

MOH DAILY NEWS BRIEF



TOP NEWS

- Kenya Commemorates World TB Day
- Kenya–U.S. Health Partnership Steering Committee Launched
- Uganda Delegation Benchmarks Kenya’s Health System

Key Highlights – World TB Day 2026

- 90,900 people treated in 2025, representing 81% of the TB burden
- Expanded detection and community-led interventions to close remaining gaps

The national event, officiated by Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale, reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to close gaps in TB diagnosis and care.

In 2025, a total of 90,900 people were diagnosed and initiated on treatment, representing 81% of the estimated TB burden, with targeted efforts underway to reach missed cases.

Kenya continues to record progress, with a 45% reduction in TB incidence and a 58% decline in TB-related deaths since 2015, driven by sustained investment, strong county collaboration, and partnerships.

The Ministry of Health, working with county governments, is scaling up access to services through molecular diagnostics and AI-enabled portable X-ray technologies to support early detection, particularly in underserved areas.

A multi-sectoral approach is also being implemented to address underlying drivers such as poverty, malnutrition, and overcrowding, alongside strengthened community engagement and treatment adherence.

Ending TB remains a national priority under a coordinated, government-led response supported by communities.



Kenya Intensifies Fight to End Tuberculosis

Kenya today commemorated World TB Day, marking renewed efforts to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) as a public health threat through expanded detection, treatment, and community-driven interventions.



The Ministry is also intensifying public awareness campaigns and targeted interventions, particularly among high-risk groups, to promote early health-seeking behaviour, reduce stigma, and ensure timely diagnosis and completion of treatment.



PS Mary Muthoni Calls for Early Testing and Community Action to End TB

Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni called for sustained collective action to eliminate tuberculosis and other lung diseases.

The PS highlighted progress made, with over 90,000 TB cases diagnosed, treated, and reported in 2025, and treatment coverage improving from 77% to 81%.

The PS underscored strengthened TB/HIV integration and expanded access to services, noting that community-driven approaches are improving early detection, treatment outcomes, and reducing stigma.



PS Muthoni urged Kenyans to seek testing and care early, emphasising that ending TB will require a coordinated effort led by government and driven by communities.



Kenya–U.S. Health Partnership Steering Committee Launched

Kenya has taken a key step in operationalising its government-to-government health partnership with the United States following the inaugural meeting of the Joint Health Cooperation Framework Steering Committee, chaired by Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale.

It signals a shift towards country-led development, guided by principles of leadership, mutual accountability, coordination and efficiency, evidence-based decision-making, and sustainability.

Aligned with the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), the partnership supports the advancement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through a unified, whole-of-government approach across national and county levels.



The framework introduces an enhanced cooperation model—making Kenya the first country to adopt it—anchored on country ownership, aligned priorities, and sustainable outcomes.



The Steering Committee will provide strategic oversight, track performance, address implementation bottlenecks, and safeguard continuity of essential health services.

The meeting brought together a U.S. delegation led by Ms Heidi O'Bra, alongside senior national and county health leadership.



Ugandan Delegation Benchmarks Kenya's Health System

The Ministry of Health hosted a high-level delegation of senior healthcare leaders from Uganda for a benchmarking engagement aimed at strengthening leadership, governance, and service delivery in public referral hospitals.

The delegation, led by Dr Paul Emmanuel Batiibwe, was received at Afya House on behalf of the Principal Secretary for Medical Services by Director of Curative Services Dr Andrew Toro.

The engagement forms part of ongoing regional knowledge exchange initiatives to promote shared learning, strengthen institutional capacity, and improve healthcare outcomes.

Discussions focused on key health system pillars, including health financing—particularly Kenya's Social Health Insurance framework—Human Resources for Health, health commodity security, and digital health systems.

Kenya's ongoing reforms towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) were highlighted, with a focus on expanding access to quality and affordable care, financial risk protection, and strengthening primary healthcare.

The visit provided an opportunity for practical learning and experience sharing, reaffirming the importance of regional collaboration in advancing resilient and sustainable health systems.





Kajiado Commissions Community Mental Health Champions

One hundred Community-Based Mental Health Champions have been commissioned in Kajiado County to strengthen grassroots awareness, reduce stigma, and enhance community support systems.

The commissioning took place during the Kajiado Education Expo and Career Fair 2026, which brought together stakeholders to advance mental health, education, skills development, and youth empowerment.

The event was officially opened by Dr Joseph Lenai, representing Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni.

The initiative underscores the Government's focus on preventive and promotive health, with increased emphasis on community engagement and empowering young people to address mental health and substance use challenges.





IMNHC 2026: Day 2 Advances Action on Maternal and Newborn Health

The International Maternal and Newborn Health Conference (IMNHC 2026) continues in Nairobi, with day two focusing on advancing implementation of commitments to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths.

Today's agenda centres on strengthening service readiness, including skilled workforce capacity, emergency obstetric and newborn care, and functional referral systems.

Discussions are also exploring sustainable financing, integration of maternal and newborn health within primary healthcare, and scaling community-based interventions.

Sessions further highlight the role of digital health systems, including real-time data and maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response (MPDSR), in improving accountability and decision-making.

The day emphasises practical, country-led solutions, partnerships, and innovation to accelerate progress and close remaining gaps.

