

Maternal & Neonatal Genetic Health Policy (MNGHP)

Issued By: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

Policy Version: 1.0

Launch Year: 2026

1. Introduction

The Maternal & Neonatal Genetic Health Policy (MNGHP) focuses on safeguarding the genetic health of mothers and newborns through early screening, preventive care, and targeted interventions. The policy aims to reduce infant mortality and maternal complications arising from inherited genetic conditions.

2. Objectives

- Integrate genetic screening into routine antenatal care.
- Enable early detection of congenital and hereditary disorders.
- Strengthen neonatal genetic diagnostic services.
- Provide genetic counseling for expectant parents.
- Promote ethical and secure handling of genetic data.

3. Target Beneficiaries

- Pregnant women across all healthcare settings
- Newborn infants (0–28 days)
- High-risk pregnancies
- Public maternity hospitals and neonatal care units

4. Key Components

1. Antenatal Genetic Risk Assessment
2. Universal Newborn Genetic Screening
3. Maternal Carrier Testing Programs
4. Genetic Counseling & Referral Networks
5. AI-enabled Neonatal Risk Monitoring

5. Implementation Framework

The policy will be implemented through district hospitals, primary health centers, and tertiary maternity institutions. Integration with existing maternal health programs and digital health records will ensure seamless service delivery and follow-up.

6. Budget Allocation (Indicative)

Component	Estimated Allocation (INR Crores)
Antenatal Screening Infrastructure	1,600

Newborn Screening Labs	1,200
Training & Genetic Counseling	700
Digital Health & Data Security	500
Awareness & Outreach Programs	300

7. Expected Outcomes

- Early identification of genetic risks in pregnancy
- Reduction in neonatal morbidity and mortality
- Improved maternal decision-making through counseling
- Strengthened neonatal healthcare infrastructure

8. Conclusion

The MNGHP emphasizes prevention and early intervention to ensure healthier pregnancies and safer births. By embedding genetic services within maternal and neonatal care, the policy aims to create long-term positive health outcomes for future generations.

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