

# IHD TIMES



The International Health Dialogue (IHD) 2026 stands as a distinguished platform for global collaboration, bringing together healthcare leaders, clinicians, policymakers, academicians, and quality professionals from diverse geographies. Guided by the theme “Global Voices, One Vision – A Unified Path to Safer Healthcare,” the Dialogue underscores the shared responsibility of the global healthcare community in advancing patient safety and quality of care.

Through structured discussions and the exchange of evidence-based practices, the International Health Dialogue facilitates meaningful cross-border learning and collective problem-solving. By uniting diverse perspectives under a common vision, it aims to strengthen healthcare systems, promote innovation, and foster sustainable approaches that contribute to safer, more resilient, and patient-centered healthcare worldwide.

The International Health Dialogue 2026 on 30th January commenced on a grand and inspiring note, marking the beginning of a shared journey towards patient safety, quality improvement, and excellence in healthcare. As we move into Day 2, the focus shifts from reflection to application—transforming ideas into action. This newsletter captures the essence of Day 1 and offers a guided view of what awaits you today, helping you make informed choices and maximize your conference experience.



**Dr. Sangita Reddy, JMD, AHEL,** formally welcomed the distinguished gathering, setting the tone for IHD 2026 by introducing the conference theme, “Global Voices, One Vision – A Unified Path to

Safer Healthcare.” Her address emphasized the power of global collaboration, shared learning, and collective responsibility in advancing patient safety and healthcare quality worldwide.

A distinguished panel comprising Dr. Jonathan Perlin, President and CEO, JCI; Dr. James Merlino, Executive Vice-President, JCI; Prof Tran Trung Dung, CEO, Vinmec Healthcare System and Dr. Sangita Reddy, JMD, AHEL, offered insightful perspectives on the Global Landscape of Patient



The event commenced with **ceremonial lighting of the lamp**, symbolizing the illumination of knowledge, compassion, and collective wisdom. The ritual reflected the shared commitment to integrity, care, and excellence, setting an auspicious and meaningful tone for the conference.

Safety. The discussion highlighted international best practices, emerging challenges, and the collective responsibility of healthcare systems worldwide to strengthen safety, quality, and patient-centered care.

Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Special Chief Secretary of the metropolitan area of HMDA, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad; Dr Carsten Engel, CEO, ISQua; Dr Atulmohan Kochar, CEO, NABH; Mr. Madhu Sasidhar, President & CEO, AHEL, Dr Rohini Sridhar, Apollo Hospitals speaking as one: A global call for patient safety. Their collective perspectives underscored the importance of policy leadership, accreditation, innovation, and shared accountability in building safer, high-quality healthcare systems worldwide.

Mr Som Mittal, PFPS; Prof. (Dr) Patrick McNeil, Macquarie University; Dr Rohini Sridhar, Apollo Hospitals led a forward-looking session on CHORUS OF CHANGE: FUTURE FACING TRANSFORMATION. The discussion explored innovation, leadership, and systemic change shaping the future of healthcare, emphasizing collaboration and adaptability as key drivers of sustainable transformation.



## “KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Over **5,000** delegates

Over **400** speakers

**20** International Hospitals

**83** National Organizations

**62** Academic Institutions

**32** Government Organizations

**18** Other Institutions





During the second half of the day, engaging panel discussions sparked lively dialogue, showcased diverse perspectives, and fostered meaningful peer-to-peer learning. Delegates actively shared questions, experiences, and insights, creating a truly collaborative environment. These conversations brought real-world healthcare challenges to the forefront while highlighting the power of collective wisdom in advancing patient safety and delivering high-quality care.

A few glimpses from the multiple sessions included (but were not limited to):

Prof. Jean Rosaire Ibara, Hon'ble Minister of Health and Population, Republic of Congo; Mr. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Health, Ghana; Dr Grace Ayensu-Danquah, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Health, Ghana, Mr Siao Si Sovalen, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Tonga, Dr Sarah Cleto Rial, Hon'ble Minister of Health, South Sudan, and Dr. Madhu Sasidhar, President & CEO, AHEL, engaged in a high-level discussion on "The Next Decade of Patient Safety: A Global Perspective." The session highlighted shared challenges, future priorities, and the importance of global collaboration in shaping safer and more resilient healthcare systems worldwide.

Dr. Scott Williams, Vice President, Innovations, JCI; Dr. Shweta Prabhakar, MS, Paras Hospitals; Dr. Suneel C Mundkar, Pediatrician and Prof. Manipal Hospital; Dato Dr. Jacob Thomas,



Executive Director, KL Wellness City; Mr. Akshay Oleti, Regional CEO, Apollo Hospitals delivered a session on INNOVATE TO IMPROVE: Turning Ideas into Impact. The session explored seeing the bigger picture through JCI benchmarking for smarter quality, understanding why safety can break at the final stage of care, embracing a "fail fast, learn faster" mindset, and establishing continuous improvement through clinical audits as part of a learning culture. Delegates gained insights into translating innovative ideas into actionable strategies that enhance patient safety, clinical outcomes, and organizational excellence.

Air Marshal (Dr) Pawan Kapoor, Vice Chancellor Lincoln American University, Lt General Dr Bipin Puri, DMS, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Dr Sanjeev Singh, Medical Director, Amrita Hospital, Dr Anil kumar Mulpur, Cf. Consultant CTVS, at Sunshine Hospitals, Hyderabad, Dr Anupam

Sibal, GMD, Apollo Hospitals, Dr K. Hari Prasad, Operating Advisor, Kedaara Capital delivered session on THE GREAT SHOWDOWN: THE DEBATE – "Zero Harm Shall Soon Be a Reality". The session featured a high-energy debate on whether the vision of Zero Harm in healthcare could realistically be achieved. Experts and leaders debated contrasting perspectives on patient safety, system design, human factors, technology, and organizational culture.

Mr. Capri Jalota, COO, AIG Hospitals; Mr. Kaushik Ray, CHRO, KIMS Hospitals; Ms. Rupali Rane, CHRO, Oliva; Mr. Vivek Roychowdhury, Editor, The Indian Express Limited; and Mr. Mayank Rautela, Group CHRO, Apollo Hospitals, delivered a compelling discussion on "Workforce at a Crossroads: Strategic Action for a Changing Healthcare Landscape." The session focused on evolving workforce dynamics, strategic leadership,

# TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE WITH IT (THIT)

The 13th International Conference on Transforming Healthcare with IT (THIT 2026), held in conjunction with the THNX HealthTech Network Exchange, brings together global healthcare leaders, innovators, technologists, policymakers, and emerging startups to define the next chapter of digital health in India and beyond. As the country's premier stage for HealthTech

innovation and collaboration, THIT & THNX spotlight frontier clinical technologies, AI enabled healthcare solutions, digital transformation models, and breakthrough startup innovations that advance patient care, operational excellence, and equitable access at scale.

## Primary Focus Areas of THIT 2026

Global Leadership on One Stage - Global insights meet real-world practice through leadership sessions

Distinguished Chairperson & Ministerial

Presence – Reinforcing policy relevance & National Impact.

High-Impact Plenary Dialogues - Thought-provoking dialogue exchanges addressing future-proof healthcare models.

International Exhibition, Real-time Product Showcase, Immersive Interactions.

India's first dedicated digital health innovation dome - THNX launchpad, Live Startup to Investor Connect.

Recognition of Excellence – Multi-category awards celebrating leadership, innovation, and digital transformation in healthcare initiatives.

Solvathon – Problem-Solving in Action – Bringing in to students Live Startup to Investor Connect.

Policy, Innovation & Investment Convergence - Collaborative Networking & Thoughtful Partnerships





and actionable approaches to attract, retain, and empower healthcare professionals in a rapidly transforming sector, ensuring sustainable growth and quality patient care.

Ms Prathyusha Chowdhary, AGM Training, Yashoda Hospitals; Ms. Sandhya Rani K, Nursing Superintendent, Medcover; Dr Vincy Tribhuvan, VP, Nursing Administration, CARE Corporate Office; Ms Saino Thomas, Nursing Head, American Oncology shared powerful perspectives on “Beyond Management: The Art and Science of Nursing Leadership.” The session thoughtfully distinguished transactional management from transformative leadership, underscoring the evolving role of nurse leaders in today’s complex healthcare environment. Through rich insights and real-world experiences, the panel emphasized “Leading with Impact: Cultivating Resilient, Innovative, and Patient-Centered Nursing Teams,” highlighting how empathy, inner strength, and a clear vision enable nursing teams to thrive while delivering compassionate, high-quality patient care.

Dr Ranga Reddy, President Infection Control Academy and Honorary Professor, IFCAI & University of Hyderabad; Dr Meera Challapilla, Consultant, Clinical Microbiology, NHS, United Kingdom; Dr V R Yamunadevi, Consultant, Infection Control, Apollo Hospitals; Dr Sandeep Dadlani, Paediatrician, CEO, AI Network; Dr Suneetha Narreddy, HoD, ID, Dr Rajib Paul, Sr. Consultant, IM, Dr Sai Praveen Sr.Consultant, CC from Apollo Hospitals held a highly engaging and thought-provoking session on Innovation in Infection Prevention – Catching & Unmasking. The session offered critical insights into strengthening infection prevention strategies across healthcare systems. Key discussions focused on the role of public health in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response; managing outbreaks in acute healthcare settings; the importance of robust outbreak surveillance; and the transformative potential of AI and innovation in enabling early outbreak detection. The dialogue reinforced the need for proactive, technology-enabled, and collaborative approaches to safeguard patients, healthcare workers, and communities.

## Healthcare Operations and Patient Experience 2026 (HOPE)



The HOPE Conference, an initiative of the IHD, aims at addressing a critical challenge in healthcare today: the growing demand for seamless operational efficiency alongside exceptional patient experience. We recognized that while healthcare advancements have made strides in technology and treatment, inefficiencies in operations and fragmented patient care often hinder outcomes. HOPE was conceived to bridge this gap, bringing together global thought leaders, innovators, and practitioners to share actionable insights, proven strategies, and cutting-edge tools. By fostering collaboration and inspiring innovation, HOPE aims to redefine healthcare delivery, ensuring it is not only efficient but also deeply patient-centered.

Dr. James I. Merlino, JCI; Mr. Harkaran Sahni, Apollo Hospitals; Mr. Joy Chakraborty, P D Hinduja Hospital; and Ms Sivareena Sarika, Apollo Hospitals, presented an engaging session on “The Experience Dividend.” The session explored The Compassion Quotient as a new metric for human-centered care, shared strategies on creating meaningful patient and staff experiences, and discussed approaches for listening, learning, and acting on patient feedback. Delegates gained insights into how empathy, engagement, and actionable insights can drive organizational excellence and improve outcomes across healthcare systems.

Mr. Bharateesh Reddy, Apollo Hospitals; Dr. Shilpa Tatake, Jupiter Hospital; Ms. Sheetal Agarwal, Clownsellers; Dr. Surinder Singh Bhatia, Apollo Hospitals; and Mr. John Chandy, Apollo Hospitals, shared insights on “Efficiency by Design: The Art of Smarter Systems.” The session explored creating AI-powered integrated healthcare ecosystems, designing seamless patient and staff journeys, and the importance of joy and laughter in hospitals as a vital component of patient-centered healthcare. Delegates gained practical strategies to optimize systems, improve experiences, and foster happier, healthier care environments.

Prof. Sarang Deo, Indian School of Business;

Mr. Rajeev Chourey, Care Hospitals; Mr. Venkatesh Thouti, Ajara Hospitals; Mr. Ravishankar Iyer, Story Rules; Dr. Giridhar Gyani, Association of Healthcare Providers; and Dr. Ravi Shankar, Apollo Hospitals, led a dynamic session on “Friction to Flow: Mastering Process Efficiency.” The discussion covered practical strategies such as operational quick wins to reduce waiting times and improve conversions, doing more with less through efficiency optimization, translating safety frameworks from policy to actionable hospital practices, and leveraging storytelling as a tool for driving change and process improvement. Delegates gained actionable insights into creating smoother, safer, and more efficient healthcare delivery systems.

## The Society for Innovation in Safety & Healthcare Quality (ISHQ)- Transforming Healthcare Through Excellence



ISHQ is a national platform uniting healthcare professionals committed to advancing patient safety and healthcare quality across India. ISHQ enables collaboration, innovation, and shared learning by bringing together clinicians, nurses, administrators, quality leaders, and policymakers.

The Society translates global best practices into practical, actionable solutions tailored to Indian healthcare settings.

Through education, research, professional development, and policy advocacy, ISHQ empowers its members to drive measurable improvements in care delivery.

ISHQ drives system-level transformation in patient safety and healthcare quality by advancing evidence-based governance, risk management, and continuous quality improvement frameworks.

## The Pathways to Care



**The Insightful Interval** - An open forum fostered meaningful professional connections over refreshments, providing delegates with an opportunity to network, exchange ideas, and strengthen collaborations in a relaxed setting. *Moments Between the Sessions- Light-hearted activities to recharge, reflect, and relate*





Advancing Care in Women's Health & Longevity,  
Cardiac Sciences, Oncology & Laboratory Medicine

**Clinical Innovation & Excellence (CLINOVATE)** marks the congregation of the global thought leaders, industry experts and healthcare practitioners sharing their experiences, best practices and new innovative approaches to patient safety. This year it will be an ingenious and invigorating conference reflecting the direction of healthcare and patient safety for future and will focus on the latest and exciting innovations which will inspire the world. It is an international platform for presenting plenaries about healthcare and IT and exchanging ideas and thus, contributing to the dissemination of knowledge in Healthcare and IT for the benefit of both the academia and business.

This edition of the Conference will address critical issues in futuristic patient safety that will be highlighted by relevant experts from across the world. The main purpose of this International Conference is to discuss how proactive practices and streamlined systems can improve patient safety. The multidisciplinary, invigorating learning sessions will involve participants from all areas of the healthcare continuum, including clinical and administrative leaders, practitioner, healthcare academics, regulators and care givers.

CLINOVATE will provide excellent opportunity to share views, exchange knowledge and establish research collaborations & networking across four main specialties i.e. Oncology, Women's Health, Laboratory Medicine and Cardiac Science.

## SAFE-A-THON

SAFE-A-THON, an initiative of IHD, goes beyond idea generation—it emphasizes problem identification, solution validation, and sustainable implementation, reinforcing Apollo's strong commitment to patient and staff safety.

The SAFE-A-THON Grand Finale held

on 30th January 2026, brought together the most impactful patient safety initiatives from across the organizations. This year witnessed an overwhelming response, with over 120 teams participating in SAFE-A-THON. After a rigorous evaluation process, 45+ high-performing teams were shortlisted for the Grand Finale, setting the stage for an intense and inspiring competition. The finalist teams presented validated, implementation-ready safety solutions addressing real-world challenges in healthcare delivery.

## Exhibition Hall as a Learning Hub



With over 160 product and service brands showcasing innovations shaping healthcare worldwide, the exhibition area became a vibrant interactive learning zone. Delegates actively engaged with exhibitors, explored cutting-edge solutions, and gained valuable insights into technologies and practices supporting patient safety, quality improvement, and operational efficiency.



## PAPER PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

The International Patient Safety Conference continues to recognize excellence in healthcare research and innovation through its Paper Presentation Competition. In 2026, Apollo Hospitals partnered with Elsevier as the Knowledge Partner, reinforcing the competition's scientific rigor and global credibility. Elsevier supported the evaluation process through a structured framework assessing Novelty, Relevance, Sustainability, Scalability, and Contribution to Patient Safety, ensuring fairness and depth in every review.

The themes this year spanned Emerging Trends in Patient Safety, Process Innovations and Outcome Improvement, Advancing Care with Technology, Building Greener, Smarter Hospitals and Patient Engagement and Enhancing Experience. *An overwhelming 250 papers and 100 posters were presented.*



## INSIGHTS: What to Look Forward To

**Day 2** promises to be as engaging and impactful as Day 1, offering another full day of learning, collaboration, and inspiration. The programme features thought-provoking sessions, insightful panel discussions, and interactive experiences designed to deepen understanding of patient safety, quality improvement, and healthcare innovation.

Delegates will have the opportunity to explore emerging technologies, evidence-based strategies, and global best practices shared by leading experts. Through active engagement in the International Patient Safety Conference (IPSC), Clinovate Conference, THIT, and HOPE Conference, participants can connect with peers, exchange perspectives, and identify actionable solutions to drive meaningful and sustainable impact within their organizations.

## Key Highlight Sessions Include: *Unscripted with Mr. Arnab Goswami*

Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Republic TV

Unscripted with Mr. Arnab Goswami, promises a candid and thought-provoking conversation with Ms. Shobana Kamineni, Executive Chairperson, Apollo Health Co. Ltd. and Apollo Pharmacies Ltd., and Dr. Sangita Reddy, JMD, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited.

This upcoming dialogue is expected to offer powerful perspectives on leadership, healthcare transformation, and the future of patient-centered care, drawing from the speakers' extensive experience in shaping healthcare at scale. Moderated by Mr. Arnab Goswami, the session is set to deliver sharp insights, engaging exchanges, and unfiltered reflections. Here's to another day of insight, innovation, and shared purpose!

