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NEWSLETTER

HEALTHCARE
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China Unifies Medical Service Price Codes Across Nation
China completed forty batches of medical service price item guidelines covering consultation, nursing, surgery, examination and laboratory testing during the week. The unified coding framework replaces fragmented provincial charging units and gives hospitals one national ruler for billing transparency. Thirteen accompanying interpretation briefs instruct provincial regulators to map local items into the central catalogue. **(Xinhua)**

China Expands Family Doctor Signing to Specialist Clinicians
China issued measures to deepen six extensions of contracted family doctor services during the week. By the end of this year, internists, pediatricians and traditional Chinese medicine physicians in grassroots clinics must all join signing teams alongside general practitioners and village doctors. By the end of next year, specialists stationed at primary sites for over twelve months should directly provide contracting services after training. **(China Daily)**

China Sets Unified Cloud Index for Pathology Data Sharing
China released the Medical Insurance Pathology Cloud Index coding specification during the week to give every pathology exam a nationwide unique identity. The seventy-nine-character code locks patient identity, visit type, pathology request number, specimen time, exam category and reporting institution in one traceable string. **(Xinhua)**

China Issues Long-Term Care Insurance Payment Management Rules
China published guidance on long-term care insurance payment management during the week to standardize coverage scope, payment methods and rate setting. Care recipients gain uniform access to basic nursing and daily-living support funded through pooled contributions rather than ad hoc local pots. Provincial offices must separate care assessment, service procurement and fund settlement to stop false claims. **(Xinhua)**

China Details Tertiary Hospital Pairing Support for County Facilities
Five departments led by the National Health Commission unveiled the 15th Five-Year tertiary hospital pairing support plan for county-level hospitals during the week. Top urban hospitals must dispatch management teams and clinicians to weak counties, run demonstration teaching with retired expert physicians and build transferable specialties such as emergency, pediatrics and imaging. **(Xinhua)**