Best Hospital India â€“ Can We Count on Being Saved Yet?

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Even after half a century past independence, India continues to lag behind in healthcare services. The statistics is such that there is only one bed per 1000, where it should have been at least 300.India's hospital industry faces significant shortage of qualified manpower in all categories of doctors, nurses and paramedical staff. This is thought to be the single most important challenge that Indian hospital industry is facing right now.While there are 3,115 hospitals in Maharashtra and 2,040 in Kerala, states like Himachal Pradesh and Haryanahave only 57 and 78 respectively. This is due to the difference in the extent of private sector participation in the health sector, especially in states like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Kerala where 90% of all hospitals are owned privately.The past decade was marked by an explosion of private healthcare facilities in Indian cities.Some government-owned hospitals have improved owing to witnessing the success of private hospitals. The Indian healthcare industry is estimated to be close to Rs.100000 crore today and is expected to grow at a steady 15% annually.

Talking about the Best Hospitals India would be incomplete without listing out at least the top 10 hospitals in the country.As per the WEEK-IMRB International Survey held in India, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhitops the list and takes away the crown. This is followed by Apollo Hospitals, Delhi and Chennai.The Chennai-based Apollo Hospitals started off with the country's first corporate hospital service in the early '80s. Next in the list is NIMHANS, Bangalore, followed by Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore. The Post Graduate Institute, Chandigarh, TATA Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, Lilavati Hospital, Mumbai, Sankara Netralaya, Chennai and Bombay Hospital, Mumbai together make up the top 10 list.

There is a high cost associated with the latest technology that is being setup in Best Hospitals India. This will necessitate significant adaptations to these technologies in the context of Indian markets. Hospitals also face limitations due to significant bureaucratic hurdles in obtaining clearances for setting up new facilities.Some Governmental policies that hinder growth are lack of a consistent policy on accreditation of hospitals, low government budget allocation to healthcare industry, etc.Improved awareness of diseases and prevention, mandatory accreditation of hospitals, and provision of a grading mechanism to rank hospital facilities can lead to improved and more favorable healthcare services.

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