

## **AIIMS, Osaka University of Japan sign MoU**

15 October 2014 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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AIIMS has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Japan's Osaka University to establish a collaborative research and development program for low-cost surgical devices.

This initiative is a part of the joint statement issued by Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi and Japanese Premier Mr Shinzo Abe, during Mr Modi's visit to Japan to enhance cooperation in the field of medical devices.

AIIMS Director Mr M C Mishra said, "The primary objective of this collaboration is to develop novel instruments for surgical needs and affordable medical devices for universal health coverage (UHC). At present, the areas of special interest include development of instruments for minimal access surgery, which will also involve other branches of surgical disciplines in due course of time. The parties will seek opportunities to enhance cooperation in other allied areas of mutual interest," in a statement.

"Doctors and researchers from both the nations will visit each other's country to identify true clinical needs and collaboratively develop affordable devices with appropriate performance. The 'UHC devices from Asia' will not only improve the health sector in Indian and other Asian countries, but will also help reduce medical expenditures in Japan and other advanced countries," said Mr Kiyokazu Nakajima, professor, Osaka University.

