NPPA caps trade margins on 137 cancer drugs at 30%

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority capped trade margins on 137 critical cancer drugs to make life-saving treatments affordable for millions of patients.

Trade margin rationalization is a regulatory mechanism implemented by the government to curb exorbitant markups on essential medicines and healthcare products.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority** capped trade margins on **137 cancer drugs** at **30 percent**.
- Revised prices for these essential oncology medications come into effect from **November 9**.
- High out-of-pocket expenditure on advanced therapies like **immunotherapy** drains patients' life savings.
- Patients frequently face severe **financial distress** due to the prohibitive costs of branded vials and hospital charges.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority functions under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**.

NPPA was established in **August 1997** as an attached office of the **Department of Pharmaceuticals** to fix and revise prices of controlled bulk drugs and formulations.

Drugs (Prices Control) Order is issued by the central government under **Section 3** of the **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**.

Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Program is supported by the **World Bank** with a funding ratio of **60:40** between Central and State governments.

Article 47 of the Indian Constitution directs the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health.

REVISION FLASHCARD

NPPA capped trade margins on 137 cancer drugs at 30% to curb exorbitant medical costs.

Syllabus Relevance: Highly relevant for Indian Economy (Unit 6) focusing on welfare schemes, price control mechanisms, and public health economics.

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