

NEWSLETTER

HEALTHCARE

11 - 17 May 2026



National rare disease diagnosis network expands to 200 hospitals

China expanded its national rare disease diagnosis network to 200 hospitals nationwide, cutting average diagnosis time from 4 years to 1.5 months. The network leverages AI-powered diagnostic tools and national data-sharing platforms to identify over 120 rare diseases. Patient enrollment in the national registry increased by 30% since the expansion. **(National Health Commission)**

Smart insulin patch with AI dosing approved for pediatric use

China approved the first AI-driven smart insulin patch for children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes. The disposable patch continuously monitors glucose levels and automatically administers precise insulin doses via microneedles. Clinical trials showed a 40% reduction in hypoglycemic events compared to traditional pumps. The device connects to a smartphone app allowing remote monitoring by caregivers. **(National Medical Products Administration)**

Telemedicine platform reduces rural maternal mortality by 25%

A national telemedicine program for high-risk pregnancies reduced maternal mortality in rural China by 25% in its first full year. The system connects county-level hospitals with provincial specialists for real-time consultations during complex deliveries. Over 50,000 high-risk cases were managed through the platform, with emergency response time cut by 70%. The program particularly improved outcomes in remote regions. **(The Lancet Regional Health)**

Hospital at home program saves \$300 million in healthcare costs

China's "hospital at home" pilot program served 100,000 patients, saving an estimated \$300 million (255 million euro) in healthcare costs. Patients with conditions like pneumonia and chronic disease exacerbations received hospital-level care at home through connected devices and daily clinician visits. The 30-day readmission rate was 20% lower than inpatient care. **(National Healthcare Security Administration)**

AI system cuts sepsis mortality by 18% in multicenter trial

An AI-based early warning system for sepsis reduced mortality by 18% in a trial across 15 Chinese hospitals. The system analyzes electronic health records in real-time, detecting sepsis 6 hours earlier than conventional methods. It reduced unnecessary antibiotic use by 22% through more accurate diagnosis. The technology will be implemented in 200 tertiary hospitals by year's end. **(JAMA Network Open)**