

Notice of the State Council on Issuing the National Health Plan for the 15th Five-Year Plan Period

China – State Council

Main information

Scope of Application:

Implement the strategy of prioritizing health in development and accelerate the building of a Healthy China

Effective Date:

July 7th, 2026

Related Provisions:

- Outline of the Fifteenth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development of the People's Republic of China
- Healthy China 2030 Planning Outline

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Key Topics

Framework

- The Plan anchors to the **2035 goal of building a Healthy China**. By 2030, it sets 19 key indicators, including a target of 80 years for average life expectancy, with major health indicators reaching the level of high-income countries.
- **Five-pillar structure** consisting of: (1) optimizing health services for the entire population across the full lifecycle; (2) reinforcing a high-level health security barrier; (3) improving a high-quality, efficient, and integrated medical and health service system; (4) cultivating new drivers for high-quality health development; and (5) deepening efficient governance centered on health.
- The Plan is driven by a "health-centered" paradigm shift, transitioning from treatment-focused to prevention-focused care.

What's new

- **"Full Chain" Support for Innovative Drugs:** For the first time in any five-year plan, the document explicitly calls for "full-chain support for the development and application of innovative drugs and medical devices". It lists cell and gene therapy, new antibodies, new vaccines, nucleic acid drugs, and radiopharmaceuticals as key technological (breakthrough) directions.
- **AI Empowering the Whole Industry Chain:** The Plan calls for accelerating the use of AI to empower the entire pharmaceutical industry chain. It also stipulates the construction of a national smart health platform for cross-provincial sharing of test and examination results.

Sensitive Factors

- **Curbing Big Hospital Expansion:** The Plan imposes strict controls on the scale of tertiary hospitals, explicitly requiring a cap on their development.
- Shift to **Primary Care:** The Plan strongly emphasizes strengthening primary care, aiming to establish a "15-minute basic medical service circle".

Drivers

- **Innovation-First Strategy:** The Plan's strong emphasis on developing specific **cutting-edge technologies** (e.g., Cell & Gene Therapy, ADC, Radiopharma, BCI) signals a clear direction for R&D investment. Companies that prioritize these fields stand to benefit from enhanced regulatory priority review channels and the newly established three-tier payment system.
- **Penetration of the Primary Care Market:** With the establishment of 15-minute medical circles and 1,000 county-level medical communities, there is a vast new channel for drug and device companies. To capture this market, products need to be optimized for “primary diagnosis, county-level confirmation” scenarios, and companies must **develop strategies to reach primary care physicians and patients.**
- **Digital and AI Transformation:** The mandate for AI and digitalization across the industry chain means that companies must integrate AI into their R&D, clinical trials, and supply chain. Compliance with the national platform for cross-provincial test result sharing will also require companies to ensure their systems and data formats are compatible with this new national infrastructure.



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