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08/08/2018

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Prevention is better than cure. Discuss in the light of India's healthcare landscape & also discuss how India can shift its focus from curative health care to preventive health care.

The main focus area of government in healthcare system is on preventive healthcare. Initiative like "Health for all" and "The National Health Assurance" has incorporated the need to preventive healthcare facilities. The government has announced a tax waiver of Rs. 5,000 on account of preventive health check-up. In India more than 90% of healthcare expenses are spent towards curing of disease and only less than 10% was spent on preventive health care.

To strengthen the preventive health care in India following measures can be taken.

1) Integrated preventive health care systems which will create awareness and allow detection and diagnosis of disease thus by keeping the individual informed.

2) Government should make routine health check-up mandatory from the age of 25. This would reduce the government spending on curative health care spending.

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3) Health education dealing with health promotion, prevention of disease through awareness and information of availability of treatment must also be made available to the public.

4) India's disease profile is majorly made of Non-Communicable disease. These diseases ~~can~~ are preventable. They are manageable if they are detected early which is possible only with regular health check-up.

5) AI and Big data can be a game changer in respect of Preventive healthcare.

The government, Medical professionals and the Industries need to work in coordination to change the health status of the country.

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