HIV Testing to Be Mandatory for Pregnant Women in India

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All pregnant women in India will be subject to mandatory HIV testing, officials said October 9 as reported by the Indo-Asian News Service. In India, at least 2.5 million people are living with HIV and thousands of babies are born positive.

“We want [an] HIV-free generation,” said Oscar Fernandes, head of India’s Parliamentary Forum on HIV and AIDS. “We are for testing all pregnant women for HIV so that no children can be born with the disease.”

He added, “Passing the disease to a newborn is a human rights violation, This should stop, and all of us must try to make this a success.”

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