

**NEWSLETTER****HEALTHCARE****13 – 19 October 2025****China aims to tame cancer gene test pricing with bulk-buying plan**

China is expanding its bulk-buying program to include cancer gene testing in a bid to standardize and reduce prices. The initiative, first targeting Jiangsu province, sets price caps on PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) and NGS (Next-Generation Sequencing) tests to curb widespread pricing disparities. While expected to lower costs for patients, concerns remain about its applicability to more complex and uncertified tests. **(CX Daily)**

**Shanghai hospital's innovative spinal endoscopy technique benefits patients**

Shanghai East Hospital has pioneered an innovative UBD spinal endoscopy technique. This minimally invasive procedure requires only a 1 cm incision, drastically reducing trauma and recovery time compared to traditional open surgery. It has proven effective for complex cases like severe spinal stenosis, with patients mobilizing the same day. The technique is now practiced nationwide and promoted internationally. **(China Daily)**

**Experts highlight health risks of modern lifestyle habits**

Medical experts warn that modern habits like daily sugary drink consumption, compulsive shopping, and excessive lounging pose serious health risks. These behaviors, driven by stress and emotional needs in a fast-paced society, can lead to obesity, financial strain, and mental health issues. Solutions include finding fulfillment in work, relationships, and healthier leisure activities to reduce these dependencies. **(China Daily)**

**China's new economy sector slumps on drop in capital inputs**

The contribution of high value-added industries such as biomedicine to China's total economic inputs slumped to the lowest in a year in August, with a sharp drop in capital inputs. The Caixin BBD New Economy Index (NEI) came in at 29.9, down 3.7 points from the previous month and reached a one-year low. That indicates that new economy industries accounted for 29.9% of China's overall economic inputs. **(CX Daily)**

**Rural China suffers a teen mental health crisis**

A new report highlights a severe mental health crisis among adolescents in rural China, focusing on the millions of "left-behind children." These are youth under 18 whose parents have migrated for work, preventing them from living together. In 2022, about 10.9 million such children were in the compulsory education system. The isolation and lack of parental support present profound psychological challenges for them. **(China Daily)**