 days for BA/BE studies to boost faster access to medication

Our Bureau, Bengaluru
Monday, September 8, 2025, 14:30 Hrs [IST]

Organisation for Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) sees reducing processing time from 90 to 45 days for BA/BE studies to boost faster access to medication. This follows with the Union government to the proposal to amend the New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019 (NDCT), to promote ease of doing business.

The draft NDCT that proposes to enable notification vide online applications for manufacturing certain new drug or investigational new drug for analytical and preclinical testing drugs will indeed streamline the process by replacing the old licensing system with an expeditious processing times by half, from 90 to 45 days.

Anil Matai, director general, OPPI said: "We welcome the Government's and the Health Ministry's initiative under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to streamline regulatory processes. While the proposed amendment is restricted for export purposes only, proposing to allow bioavailability and bioequivalence studies and associated manufacturing of certain drugs for such trials to begin with simple notification rather than prior approval, for oral formulations already approved in stringent regulatory jurisdictions would significantly shorten approval timelines and accelerate patient access to vital medicines globally.