

NEWSLETTER
HEALTHCARE
27 October – 2 November 2025



China's average life expectancy rises to 79

China's average life expectancy has risen to 79 years. The figure, measured by the end of 2024, was 1.1 years higher than that in 2020. 8 provincial-level regions have even recorded an average life expectancy over 80 years. During the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-25), infant and maternal mortality rates have continued to decline and the overall health level of residents has steadily improved. **(National Health Commission)**

China's child overweight, obesity rates drop to below 10%

The rates of overweight and obesity among Chinese children under the age of 6 decreased from 10.4% five years ago to the current 9.7%. The incidence rate of macrosomia, or large-for-gestational-age infants, has dropped for five consecutive years during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-25). The nutritional status of children in China has also continued to improve. **(National Health Commission)**

Chinese researchers uncover gene defect as key driver of lupus

A recent study led by Chinese scientists has identified a gene defect, PLD4 deficiency, that can cause systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), a chronic and complex autoimmune disease affecting millions of patients worldwide. This breakthrough suggests that baricitinib may offer a targeted therapy for SLE patients with PLD4 mutations, paving the way for genotype-based personalized medicine in lupus care. **(Xinhua)**

China adopts new law to enhance public health emergency response capacity

A new law was adopted by Chinese lawmakers recently to regulate the response to public health emergencies and enhance the country's capacity to address such situations. The law on public health emergency response, put forward the establishment and improvement of a nationwide public health emergency reporting system. The law, consisting of 65 articles in eight chapters, will take effect from Nov 1. **(Xinhua)**

Several Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) hospitals suspend inpatient delivery services to optimize regional resources

Multiple TCM hospitals across China are suspending inpatient delivery services as part of plans to optimize regional medical resources. This coordinated effort, affecting provinces like Anhui, Fujian and Guangdong, aims to consolidate obstetric resources into specialized centers. While inpatient deliveries are halted, the hospitals continue to provide essential outpatient services, including prenatal and postnatal care. **(China Daily)**