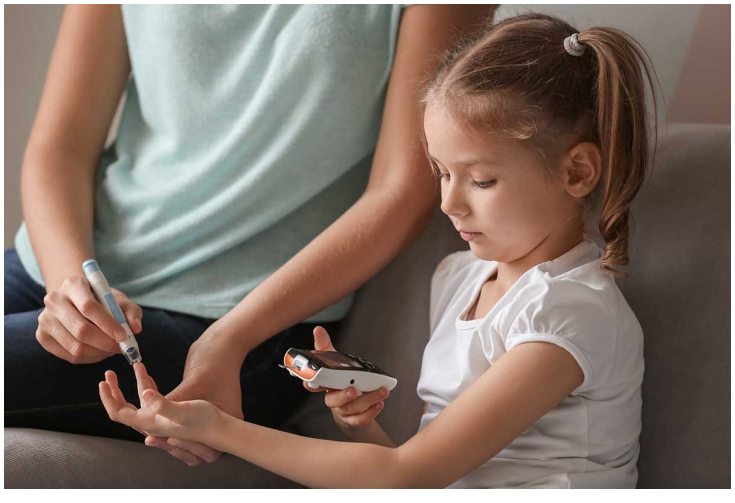
BioSpect
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

Health Ministry unveils comprehensive guidance document on Diabetes Mellitus in children

04 May 2026 | News

Provision of comprehensive, free care packages at public health facilities



In a historic step towards strengthening child health services, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released the guidance document on Diabetes Mellitus in children. Through this guidance document, for the first time, a structured and standardised national framework for screening, diagnosis, treatment, and long-term management of paediatric diabetes has been established. With this initiative, India has joined the select group of countries that have integrated paediatric diabetes care into the public health system.

The document aims to ensure universal screening of all children from birth to 18 years, including early detection through community and school-based platforms. Suspected cases will be subjected to immediate blood sugar tests, followed by confirmatory referrals to district-level health centres for diagnosis and treatment.

A key feature of the scheme is the provision of comprehensive, free care packages at public health facilities. This includes screening, diagnostic services, lifelong insulin therapy, monitoring equipment such as glucometers and test strips, and regular follow-up care. This approach aims to alleviate the financial burden and ensure seamless treatment for children with diabetes. The Guidance Document also mentions an integrated chain of care, linking community level screening with district hospital-based management and advanced care in medical colleges.