

Asia's Shifting Health Landscape: From Digital Frontiers to Ancient Wisdom

Global Health · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. In Japan's response to its rapidly aging population, what is a key area of innovation being developed to address caregiver shortages and enhance eldercare?

- A) Advanced AI-powered diagnostic tools exclusively for home use.
- B) Healthcare robotics and AI-assisted monitoring systems.**
- C) Expanded international medical student exchange programs.
- D) A nationwide mandatory retirement age reduction policy.

2. India has been systematically integrating traditional medicine systems, collectively known as 'Ayush,' into its public healthcare. Which of the following is a significant initiative launched since the Department of Ayush was upgraded to a dedicated Ministry in 2014?

- A) The establishment of Ayush Health and Wellness Centres under Ayushman Bharat.**
- B) A complete phasing out of allopathic medicine in rural areas.
- C) The exclusive development of Ayush-branded pharmaceutical drugs.
- D) Mandatory inclusion of Ayush therapies in all private health insurance plans.

3. South Korea is a leader in digital health. What is a notable trend in its digital health sector, particularly accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic?

- A) A significant reduction in government investment due to budget reallocation.
- B) A focus on promoting only in-person medical consultations.
- C) Increased adoption of telemedicine and virtual consultations.**
- D) A complete ban on AI in medical diagnostics.

4. The Philippines is grappling with interconnected human, animal, and environmental health issues. What approach is being emphasized to address these complex challenges, despite implementation difficulties?

- A) A singular focus on human medical interventions.
- B) The 'One Health' approach, emphasizing multi-sectoral collaboration.**
- C) Complete isolation of animal populations from human communities.
- D) Reliance solely on traditional healing practices.

5. Plastic pollution is a major environmental and health concern in the Mekong Delta region of Vietnam. What is a significant impact of this pollution on the local fishing communities?

- A) An increase in fish stock and biodiversity.
- B) A reduction in fishers' income by approximately 25% and increased operational costs.**
- C) Improved water quality leading to higher seafood sales.
- D) No significant economic impact on fishing communities.

6. In Pakistan, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) now account for a significant portion of all deaths. What are the primary contributors identified for this epidemiological shift?

- A) A dramatic decrease in life expectancy and a decline in infectious diseases.
- B) Increased physical activity and a reduction in tobacco use.
- C) Unhealthy eating habits, sedentary lifestyles, and high tobacco use.**
- D) A nationwide shift towards plant-based diets.

7. The WHO has initiated efforts to improve mental health support in Southeast Asia. What is a key objective of the Paro Declaration adopted by member countries?

- A) To exclusively focus on severe mental illnesses.
- B) To encourage migration away from the region.
- C) To develop and implement multisectoral policies to address mental health risks and reduce treatment gaps.**
- D) To replace all healthcare workers with automated systems.

8. Thailand's healthcare system, while successful in achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), faces challenges. What factor is contributing to a potential widening of health disparities, despite UHC's initial success?

- A) A decreased demand for private healthcare services.
- B) The rapid expansion of the private healthcare sector and a booming medical tourism industry.**
- C) A complete shift to government-funded healthcare facilities.
- D) A reduction in the number of medical tourism destinations.

9. Indonesia faces significant nutritional challenges, particularly stunting. What is a key component of national strategies aimed at reducing stunting, alongside specific health sector interventions?

- A) Solely focusing on providing free milk to all children.
- B) Implementing multisectoral programs that include micronutrient fortification.**
- C) Encouraging emigration to countries with better nutrition.
- D) Limiting access to educational resources.

10. In China's rapidly aging society, particularly in rural areas, a digital divide exists in healthcare adoption. What are identified barriers for older adults in using digital health tools?

- A) Overwhelming enthusiasm and universal adoption of all new technologies.
- B) Sufficient technological literacy and an abundance of easily accessible training programs.
- C) Insufficient technological literacy, unawareness of product functions, and economic burden.**
- D) A strong preference for complex and difficult-to-use interfaces.

11. The 'One Health' approach in the Philippines aims to address zoonotic diseases and other health threats. What is a critical challenge identified in the operationalization of this approach?

- A) An overabundance of resources for capacity-building.
- B) Fragmented risk assessment and surveillance, and limited governance mechanisms.**
- C) Complete elimination of human-animal interaction.
- D) A lack of inter-agency task forces.

12. The integration of traditional medicine systems like Ayurveda into India's public health system is a significant policy. What is a primary goal of initiatives such as the National Ayush Mission (NAM)?

- A) To replace allopathic medicine entirely.
- B) To strengthen Ayush service delivery and expand infrastructure, including co-location at primary health centers.**
- C) To restrict access to traditional medicine to specific regions.
- D) To solely focus on pharmaceutical research for Ayush systems.

13. South Korea's digital health market is experiencing rapid growth. Which segment is projected to have one of the fastest Compound Annual Growth Rates (CAGRs) through 2034?

- A) Hardware for wearable medical devices.
- B) Telehealth platforms.
- C) Medical Apps.**
- D) Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems.

14. Japan is a global leader in addressing the challenges of an aging population. What is a key strategy being implemented to mitigate workforce shortages in the caregiving sector?

- A) Reducing the number of available caregiving positions.
- B) Implementing wage increases for long-term care workers and integrating foreign caregivers.**
- C) Discouraging technology adoption in eldercare.
- D) Shifting all care responsibilities to family members.

15. In Southeast Asian cultures, while community support is strong, what can sometimes hinder open discussions about mental well-being?

- A) An overemphasis on individualistic approaches to mental health.
- B) The fear of stigma, shame, and burdening others.**
- C) A lack of cultural traditions related to emotional expression.
- D) Universal access to mental health professionals.