UMMID: Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders

To ensure proper treatment to children suffering with inherited disorders, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India has started a path breaking initiative ‘UMMID’ in the healthcare sector to meet the needs of large number children suffering from such diseases, and to generate awareness amongst the masses.

The UMMID program is being implemented at government hospitals to benefit children suffering from genetic disorders who cannot afford expensive care. Under the initiative, government has emphasized on use of cutting edge scientific technology and molecular medicine for extending Universal Health Coverage to common masses.

The UMMID initiative focuses on producing skilled clinicians in area of human genetics, and opening of training centres in clinical genetics and genetic diagnostics. The genetic diagnostic units in government hospitals are called NIDAN Kendras. The broader objective is the centre is to carryout pilot scale screening of pregnant women and new born babies for diagnosis of inherited genetic disorders under district programs.

Under first phase of UMMID, five NIDAN Kendras are established to provide comprehensive clinical care training in Centres at Madras Medical Mission, Chennai; Sanjay Gandhi
Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow; Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad; All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi; National Institute of Immunohaematology, Mumbai and Christian Medical College, Vellore. All such training centres provide training in biochemical genetics, cytogenetics, molecular genetics, and clinical genetics to the clinicians from different government setups. About 10,000 pregnant women and 5000 new born babies will be screened per year for disease checkup.

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