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Rare-Disease Drugs: India's Next Pharma Frontier

Experts highlighted India's potential to become a global hub for affordable rare-disease drugs through streamlined regulations and strategic partnerships.

A sector overview discussing how India can leverage its manufacturing strength to make rare-disease medications accessible and globally competitive.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- There are approximately **8,000 rare diseases** globally, cumulatively affecting hundreds of millions of people.
- In India, **1,004 rare genetic disorders** have been documented.
- India has established itself globally for manufacturing **affordable generic drugs**.
- Experts **Gayatri Saberwal**, **Rakesh Mishra**, and Alok Bhattacharya emphasized the need for a streamlined regulatory pathway.
- Building a globally competitive sector requires appropriate **financial incentives** and government procurement.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD) was introduced by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** to provide financial support for treatment.

CDSCO (Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation) functions as the national regulatory body for Indian pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

India is globally known as the '**Pharmacy of the World**' due to its large volume of affordable generic medicine exports.

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.

The **Drugs and Cosmetics Act** was enacted in **1940** to regulate the import, manufacture, distribution, and sale of drugs in India.

The **Department of Pharmaceuticals** operates under the **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**, Government of India.

REVISION FLASHCARD

India has documented 1,004 rare genetic disorders, paving the way for specialized pharma manufacturing.

Syllabus Relevance: Highly relevant for public health policies, medical advancements, and pharmaceutical sector updates in General Science.

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