India Heals: Pharma, Healthcare Products & Services

Healthcare has become one of the largest economic sectors in India - both in terms of revenue and employment. The overall healthcare industry in India is valued over USD 110 billion, which is expected to reach USD 372 billion by 2022. The Indian medical devices, hospitals, and pharmaceutical industry have been increasingly playing an enhanced role in helping healthcare practitioners from across the world in providing better diagnosis and treatment to patients. The Indian industry is poised to grow significantly in the coming years and emerge as a cost-effective supplier to the global healthcare industry.

The Indian medical devices industry is a sunrise segment in the healthcare space. This industry is currently valued at around USD 10 billion and has been growing at a strong double-digit growth rate for past couple of years. It is strongly believed that growth will outperform the current pace, resulting in the Indian medical devices market reaching close to USD 25 billion by 2025. The industry has close to 1,800 domestic firms who are predominantly MSMEs, primarily competing in the range of low to medium-tech products. However, in recent years there has been a paradigm shift in the manufacturing landscape which have now expanded to produce more cost-effective and high-end products.

The country has already made a mark in pharmaceuticals with exports of pharmaceuticals being to the tune of USD 17.27 billion in 2017-18. The contribution of the Indian pharma industry to the global pharma industry has been 10 per cent in volume terms and 2.5 per cent in value terms. It is also one of the top 20 global generic companies from India. The component of surgicals has registered an impressive 11 per cent growth in exports during FY17-18.

The Indian systems of medicines AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) are among the most ancient systems of medical treatment of the world. The country has the largest number and best of doctors in the world. Medical tourism has been gaining momentum, with India providing international standard low-cost medical and healthcare, with no waiting period for various medical processes and unique services. The country targets 8 million medical tourists by 2020.

The Government of India has been proactive in boosting the Indian healthcare industry. One such step is the opening up of the sector to foreign investments with roll-out of positive foreign direct investment norms. Another step forward has been setting up of Medical Techno Parks with the purpose to reduce cost of production, as these parks will have in-house manufacturing units and facility for consolidated raw material procurement. The Indian Certification for Medical Devices (ICMED) Scheme was introduced to bring down the substantial time and cost required to obtain globally accepted quality certification for Indian companies. India has been growing as the key market for medical devices and diagnostics due to its acquired relative strengths in manufacturing and exports leading to improvement in product quality and price control, making healthcare more accessible and more affordable.
India: Hub for Production of Medical Devices

India has been growing as a key market for medical devices and diagnostics in recent times, it ranks fourth in terms of market in Asia and is worth over USD 12 billion at the retail level, growing at a rate of 15 per cent. India is known for its expertise in medical devices segments including capacity covers design, low cost disposables and consumables, electromechanical diagnostic and therapeutic devices as well as implantable devices like stents and active implantables including pacemakers. The country is in the process of building up expertise across segments like electronic, electronics, sourcing implantable grade materials, etc. of medical grade. This has been possible due to the country's state of the art ISO 13845 compliant in-house multi-disciplinary engineering and manufacturing infrastructure. Including mass aesthetics, polymer science, biomo mechanical, ultra welding, medical sealing.

For Compliance
The Indian medical devices sector has the required regulatory compliance expertise for medical devices manufacturing quality management systems, as has been proven by the recent release of the internationally acclaimed Indian Certification for Medical Devices (ICMED) voluntary Certification Scheme by Quality Council of India (QCI). This is important for such a high expertise sector, as India complies with international norms of quality check of medical devices. There has been great proliferation in multi-disciplinary R&D efforts and companies engineering capabilities in electronics, chip design, software mechanical and medical engineering.

India’s Healthcare: A hub of Medical Tourism

India has emerged as a major hub for world-class healthcare and wellness services. A combination of highly skilled and experienced doctors and advanced healthcare technologies, along with alternative healthcare services have made India a popular destination for medical tourism, increasing the number of tourists visiting India for medical purpose doubled in the last two years from 2.34 lakh to 4.96 lakh in 2017.

Popular Medical Treatments in India

The most demanded healthcare services worldwide include oncology, orthopedics, neurology, cardiology, ophthalmology, aesthetic surgery, fertility treatment, etc. India has emerged as one of the preferred destinations for the treatment of cancer and heart diseases. Presence of top oncologists and world-class hospitals making India a truly international and affordable treatment destination.