



The Lakshmi Mittal and Family
SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE
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Dear Friends,

We are delighted to present to you the April edition of the monthly newsletter by the [Lancet Citizens' Commission on Reimagining India's Health System](#). This month's newsletter highlights the upcoming webinar, "Lessons from the Global South: How to Develop Life-Saving Vaccines for All," which will explore the achievements of vaccines developed in the Global South. We delve into the fundamental right to healthcare within the realm of universal health coverage, addressing forthcoming challenges and opportunities. Additionally, we discuss the preventive measures in healthcare, and their pivotal role in sustaining well-being. We also recognize Dr. Gagandeep Kang's remarkable achievement, the political landscape of healthcare in select Indian states, and a study on malaria perspectives in Meghalaya, India, aiming for malaria elimination by 2030.

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This Month's Highlight

[Lessons from the Global South: How to Develop Life-Saving Vaccines for All](#)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the success of mRNA vaccines made in the developed world overshadowed the equally remarkable achievement of vaccines developed in the Global South, which are affordable, easy to store, and have proven safety records.

The webinar, 'Lessons from the Global South: How to Develop Life-Saving Vaccines for All', will explore how vaccine developers in the Global South brought safe, affordable, and easy-to-store COVID-19 vaccines to market—and reveal ways we can ensure equitable access to life-saving vaccines during future pandemics and emergencies.

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024

Time: 9:00 AM EST / 6:30 PM IST / 6:00 PM PKT



WEBINAR

LESSONS FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH:
How to Develop Life-Saving Vaccines for All

SESSION CHAIR
David R. Williams
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

PANELISTS
Rachee Ella
Dharat Biotech, India

Gerardo Guillén
Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Cuba

Verónica Vargas
Lanchester Medical and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard University

DISCUSSANT
Oman Khalid Wabood
Ferozsons Laboratories Limited, Pakistan

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Views & Opinions



Right to Healthcare in Times of Universal Health Coverage

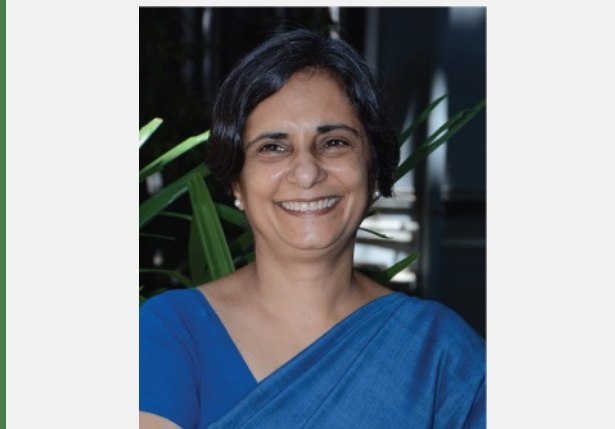
Healthcare for all needs three things working together—a law guaranteeing the right to healthcare; universal health coverage to pay for it; and a focus on primary care to deliver it effectively. Each part should strengthen the others, creating a system that prioritises people’s health, not profits. write *T. Sundararaman and Mekhala Krishnamurthy*.

(Photo credits: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/claudine/95686159>)



Healthcare industry, individuals must focus on 'prevention first'

It's time for the healthcare industry to pivot, placing greater emphasis on preventive measures, fostering proactive health management, and empowering individuals towards a healthier tomorrow. Besides the healthcare industry, even individuals must live with a 'prevention-first' mindset, as significantly in India, opines *Devi Shetty*.



Prestigious John Dirks Gairdner global health award for Dr Gagandeep Kang

Dr Gagandeep Kang, Director of Global Health at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, has been selected for the prestigious John Dirks Award in global health. It is the most well-recognised global health award. When contacted, Dr Kang told The Indian Express it means a lot especially as “it acknowledges the recognition of science we engage in,” writes *Anuradha Mascarenhas*.



Leveraging tech to improve emergency care

The medical docu-series, 'InsidER,' is about bringing emergency care directly to viewers. These are real stories of struggle and resilience, and of course the unwavering dedication of our healthcare teams. This series will highlight the importance of acting quickly during the 'golden hour'—that is, those crucial moments when rapid intervention can make all the difference, says *Devi Shetty*.

Resources

The Political Journey of Healthcare in Select Indian States

Understanding India's progress on health requires an examination of such progress across different states. While many aspects, including fiscal health, governance, institutional capacity, and others influence health progress, the political priority accorded to health by a state's leadership remains a key driver. This paper examines the socio-political determinants of attention to health in five Indian states, write *Sandhya Venkateswaran, Mayank Mishra and Nikhil Iyer*.



Community and health worker perspectives on malaria in Meghalaya, India: covering the last mile of elimination by 2030

Malaria remains a public health problem in regions of Northeastern India because of favourable biogeographic transmission conditions, poor access to routine healthcare, and inadequate infrastructure for public health and disease prevention. This study was undertaken to better understand community members' and health workers' perceptions of malaria, as well as their knowledge, attitudes, and prevention practices related to the disease in Meghalaya state, write *Carinthia B. Nengnong et al*



Featured Partner



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