

China Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Monthly

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Tracking China Healthcare

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Pitfalls and the Pendulum

Will the Chinese healthcare system be able to find balance without catastrophe?

The swinging pendulum of mainstream Chinese healthcare is changing direction. The change comes as no surprise – the current medical system does not meet the needs of a significant portion of the population, with numerous Chinese unable to access, pay for, and receive appropriate healthcare, particularly outside of major metropolitan areas. Over the past decade, free market-style practices have had a salubrious effect on multiple areas of the medical system, ushering in medical technologies,

practices, and drugs that have contributed significantly to raising the overall standard of Chinese healthcare. By publishing “Suggestions for Strengthening the Health System Reform,” government authorities have finally put forward their (vague) blueprint for the next era of China healthcare. GBI examines this framework and speculates on possible repercussions, both helpful and harmful, for some of the key stakeholders in the system.

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