



Key Highlight

Proposed health tariff reforms could significantly expand healthcare access for mothers, newborns and cancer patients, including increasing annual support for chronic cancer care from KES 150,000 to KES 400,000 per beneficiary while strengthening financial protection under Universal Health Coverage.

Cancer Patients and Mothers Set to Benefit from Proposed Health Tariff Reforms

Thousands of mothers, newborns and patients living with cancer could receive expanded healthcare support under proposed amendments to the Tariffs for Healthcare Services Regulations presented to Parliament by Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale.

The proposed changes introduce a Maternal, Newborn and Child Health benefit package under the Primary Healthcare Fund, covering free maternity services, antenatal and postnatal care, newborn services, immunisation and nutrition interventions at primary healthcare facilities.

The reforms also seek to enhance support for patients with chronic illnesses through the Emergency, Chronic and Critical Illness Fund. Annual support for chronic cancer care is proposed to increase from KES 150,000 to KES 400,000 per beneficiary, with eligible patients accessing additional support through the Social Health Insurance Fund.

The Ministry says the amendments are aimed at strengthening financial protection, reducing out-of-pocket healthcare costs and advancing Universal Health Coverage.





Regional Cooperation Remains Key to Ebola Preparedness

Kenya is strengthening cross-border surveillance and collaboration with neighbouring countries as part of ongoing efforts to prevent and respond to Ebola and other public health threats.

Appearing before the National Assembly Committee on Regional Integration, Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni outlined measures being implemented through the East African Community framework, including enhanced screening at points of entry, real-time information sharing, coordinated surveillance and rapid response systems.

The PS noted that close cooperation among East African Community Partner States remains critical in addressing health threats that transcend national borders and ensuring timely detection and response.

She called for sustained support for preparedness efforts through continued collaboration, adequate resourcing and a whole-of-government approach to protect communities and strengthen regional health security.





Insight

Kenya's UHC reforms are entering a decisive implementation phase, with counties expected to drive registration, service delivery and access to care across the country.

“

“The focus now is implementation. Every county has a critical role in ensuring Kenyans benefit from Universal Health Coverage.” — Dr. Ouma Oluga

”

Counties Asked to Fast-Track UHC Reforms as Implementation Gains Pace

County governments have been urged to accelerate the implementation of Universal Health Coverage reforms as Kenya enters a critical phase in transforming healthcare delivery.

Speaking at a meeting of Chief Officers of Health from all 47 counties in Kisumu, Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga said the focus has now shifted from policy development to delivering results for citizens through the implementation of key health laws and reforms.

The PS highlighted progress under the Social Health Authority, with more than 31 million Kenyans registered, over 11,000 health facilities contracted and more than one million deliveries financed since October 2024.



Maternal and newborn health remains a key priority under the Every Woman Every Newborn Everywhere (EWENE) initiative, with over KES 17 billion already spent on maternity services and additional funding secured to expand access to care at primary healthcare facilities.

Dr. Oluga called on counties to strengthen SHA registration, improve public awareness, complete the transition of UHC staff into substantive positions and enhance service delivery systems to ensure all Kenyans benefit from ongoing healthcare reforms.

Present were Dr. Kevin Osuri, Chairperson of the Council of Governors Health Caucus; Ms. Jemima Kuta, representing the Chief Executive Officer of the Council of Governors; Dr. Waqo Ejersa, Chief Executive Officer of KEMSA; officials from the Social Health Authority, Digital Health Agency, Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council, Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Services, development partners, and senior Ministry of Health officials.





Stakeholders Rally Support for Kenya Public Health Conference

Preparations for the Kenya Public Health International Conference (KEPHIC) 2026 are gathering pace as the Ministry of Health engages partners to strengthen collaboration ahead of the event scheduled for October in Nairobi.

The conference will bring together public health professionals, researchers, policymakers, development partners and the private sector to discuss solutions to emerging health challenges and share innovations that can strengthen health systems.

Held under the theme “Advancing Public Health Together: Transforming Public Health to Deliver Universal Health Coverage,” KEPHIC 2026 is expected to provide a platform for scientific exchange, policy dialogue and partnership building to support better health outcomes.

The Ministry has called on stakeholders to contribute expertise, resources and participation to help make the conference a key forum for advancing public health in Kenya and across the region.

Present were representatives from development partners, international organisations, academia, research institutions, professional associations, the private sector and government agencies.





MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Don't Give Ebola a Chance

What you can do to prevent Ebola



Wash your hands regularly with soap and clean water.



Avoid contact with sick persons.



Avoid contact with blood and other body fluids.



Avoid contact with bodies of people who die from suspected Ebola.



Report suspected cases through 719.



For information, dial *719#



Protect yourself.
Protect your community.