Science & Technology · GS - III

The increasing reports of serious adverse events associated with medical devices highlight the need for stronger patient-safety mechanisms in India. Examine the regulatory challenges and suggest measures to improve medical device safety monitoring.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 06/11/2026	GS - III	Science & Technology

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~ 150 words

Answer Hint

Medical device regulation, patient safety, CDSCO, Medical Devices Rules 2017, Materiovigilance Programme of India, adverse-event reporting, post-market surveillance, regulatory accountability, quality assurance, public awareness

Model Answer

Introduction

Medical devices such as implants, diagnostic equipment and monitoring systems are essential to modern healthcare. However, defective or improperly used devices can create serious risks to patients.

Regulatory Challenges

India regulates medical devices under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Medical Devices Rules, 2017. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation oversees regulatory functions.

Increasing adverse-event reports highlight the importance of effective post-market surveillance. However, underreporting, inadequate awareness, varying reporting practices and difficulties in establishing causation can weaken safety monitoring.

Measures to Improve Safety

The Materiovigilance Programme of India should be strengthened through wider reporting networks involving hospitals, manufacturers and healthcare professionals.

Regular safety audits, quality testing, traceability of implants, transparent reporting and timely product recalls can improve accountability. Digital reporting systems and public awareness can encourage early identification of risks.

Conclusion

A robust regulatory framework combining pre-market assessment, post-market surveillance and transparent accountability is essential to protect patients and strengthen confidence in India's medical device sector.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP