

2025 IGHC REPORT



"Indo-German Healthcare Congress: Bridging Borders for Collaborative Innovation"

NOTICE

The Indo-German Healthcare Congress, held from July 17-19, 2025, in Berlin, Germany, was a landmark event that brought together senior diplomats, thought leaders, researchers, clinicians, and policy experts from India and Germany. The congress aimed to foster collaboration between the two countries in the healthcare sector, focusing on key areas such as:

- **Skilled Migration in Healthcare:** Exploring bilateral pathways for structured, ethical, and knowledge-based migration.
- **Digitalization of Healthcare Systems:** Discussing innovations in digital health, AI-based triaging, and predictive analytics.
- **AI in Healthcare:** Highlighting cutting-edge applications in radiology, pathology, and intensive care.
- **Pandemic Intelligence:** Sharing insights from the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence on global surveillance and response coordination.
- **Women in Health & Women's Health:** Stressing the intersectionality of gender, health, and climate resilience.
- **Role of Traditional Medicine:** Examining the integration of Ayurveda and other traditional Indian systems of medicine in global health strategies.

The event started at the Embassy of India in Berlin, setting a dignified and high-level tone for the congress.

Senior diplomats, leaders from the medical fraternity, policymakers, and industry stakeholders graced the occasion, followed by sessions at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, and WHO Global Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, Berlin one of Europe's largest and most renowned medical facility and research center.

The congress provided a platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and exploring collaborative opportunities between India and Germany in addressing healthcare challenges.

The opening ceremony took place at the Embassy of India in Berlin, marking the congress with a distinguished and prestigious start. The event was attended by senior diplomats, prominent medical experts, policymakers, and key representatives from the industry.

The discussion emphasized mutual recognition of qualifications, language training, regulatory frameworks, and cultural competence as essential enablers of healthcare workforce integration.

With 150+ guests from across the healthcare, academic, and policy ecosystem, this session laid the foundation for strengthening bilateral pathways in workforce mobility. The evening networking reception at the Embassy fostered meaningful dialogue among stakeholders, reinforcing IGHC as a knowledge-sharing and relationship-building platform.

01

Address by Mr. Thomas Heim

Senior Policy Adviser - Migration

Agreements, strategic aspects on recruitment of skilled labour from non-EU countries, Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS)



Mr. Thomas Heim, Senior Policy Adviser for Migration Agreements, addressed the Embassy of India in Berlin on skilled labour recruitment from non-EU countries. He highlighted the role of migration agreements in strengthening international cooperation and addressing workforce needs. The discussion focused on the strategic aspects of recruiting skilled labour, emphasizing the importance of global partnerships in meeting workforce demands.

02

Address by Mr. Henning Haab

Senior Policy Adviser - Skilled Migration,
Federal Ministry for Health (BMG)



During his address he highlighted several key measures being undertaken by Germany to attract and retain healthcare professionals:

- **Skilled Immigration Act (Fachkräfteeinwanderungsgesetz):** Germany has simplified access for non-EU skilled workers through reduced requirements for the EU Blue Card, the introduction of an “Opportunity Card” to allow job-seeking stays, and faster recognition of foreign qualifications.
- **Streamlined Visa and Qualification Processes:** Fast-track visa mechanisms for nurses and healthcare professionals, along with fast-tracked equivalency assessments and language support, are easing deployment and integration.
- **Bilateral Recruitment and Labor Agreements:** Germany is forging structured agreements with countries like India, Philippines, Morocco, and Kenya to ensure coordinated and ethical recruitment. These include language training and professional transition support.
- **Addressing Workforce Shortages:** Germany faces a pressing demand—estimated 150,000 additional nurses needed by 2025—and is heavily reliant on foreign doctors, who already comprise over 12% of the medical workforce.

Mr. Haab emphasized that these reforms extend beyond crisis response—they represent a strategic shift toward becoming a more welcoming destination for global healthcare talent. By modernizing its policy landscape and reinforcing mutual pathways, Germany envisions a sustainable, culturally sensitive, and future-facing approach to skilled migration.

03

Address by Dr. Maximilian Von Laer

Co-Chair, Indo-German Young Leaders Forum (IGYLF)



Dr. Maximilian von Laer, Co-Chair of the Indo-German Young Leaders Forum, delivered a thoughtful and visionary address underscoring the critical need to bridge borders and foster skilled migration in the healthcare sector between India and Germany.

Drawing on the shared challenges and opportunities faced by both countries, he emphasized that the movement of knowledge, talent, and expertise across nations is not only a necessity but also a catalyst for innovation and resilience in healthcare systems.

He stressed the importance of sustained international dialogue and collaboration in shaping the future of healthcare, where global partnerships can lead to more equitable access, stronger institutions, and lasting impact.

Highlighting good governance as a cornerstone of progress, Dr. von Laer noted that mutual trust, transparency, and cooperation must guide joint efforts. Through the Indo-German Young Leaders Forum, he reaffirmed the commitment to strengthening the Indo-German partnership, ensuring that both nations work hand in hand toward building a healthier, more sustainable, and inclusive future.

04

Panel Discussion

India and Germany: Joining Hands for Skilled Migration in Healthcare Sector

The keynote panel, “India & Germany: Bridging Borders for Skilled Migration in Healthcare Sector”, addressed one of the most pressing global needs: creating structured, ethical, and sustainable pathways for healthcare migration.

Moderated by **Dr. Dinesh Antil**, First Secretary, Embassy of India, Berlin, the discussion featured:

- **Mr. R.A. Marc Schreiner**, CEO of Berlin Hospital Federation
- **Mr. Avinav Nigam**, CEO, Tern Group
- **Ms. Pia Turk**, Deputy Team Leader, Integration Department for Nursing, Charité
- **Dr. Vishnu Ramdeo**, Co-Chair, Indo-German Young Leaders Forum (IGYLF)



The keynote panel brought together every critical pillar of the healthcare ecosystem, making it a “one-stop platform” for dialogue on skilled migration. With hospitals represented by Mr. Marc Schreiner voicing their operational realities, migration process expertise shared by Mr. Avinav Nigam, the frontline perspective on nursing integration detailed by Ms. Pia Turk, and the civil society role in uniting stakeholders emphasized by Dr. Vishnu Ramdeo, the discussion reflected a holistic approach.

Together, the panel underscored how India and Germany can co-develop structured, ethical, and sustainable pathways for healthcare migration—bridging institutional needs, professional capacities, and societal collaboration into a shared vision for the future.

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As a concluding note, the panel underscored that bridging borders for skilled healthcare migration requires a holistic, all-stakeholder approach. From the perspective of hospitals and healthcare providers ensuring capacity, to entrepreneurs identifying process gaps, to nursing leaders fostering cultural sensitivity and integration, and civil society platforms like IGYLF facilitating dialogue and trust—each actor plays a critical role. The session reinforced that India and Germany, by working together across these dimensions, can not only address immediate workforce needs but also set an international benchmark for structured, ethical, and sustainable healthcare migration models.

05

Glimpses

Day 1 - Indo-German Healthcare Congress, Berlin 2025



DAY 2

The second day unfolded at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Berlin, with back-to-back sessions, roundtables, and keynote addresses. It proved to be the most knowledge-intensive day of the congress.

Highlights included:

- India's Bio-Renaissance: Rise of Entrepreneurial Spirit for Global Health & Equity – explored India's surge in health-tech startups, biopharma innovation, and the role of young entrepreneurs in building global health equity.
- Digitalization of Hospitals and AI in Healthcare – showcased AI-driven clinical decision-making tools, predictive analytics, triage systems, and ICU dashboards, with real-world use cases in India and Germany.
- WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, Berlin – offered insights into global outbreak surveillance, early detection mechanisms, and data collaboration.
- Panel on Ayurveda and Alternative Medicine – with contributions from Indian and German experts, discussing the future of integrative approaches, post-pandemic strategies, and bridging data privacy challenges in global collaboration.

This day also marked the formal signing of the MoU on fellowship collaboration, in presence of eminent dignitaries, including Dr. Gunther Jonitz, Christian Echle, Dr. Maximilian von Laer, Dr. Julia Fitzner (WHO), representatives from Bayer AG, Siemens Healthineers, Zühlke Group, and Indo-German Healthcare Congress Board Members.

The MoU laid the foundation for a new fellowship program under IGHC, advancing Indo-German healthcare leadership training, entrepreneurship, and policy exchange.



The day began with a warm welcome from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Berlin, setting the stage for an intensive series of sessions. The welcome note highlighted KAS's long-standing commitment to fostering Indo-German collaboration, particularly in policy, governance, and innovation-driven sectors such as healthcare.

By hosting the second day of the Congress, KAS reinforced its role as a bridge between Europe and Asia in shaping global conversations on health, digitalization, and sustainable growth.

Mr. Christian Echle - Director – Asia & Pacific Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - Welcome Note:

The welcome note by Mr. Echle highlighted the importance of global health cooperation and set the stage for the conference. It emphasized the foundation's commitment to promoting democracy, rule of law, and the social market economy, noting that these values were essential for advancing global health equity.

The note also underscored the role of institutions like KAS in providing platforms that bring together diverse stakeholders, including policymakers, healthcare innovators, entrepreneurs, and academics. Participants were reminded that solutions to pressing global challenges—such as equitable healthcare access and digital transformation—could only emerge through cross-border dialogue and partnership.

Prof. Dr. Guenther Jonitz, IGHC - Inaugural Address:

Prof. Guenther Jonitz, MD PhD, President emeritus of the Berlin Chamber of Physicians and Medical School Berlin, delivered the welcome address. He emphasized that healthcare is more than medicine—it represents humanity, solidarity, and the values of society itself. He highlighted how motivated healthcare professionals not only provide the best care but also serve as vital resources and role models.

Prof. Jonitz further noted that health is also a major economic sector, involving significant global investments and exchanges of products, attracting strong interest from economists as well. Reflecting on India and Germany's shared values—curiosity, tradition, humanity, accountability, and discipline—he underscored their deep cultural histories and social diversity. With these foundations, he called for greater cooperation between the two nations, not only in product exchange but also in human resources and innovative care solutions, extending an invitation to all to help shape a healthier future.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Exchange with Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Rajasthan Ayurved University

A milestone of the day was the formal exchange of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IGYLF and Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Rajasthan Ayurved University. This MoU represents a pioneering effort to integrate Ayurveda and traditional medicine into Indo-German healthcare collaboration, fostering new fellowship opportunities, research initiatives, and exchange programs.

The collaboration is expected to create a framework for evidence-based studies in Ayurveda, encourage cross-border knowledge sharing, and build future leaders trained in both modern and traditional systems of medicine.

It symbolized a major step toward holistic healthcare, ensuring that ancient wisdom is given its due place alongside cutting-edge scientific innovation.





Dr. Satya Prakash Dash, Former & Founding Head Strategy DBT-BIRAC, Bigtec, BFI, and DoTo- India's Bio-Renaissance: Rise of Entrepreneurial Spirit for Global Health & Equity:

Dr. Satya Prakash Dash spoke about India's rapidly growing biotech and health-tech ecosystem, coining it as a "Bio-Renaissance." Drawing from his experience at DBT-BIRAC and as a strategy leader, he showcased how Indian startups are reshaping global health through affordable innovation in diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines. His talk emphasized that India is no longer just a manufacturing hub, but also a creator of disruptive ideas with far-reaching global equity implications.

Dr. Dash also underlined the role of young entrepreneurs in translating research into scalable, market-ready solutions that address healthcare gaps both in India and abroad. His presentation offered optimism that with the right policy and ecosystem support, India could emerge as a global leader in biotech innovation—offering lessons for Germany and other countries seeking sustainable and inclusive health models.



Michael Hübner, Manager Innovations and Digitalization, Sana Klinik, Berlin : Digitalization of Hospitals in Germany & Collaboration Opportunities for Startups

Michael Hübner provided a comprehensive overview of Germany's hospital digitalization journey, detailing the progress and challenges of integrating AI, data platforms, and interoperable health records. He explained how digital tools are streamlining patient care, from predictive analytics in ICUs to real-time dashboards for clinicians. His insights demonstrated how Germany is building smarter hospitals while maintaining a strong focus on patient safety and data privacy.

Hübner also highlighted opportunities for collaboration with Indian startups, particularly in areas like AI-powered triage systems, cost-effective hospital management tools, and remote diagnostics. By drawing parallels between India's agile startup culture and Germany's structured healthcare ecosystem, he showcased the potential of Indo-German synergies to create scalable, patient-centered healthcare solutions.



Dr. Julia Fitzner, Unit Head for Insights and Analytics WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence WHO - Data to Decisions - In Public Health Emergencies - Need and Ways for Collaboration

Dr. Julia Fitzner's address offered participants a rare inside look into the WHO Hub's critical work in pandemic preparedness and epidemic intelligence. She emphasized the need for robust global data-sharing mechanisms, early-warning systems, and cross-border cooperation to detect and mitigate outbreaks. Her talk provided a timely reminder that lessons from COVID-19 must translate into sustainable strategies for future crises.

She stressed that transforming data into actionable insights requires not just technology, but also trust, governance, and partnerships. India and Germany, with their strong IT and healthcare infrastructures, were called upon to collaborate in advancing predictive modeling and real-time epidemic tracking—ensuring that no future health emergency catches the world unprepared.

Panel Discussion

AI in Healthcare: Innovation, Integration & Impact



The concluding panel of the day, chaired by Dr. Jubin Shah, brought together experts from Bayer AG, Zühlke Group, Siemens Healthineers, and Techniker Krankenkasse. Discussions revolved around the transformative potential of AI in clinical imaging, patient engagement, and operational efficiency. Panelists shared real-world applications ranging from advanced imaging solutions to AI-driven health insurance models, offering a glimpse of the rapidly changing healthcare landscape.

What stood out was the consensus that while AI can enhance accuracy, reduce costs, and expand access, it must be integrated responsibly—with safeguards for privacy, transparency, and equity. The Indo-German dialogue here opened pathways for collaborative pilots and joint ventures, ensuring that AI in healthcare evolves as a force for good, accessible to all.

- Dr. Mark Klemens (Bayer AG): “AI in imaging is not just about faster diagnosis, it’s about precision that saves lives.”
- Dr. Angeli Moeller (Zühlke Group): “Innovation in AI must balance technology with ethics to truly transform patient care.”
- Dr. Ankit Singh (Siemens Healthineers): “Connectivity and smart services are the backbone of scaling AI across global healthcare systems.”
- Ms. Melanie McElroy (Techniker Krankenkasse): “For patients, AI must mean accessible, affordable, and trusted healthcare solutions.”
- Dr. Jubin Shah (Moderator): “The future of AI in healthcare lies at the intersection of innovation, integration, and impact.”

Visit WHO Global Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, Berlin



The visit to the WHO Global Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin provided valuable insights into the organization's ongoing efforts to strengthen global preparedness and response mechanisms.

Discussions centered around how the Hub is leveraging advanced data analytics, digital tools, and real-time intelligence to track epidemics and pandemics worldwide. Emphasis was placed on the importance of cross-country communication, transparent information sharing, and coordinated action to ensure that responses to health crises are timely, ethical, and effective.



Ms. Melanie McElroy, Business Customer Consultant at Techniker Krankenkasse Health Insurance

Ms. Melanie McElroy, Business Customer Consultant at Techniker Krankenkasse Health Insurance, embarked on a comprehensive itinerary that featured significant engagements with leading global health and governance institutions.

Her talk was thoughtfully curated to highlight the expanding role of health insurance providers in ensuring equitable access to care, particularly for immigrant populations who often face systemic barriers. She further emphasized how the integration of AI-driven tools in state insurance systems can streamline processes, improve risk assessment, and enhance patient support.

Each engagement throughout the day underscored the potential of technology and inclusive policies to make healthcare coverage more accessible and efficient, reinforcing the role of insurance organizations as critical enablers of fair and future-ready health ecosystems.

Glimpses

Day 2 - Indo-German Healthcare Congress, Berlin 2025



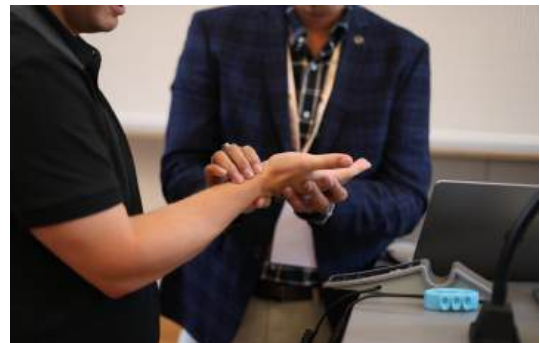
The final day of the congress was hosted at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious university hospitals, renowned for its pioneering role in research, education, and clinical practice.

As a leading center for innovation in medicine, Charité provided the ideal setting for a day dedicated to addressing practical healthcare challenges, fostering Indo-German collaboration, and exploring the integration of traditional and modern medical systems.

The day's program featured a diverse mix of keynote talks, panel discussions, and interactive demonstrations, covering critical themes such as multi-language patient communication in the digital era, gender-sensitive healthcare systems under climate stress, precision nutrition, and strategies to promote women's leadership in healthcare.

Another central focus was the post-pandemic role of Ayurveda, where Indian and German experts reflected on integrative approaches to global health, chronic disease management, and resilience building. Delegates also participated in on-site exposure visits to Charité's cutting-edge digital health infrastructure, gaining first-hand insights into how technology, data-driven platforms, and interdisciplinary practices are shaping the future of patient care.

The exchanges at Charité not only highlighted the importance of combining cultural wisdom with medical innovation but also underlined how Indo-German partnerships can serve as a model for addressing global health challenges in an inclusive and sustainable way.



DAY 3

01

Session: Multi-language Patient Communication in a Digital Age — Dr. Paul Rostin



Dr. Paul Rostin opened the day with an insightful exploration into the evolving role of language and communication in digital healthcare ecosystems. He emphasized how podcasts, digital media platforms, and innovative communication tools can serve as powerful instruments for bridging linguistic and cultural gaps between patients and healthcare providers. With healthcare increasingly relying on telemedicine and remote consultations, Dr. Rostin pointed out that language barriers can no longer be treated as secondary issues, as they directly affect patient outcomes, trust, and adherence to treatment. He presented case examples of how multilingual podcasts and accessible media formats are already being used to reach migrant communities, raise health awareness, and improve digital health literacy.

The session shed light on how Germany, with its rising number of migrant populations, and India, with its vast linguistic diversity, share parallel challenges that demand scalable, innovative solutions. Discussions highlighted the promise of real-time interpretation services, multilingual chatbots, and digital storytelling formats as cost-effective and scalable methods for inclusive healthcare delivery. Dr. Rostin concluded by stressing that empathetic, culturally sensitive, and accessible communication is not only a technological priority but also a moral imperative in building truly patient-centered healthcare systems in today's interconnected world.

DAY 3

02

Women's Health and Women in Health



Moderated by **Dr. Tina Ghelani**, this panel featured three impactful presentations:

- **Dr. Dorothea Portorius** on "Precision Nutrition in Women's Health: Data-Driven Strategies for Hormonal Optimization and Menopause Care" explored how tailored nutritional interventions can improve health outcomes during life transitions like menopause.
- **Prof. Dr. Varsha Tanu** addressed "Health Challenges of Vulnerable Women" and strategies to build climate-resilient systems for marginalized communities.
- **Dr. Tharshika Thavayogarajah** presented on "Enhancing Women in Leadership Roles in Healthcare," advocating for equitable representation and tailored support to foster female leadership in the sector.

These discussions collectively emphasized that women are not just recipients of care, but also essential designers and policymakers in healthcare systems—especially in the face of global stressors like climate change. For instance, recent data shows over 70% of healthcare professionals are women, yet leadership positions remain male-dominated.

The panel highlighted initiatives like Women in Global Health Germany, rooted in Charité, as critical platforms to close this leadership gap.



Dr. Dorothea Portorius - "Precision Nutrition in Women's Health: Data-Driven Strategies for Hormonal Optimization and Menopause Care"

Dr. Portorius highlighted how nutrition science, when combined with modern data-driven approaches, can transform women's health outcomes during critical life stages such as menopause. She emphasized that hormonal fluctuations during perimenopause and menopause often remain undertreated, despite significantly impacting quality of life.

Through tailored dietary interventions, including micronutrient optimization and evidence-based supplementation, women can experience improvements in metabolic balance, cardiovascular health, and emotional well-being. Dr. Portorius also discussed how personalized nutrition, informed by biomarkers and digital health monitoring, can support precision healthcare models—offering women individualized strategies rather than one-size-fits-all advice. Her session underscored the need to integrate nutritional sciences into mainstream gynecological and primary care pathways for holistic women's health.



Prof. Dr. Varsha Tanu, Associate Professor, IIHMR University - Issues and challenges of women's health from vulnerable communities - Promoting Holistic Healthcare Strategies to Strengthen Climate Resilient Health Systems for Women and Marginalised Communities

Dr. Varsha Tanu delivered a talk on Promoting Holistic Healthcare Strategies to Strengthen Climate-Resilient Healthcare for Women and Marginalised Communities: Insights from Intervention Research in Rajasthan, India. Drawing from ongoing research in tribal and remote regions of Rajasthan, she highlighted how climate change disproportionately impacts women and marginalised groups, exacerbating vulnerabilities related to poverty, nutrition, and access to healthcare.

She emphasized the importance of leveraging traditional ecological knowledge, strengthening primary healthcare systems, and adopting gender-sensitive approaches to resilience-building. She outlined key strategies, including multi-sectoral collaboration across health, nutrition, environment, and livelihoods, alongside policy recommendations such as integrating climate risk assessments, prioritising women's health, and investing in community-led adaptive solutions. Her talk underscored the urgency of equity-focused and holistic interventions while advocating for stronger global and South-South partnerships to foster sustainable, climate-resilient healthcare systems.



Dr. Tharshika Thavayogarajah, Medical Doctor, Scientist, and Entrepreneur- "What can Germany and India do to get more women in leadership roles in healthcare?"

Dr. Thavayogarajah brought a deeply personal dimension to the discussion on women's leadership in healthcare. She began by sharing experiences from her own career journey, acknowledging the systemic barriers that women often face in advancing to senior roles.

She addressed the Women in Leadership Positions and the systemic barriers that continue to hinder women's advancement in medicine and healthcare leadership. Beginning with Marie Curie's quote on perseverance, the speaker illustrated how, despite women making up 60% of graduating medical students for more than 20 years, they represent only about 10% of clinical directors at university hospitals in Germany.

She noted that the first female director of a University Hospital Department of Hematology was appointed only in 2017, and currently no woman holds such a position. Surveys further reveal that many women do not even aspire to careers in medicine or academia due to lack of structural support and mentorship, while those who do often face invisible barriers. The talk emphasized that increasing women in leadership is not only about fairness, but also improves patient outcomes, hospital survival rates, and revenues, underscoring the urgent need for active support at every stage.

DAY 3

03

Featuring Nari Tarangini - Dr. Aniruddha Joshi, Founder and CEO Atreya Innovations Private Limited



Dr. Aniruddha Joshi presented a live demonstration of the Nadi Tarangini—an innovative AI-powered Ayurvedic pulse diagnostic device. Developed in Pune by Atreya Innovations, this device combines ultra-sensitive piezoelectric sensors with advanced machine learning algorithms to mimic the tactile expertise of traditional Ayurvedic pulse reading. In real time, Dr. Joshi walked attendees through the device's operation: three fingertip-like sensors capturing pulse waveforms that are digitally analyzed to generate a comprehensive, 22-parameter health report. This report, available in ten Indian languages, includes personalized insights into Tridosha balance (Vata, Pitta, Kapha), stress levels, digestion, and overall wellness. The audience was particularly impressed by the device's accuracy—validated at approximately 85% over 25,000 patient tests—and its potential to bring measurable rigor to age-old health practices.

Dr. Joshi took the demonstration further by highlighting how Nadi Tarangini bridges South Asian traditional knowledge systems with global healthcare standards. He underscored that—backed by patents across India, the US, Europe, and Indonesia, and approved by India's Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)—the device offers a scalable solution for standardizing Ayurvedic diagnostics across clinics and health systems. With over 1,250 clinics already using it and more than 500,000 patients assessed, the device represents a credible model of innovation that anchors heritage in empirical science. Dr. Joshi's presentation was a powerful reminder that when thoughtfully integrated, tradition and technology can collaboratively redefine wellness—bringing ancient wisdom into evidence-based, patient-centered care for modern times.

DAY 3

04

Experience Sharing by Dr. Garbe, Dr. Srivastava, and Dr. Saldanha



Moderated by Dr. Partha Dabke, this reflective session featured candid insights from participants Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Dr. Oliver Lester Saldanha, and Dr. Christian Garbe—each drawing from their respective expertise in public health strategy, data ethics, and integrative medicine. The trio shared success stories, challenges faced, and actionable ideas, reinforcing the importance of interdisciplinary dialogue in Indo-German partnerships.

The subsequent segment highlighted the interdisciplinary theme of blending traditional knowledge with modern health frameworks:

- **Dr. Christian Garbe** discussed "Challenges and Road Ahead in Indo-German Ayurveda Collaborations", stressing scientific validation, regulatory alignment, and opportunities in personalized wellness markets.
- **Dr. Sanjay Srivastava** spoke on the "Post-Pandemic Role of Ayurveda", detailing how global interest in Ayurveda for managing chronic conditions and wellness is growing—especially when supported by rigorous standardization.
- **Dr. Oliver Lester Saldanha** introduced "Swarm Learning" as a privacy-preserving way to share healthcare data across borders without centralizing sensitive information—a model particularly relevant for collaborative AI-powered research.

Together, these talks underscored a critical message: modern healthcare innovation isn't mutually exclusive from traditional wisdom—when done responsibly and collaboratively.



Dr. Christian Garbe - "India and German Collaboration of Ayurveda and alternative medicine - challenges and road ahead"

Dr. Garbe reflected on the evolving Indo-German collaboration in Ayurveda and alternative medicine, emphasizing both its immense promise and the hurdles that lie ahead. He spoke about the increasing global acceptance of Ayurveda as a preventive and wellness-focused system, but also noted that scientific validation, harmonization of quality standards, and regulatory frameworks remain pressing challenges. Drawing from his own experiences in bridging research and industry, Dr. Garbe underlined the importance of creating sustainable platforms where traditional Indian practices can be tested, adapted, and integrated into global health ecosystems.

He stressed that India and Germany, by combining India's depth of traditional knowledge with Germany's rigor in scientific validation, have the opportunity to lead a global transformation in evidence-based alternative medicine.



Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Associate Professor, Ayurved University -Post-Pandemic Preparedness and the Role of Ayurveda: Reflections from India's Public Health Strategy

Speaking from his vantage point at Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Rajasthan Ayurved University, Dr. Srivastava highlighted how the COVID-19 pandemic reignited global conversations around Ayurveda's role in health resilience and chronic disease management. He reflected on India's experience where Ayurvedic principles were integrated alongside allopathic measures during the crisis, not as a replacement but as complementary support for boosting immunity and community well-being.

He emphasized that the post-pandemic era offers a unique moment to institutionalize Ayurveda into mainstream public health strategies—with due attention to quality, standardization, and robust clinical evidence. Dr. Srivastava noted that if harnessed responsibly, Ayurveda could serve as both a domestic safeguard and a global contribution to preventive healthcare in times of uncertainty.



Dr. Oliver Lester Saldanha, Researcher TU Dresden and Uniklinik Heidelberg- Warm Learning: Bridging the Gap Between Data Sharing and Privacy

Dr. Saldanha introduced his innovative concept of Warm Learning as a response to one of the most pressing dilemmas in modern healthcare: how to share sensitive patient data across borders without compromising privacy.

Drawing on his work at the intersection of AI and health systems, he explained how Warm Learning allows institutions in different countries to collaborate on training machine learning models, without the need to centralize raw data. He emphasized that this approach is especially relevant for Ayurveda and global alternative medicine collaborations, where research spans diverse populations and jurisdictions.

By enabling secure, distributed learning, Warm Learning provides a pathway for integrating traditional health knowledge with modern AI-driven insights—while ensuring compliance with data protection standards like GDPR. Dr. Saldanha's reflections made clear that privacy-conscious innovation will be the backbone of all future Indo-German healthcare collaborations.

Final Reflections & Takeaways – Indo-German Healthcare Congress 2025

The Indo-German Healthcare Congress 2025 concluded with resounding clarity: healthcare collaboration between India and Germany is no longer a matter of intent but of shared responsibility.

The Congress opened on 17 July 2025 with an invite-only inaugural at the Embassy of India, Berlin, co-hosted by IGYLF and the Embassy. The evening featured a keynote and the flagship panel, “India & Germany: Bridging Borders for Skilled Migration in the Healthcare Sector,” bringing together senior diplomats, hospital leaders, insurers, executives, academics, and civil society. A networking reception enabled focused bilateral conversations on skilled migration pathways, governance, and implementation.

IGHC 2025 translated bilateral intent into actionable pathways—linking ministries, hospitals, universities, industry, and civil society—starting with the Embassy launch and continuing through technical sessions and site engagements. The platform now positions both countries to co-develop resilient, equitable, and future-ready health systems.

The deliberations underscored four strategic priorities:

1. Intersection of Technology and Compassionate Care:

From AI-driven nutrition solutions to privacy-preserving frameworks for medical data, the discussions emphasized that digital innovation must remain anchored in empathy and inclusivity. This aligns with bilateral priorities set during the latest Intergovernmental Consultations, where both governments recognized the urgency of addressing workforce shortages and strengthening health resilience through digital transformation.

2. Leadership and Inclusivity:

Strengthening the role of women in global health leadership was a recurring theme. The Congress echoed Germany’s emphasis on inclusivity in healthcare reforms and India’s recognition of community-based leadership within its public health strategy. Stakeholders agreed that empowering female professionals across the value chain—from nurses and caregivers to policymakers—is critical to sustainable health systems.

3. Blending Tradition with Innovation:

Ayurveda and other evidence-based traditional practices were discussed as complementary to modern healthcare frameworks. In line with India and Germany’s joint commitment to explore alternative and integrative medicine, the Congress reinforced the need for scientific validation, ethical regulation, and equitable market access.

4. Empowering Through Digital Tools:

Demonstrations such as Nari Tarangini showed how culturally adapted, community-oriented digital tools can bridge systemic gaps in primary healthcare delivery. Such models reflect bilateral intent, highlighted during the IGC, to jointly address rural-urban health divides and to equip the healthcare workforce with scalable, tech-enabled solutions.

Overall, the Indo-German Healthcare Congress 2025 translated policy commitments from the **Intergovernmental Consultations** into actionable pathways—engaging academia, research institutions, hospitals, industry leaders, and civil society. The outcomes set the stage for India and Germany to co-develop resilient, equitable, and future-ready healthcare systems.

Aligned with recent India–Germany governmental priorities—workforce mobility, health system resilience, and innovation—IGHC brought hospitals, academia, industry, and civil society into one room, starting at the Embassy and continuing through expert sessions and on-site exposure.

The result: a clear pathway to collaboration that is practical, ethical, and scalable.

NOTES
ON
THE
CONGRESS

DELEGATES IGHC 2025



Prof. Dr. Varsha Tanu

Dr. Varsha Tanu is an Associate Professor at IIHMR University, Jaipur. With over 19 years of professional experience across multiple sectors, she leverages her expertise in academics, research, and implementation.



Prof. Dr. Sanjay Srivastava

Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Associate Professor of Shalya Tantra and Deputy Medical Superintendent at Rajasthan Ayurved University, specializes in public health and integrative wellness. His research explores Ayurvedic principles in pandemic preparedness and holistic health, with published work on wound care, and he actively develops initiatives that enhance community health resilience.



Deepak Sangroha

Deepak Sangroha serves as the Head of IT at Data4Life, a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering medical researchers to create a healthier world. In this role, Deepak plays a crucial part in leveraging technology to support the mission of Data4Life.



Aoife Gahlawat

Aoife Gahlawat is a dedicated and passionate researcher specializing in liquid biopsy for cancer diagnosis and prognosis. With over 15 years of experience in both academic and industrial settings, she brings a unique perspective to translating basic research into practical applications. As a Team Leader at the German Cancer Research Centre (DKFZ) and National Centre for Tumor Diseases (NCT) Heidelberg, Aoife focuses on translational oncology and liquid biopsy research, developing advanced technologies like CyTOF.



Dr. Rutvik Raval

Dr. Rutvik Raval is a multifaceted medical professional with a strong foundation in both clinical medicine and digital marketing. A medical graduate from B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad (Class of 2023), Dr. Raval is pursuing a career in Internal Medicine and is actively preparing for the 2025 residency match.



Harpreet Singh

Harpreet Singh is a Project Research Scientist-II (Non-Medical) at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, India. He is currently working on an Indian Council of Medical Research-funded project titled "Effect On Preoxygenation Using an Indigenously Developed HFNC Device," which aims to improve patient safety and expand access to advanced respiratory care in resource-limited settings.



Dr. Nikhil Mamoria

Dr. Nikhil Mamoria is a dynamic and pioneering physician-turned-entrepreneur with a proven track record in developing innovative surgical devices for Minimally Invasive Surgeries. As the Director and CEO of Denovo Bioinnovations, he leverages his unique blend of medical expertise, leadership, and business acumen to drive healthcare innovation.



Aniruddha Joshi

Aniruddha Joshi is the Founder and CEO of Atreya Innovations Private Limited. With a vision of creating the world's most personalized, predictive, and non-invasive health monitor based on data science-driven Ayurveda, he leads the company towards revolutionizing healthcare through innovative technology.



Shruti Kulkarni

Shruti Kulkarni is a Clinical Nutritionist, Certified Diabetes Educator, and Wellness Mentor with over 17 years of experience. She strives to transform health by blending precision and passion, integrating modern science with timeless wisdom to redefine wellness.



Esther Anna Watorowski

Esther Anna Watorowski is an attorney admitted to the German bar with over 10 years of experience in litigation. Based in Berlin, she runs her own practice focusing on IT, AI, and Employment Law. Esther is committed to harnessing AI innovation for societal value, particularly in healthcare, education, and HR.



Ronald Reschke

Ronald Reschke is the Managing Director of a company focused on empowering skilled medical professionals to migrate to Germany. Specifically, he is involved with medicruiter, a platform that combines recruiting, training, and integration support for medical professionals aiming to work in Germany.



Sanchit Rathie

Sanchit Rathie is an IT Project Manager at Adastra, leveraging a robust background in Agile project management and data analysis. As a Project Manager and Scrum Master, he focuses on fostering team coordination, optimizing project workflows, and driving strategic value through data-driven decision-making.



Dr. Oliver Lester Saldanha

Dr. Oliver Lester Saldanha is a researcher affiliated with Technical Hospital Dresden and Uniklinik Heidelberg. His interests lie in medical AI, surgical data science, and clinical informatics. As a team lead, he is actively involved in interdisciplinary projects.



Sujay Divakar Bhat

Sujay Divakar Bhat is a professional with key roles in the wellness and pharmaceutical sectors. He is a Partner at Soulherbs Wellness LLP and serves as a Business Development Manager at Srushti Herbal Pharma, Bangalore. Srushti Herbal Pharma manufactures and markets Ayurvedic medicines, dietary supplements, and cosmetic products.



Arushi Gupta

Arushi is a professional in Business Development with a PhD in Biology. She combines deep scientific expertise with a strong strategic and commercial mindset.



Tony Siewert

Tony Siewert is a Senior Consultant in Data Analytics. He is a data specialist with expertise in designing, building, and managing the full data lifecycle. This includes working with cloud infrastructure like Azure, AWS, GCP, data pipelines using Databricks and dbt, advanced AI applications like RAG, and impactful visualizations via Tableau and Power BI.



Mariam Saleh

Mariam Saleh is the Head of Client Partnerships for Care Homes at Tern Deutschland GmbH. In this role, she supports care facilities and nursing homes in the DACH region (Germany, Austria, Switzerland) in integrating international nursing professionals into their teams.



Zaki Amawi

Zaki Amawi is the Head of Sales at Tern Deutschland GmbH. In this role, he supports hospitals across the DACH region (Germany, Austria, Switzerland) in successfully, fairly, and humanely integrating international nursing professionals into their teams.



Chaithra Anoop

Chaithra Anoop is a Registered Nurse with a Master's degree in Nursing and over 10 years of experience in patient care and teaching. She is dedicated to advancing best practices in healthcare, mentoring future nursing professionals, and promoting holistic patient well-being.



Michael Mross

Michael Mross, a health economist from Bayreuth, co-founded Gesunder Betrieb during his studies to improve workplace health. A major milestone was the company's founding in 2013, followed by steady growth and the merger with Hansfit and Epassi in 2024. His work centers on customer needs, innovation, and pragmatic solutions. Beyond workplace health, he is interested in healthcare's economic and political aspects and has recently combined his professional work with his passion for India.



Priyadarshini B O

Priyadarshini B. O is a Registered Nurse with Tern, where she supports patient care and clinical coordination. Dedicated to compassionate healthcare, she is committed to advancing best practices in nursing and promoting patient well-being, with a keen interest in community health and patient education.



Deepesh Piliwal

Deepesh Piliwal is a Nursing Officer at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. As a Graduate Registered Nurse, he has been working at AIIMS Hospital for the past 12 years, gaining experience in various departments, including Cardiology, Cath Lab, Emergency, COVID-19 Ward, Surgical Oncology, Medical Oncology, and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit.



Dr. Sindhu U Muktamath

Dr. Sindhu U Muktamath is a Head and Consultant Doctor at Aster DM Healthcare. She is a dentist with specialized expertise in oral cancer rehabilitation and Endodontics - biomimetic dentistry. Dr. Sindhu is passionate about enhancing patient care through a multidisciplinary approach and leads initiatives focused on tobacco cessation and preventive oral health.



Shreya Sarki

Shreya Sarki is a Registered Nurse in India, having completed her nursing education in 2025 from RGUHS, Bangalore. Currently, she works as a Clinical Instructor at Miranda College of Nursing in Bangalore. Aspiring to build a successful nursing career in Germany, Shreya is actively enhancing her German language skills and preparing for professional integration into the German healthcare system.

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