



Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust (SKMT)

**Pharmacy Newsletter**

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**Issued By:**

Drug Information Centre, SKMT

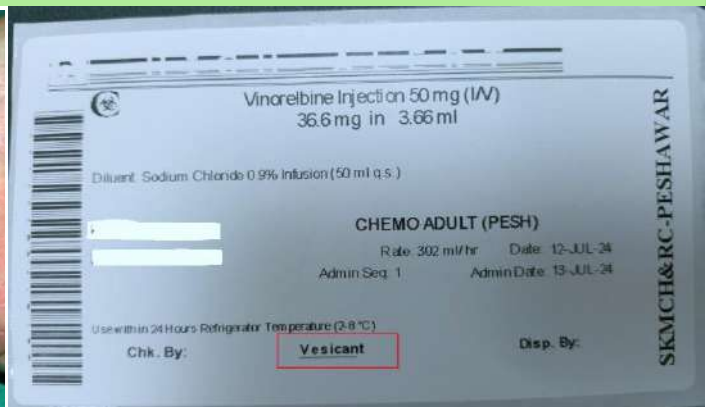
**P&TC Updates:**

Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee (P&TC) has approved the following drugs during 2024 at SKMCH&RC:

- **Ibrutinib Caps 140mg** - with fluconazole, 2 patients/year for maximum 3 years of therapy.
- **Amiloride + Hydrochlorothiazide (5/5mg) Tab**: approved as a regular formulary item restricted by service (Endocrinology & Nephrology only)
- **Imatinib Cap 100mg**: Approved for GIST (2 Patients per month for indigent patients)

**⚠ Extravasation of a vesicant is a medical emergency. Prompt action ('SLAP') is required to minimise patient harm:**

- S** Stop the injection or intravenous infusion immediately and **Send** for assistance
- L** Leave the vascular access device (VAD) in situ
- A** Aspirate any residual drug or solution from the VAD with a syringe
- P** Plan subsequent actions



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Pharmacy Practicum - Sterile Service 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024,

## SKMT Peshawar Chapter



Bridging Professional Knowledge with Practice



5.25 Hours



30

70

Public & Private Hospitals Participated

Participants





## International Nursing Celebrated by the department of Pharmaceutical Services – SKMT



### Summer Internship Camp

The Pharmacy Department at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospitals has launched a unique, engaging, and instructive program. This program provides pharmacy students and graduates with practical exposure to patient safety, medication safety, clinical pharmacy, ambulatory care, aseptic and in-patient services. Numerous applicants participated in an online quiz, and the chosen candidates were included in a planned 3-day, intensive learning experience.



### Antibiotic Stewardship Certificate

Mr. Zubair Sadiq, resident pharmacist, has completed his course certificate, from Stanford University, on 'Antibiotic Stewardship' which is offered through, on-learning platform, Coursera.



### Beware of Falsified GLP-1-RA Medications

In an alarming development, there's a surge in the availability of falsified versions of Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonist (GLP-1-RA) in the market. Glucagon-like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists (GLP-1-RA) are a class of Pharmaceuticals indicated to manage Diabetes type II. In Pakistan, only a single brand i.e. Ozempic injection manufactured by Novo Nordisk is registered by DRAP currently and is available as a "prescription only" product. It is reported that there has been a surge of online information promoting the use of GLP-1 RA products for weight loss which is its unapproved use and this situation is encouraging risky procurement behaviors. These counterfeit drugs pose a significant health risk to consumers. It's crucial for all stakeholders, including authorities and consumers, to remain vigilant. Any suspicious products should be reported immediately. As a community, let's work together to ensure the safety and well-being of all patients.



**Ref:** [https://www.dra.gov.pk/safety\\_info/product\\_recalls/recall\\_alerts/rapid-alert-drug-product-suspected-increase-in-the-availability-of-falsified-versions-of-glucagon-like-peptide-1-receptor-agonist-glp-1-ra-in-the-markets/](https://www.dra.gov.pk/safety_info/product_recalls/recall_alerts/rapid-alert-drug-product-suspected-increase-in-the-availability-of-falsified-versions-of-glucagon-like-peptide-1-receptor-agonist-glp-1-ra-in-the-markets/)

### FDA Greenlights TISOTUMAB VEDOTIN-TFTV for the Treatment of Advanced Cervical Cancer

Generic Name	Tisotumab vedotin- TFTV
Brand Name	Tivdak
Drug Class	Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC)
Mechanism of Action	Tisotumab vedotin-TFTV is an ADC composed of a tissue factor (TF)-directed antibody and the microtubule-disrupting agent monomethyl auristatin E (MMAE). The antibody component targets TF, which is highly expressed in cervical cancer cells. Upon binding to TF, the ADC is internalized, and MMAE is released, inducing cell cycle arrest and apoptosis by disrupting microtubule dynamics.
Indication	Treatment of adult patients with recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer who have disease progression on or after chemotherapy.
Dosage and Administration	Recommended Dose: 2 mg/kg (up to a maximum of 200 mg) administered as an intravenous infusion over 30 minutes every 3 weeks. Dose Adjustments: Adjust dosage based on patient tolerance and the presence of adverse reactions.
Adverse Reactions	Peripheral neuropathy, Fatigue, Conjunctivitis, Abdominal pain, Decreased appetite, Ocular toxicity (severe vision impairment, corneal ulcer), Dry eye etc.
FDA	On April 29, 2024, the FDA granted traditional approval to this drug for recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer with disease progression on or after chemotherapy.  The FDA's approval was based on the InnovaTV 301 trial.

## Compatibility of Drugs in Syringe Driver



Drugs	Compatibility of Drugs with Each Other	Compatibility in Diluents	
		NaCl 0.9%	WFI
Morphine Sulphate + Metoclopramide	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Morphine Sulphate + Midazolam	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Morphine Sulphate + Haloperidol	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Morphine Sulphate + Cyclizine	Compatible	Incompatible	Compatible
Fentanyl + Metoclopramide	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Fentanyl + Midazolam	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Fentanyl + Haloperidol	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Fentanyl + Midazolam	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Metoclopramide + Cyclizine	Compatible	Compatible	Incompatible
Metoclopramide + Haloperidol	Compatible	Incompatible	Incompatible
Metoclopramide + Midazolam	Compatible	Incompatible	Compatible
Metoclopramide + Clonazepam	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Clonazepam + Cyclizine	Compatible	Compatible	Incompatible
Ondansetron + Octreotide	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible
Morphine Sulphate + Metoclopramide + Midazolam	Compatible	Compatible	Compatible



Compatible  
 Appears Compatible  
 Sometimes incompatible (usually at higher doses)  
 No Data  
 Reported Compatible  
 Not applicable/Not generally recommended  
 Non-Compatible

## Publications

Ms. Shumaila Kausar, Assistant Manager Pharmacy, published her Op-Ed, 'Medication errors - the elephant in the room' in 'The Nation'. Her article focused on medication errors, which are often overlooked, causing half

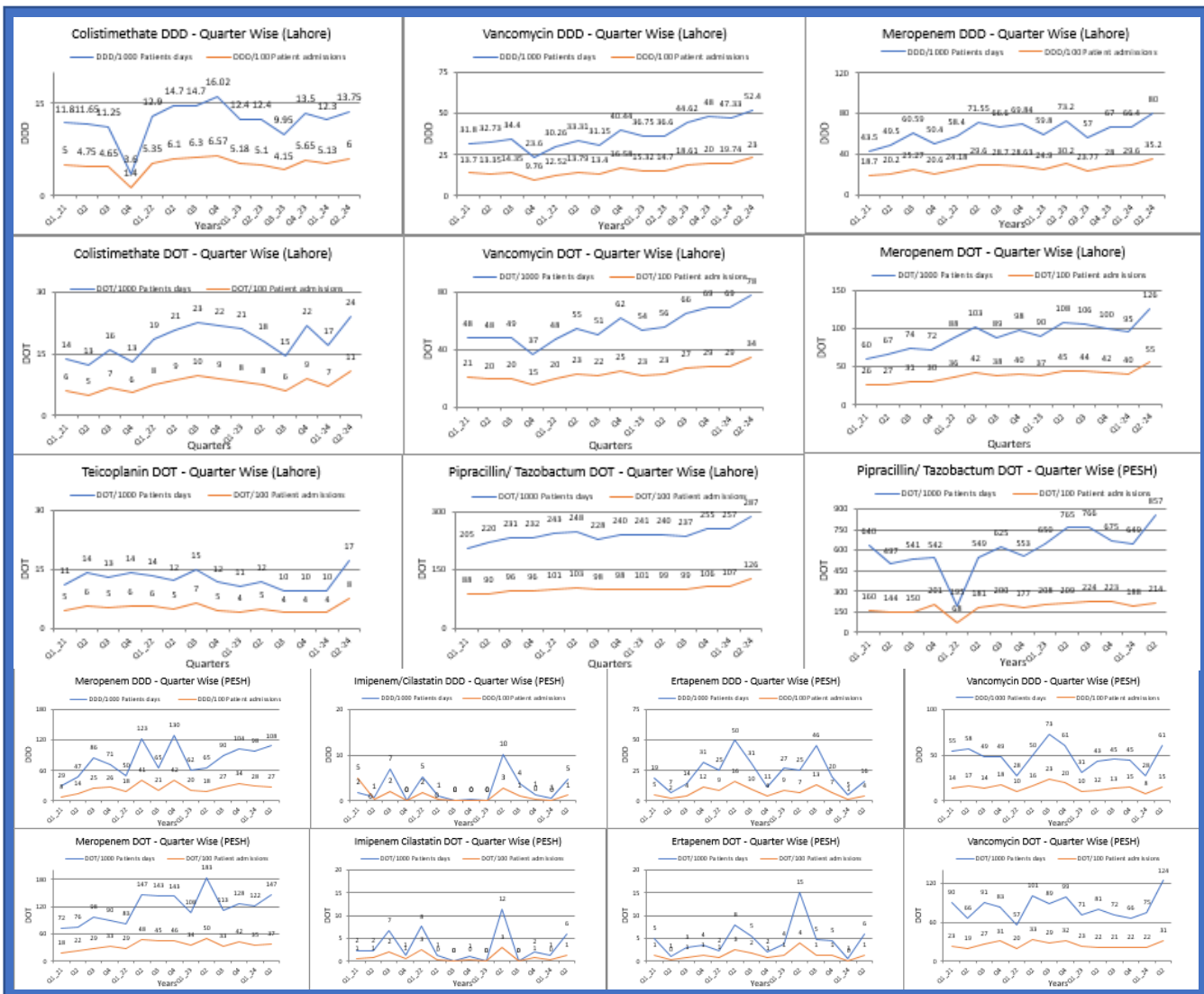


a million deaths annually in Pakistan, surpassing road accidents. These errors occur at any stage of the medication process, often due to healthcare professionals' ignorance or misunderstanding. Polypharmacy, the concurrent use of multiple medications, exacerbates the issue. Addressing this requires a multifaceted approach, including patient-centered care, strategic handling of high-risk medications, and professional development for healthcare workers. Strengthening pharmacovigilance facilities is also crucial for better reporting of medication errors and adverse events.

Ref: <https://www.nation.com.pk/10-Jun-2024/medication-errors-the-elephant-in-the-room>

## Rising Trend in Antibiotic Consumption: A Closer Look

The recent data reveals an alarming increase in the consumption of certain antibiotics. The trend is evident in the DDD (Defined Daily Dose) and DOT (Days of Therapy) data for various antibiotics. For colistimethate, DDD and DOT data show a steady increase over the quarters. This could be attributed to its use in treating infections caused by multidrug-resistant Gram-negative bacteria. For teicoplanin, DOT data shows a slight increase, indicating a growing reliance on this antibiotic, commonly used to treat Gram-positive infections. For vancomycin, the DDD and DOT data show a fluctuating but overall increasing trend. This antibiotic is often used as a last resort against MRSA and other Gram-positive bacteria. For piperacillin/tazobactam, DOT data shows a significant increase, suggesting its growing use



in treating a wide range of infections. For meropenem, the DDD and DOT data show a steady increase, indicating its extensive use in treating severe infections caused by Gram-negative bacteria. The reasons for this increasing trend could be multifaceted, including the rise in antibiotic-resistant infections, changes in prescribing practices, or increased availability of these antibiotics. Further investigation is needed to fully understand these trends and their implications for hospital patients.



## Sharing is Caring

### 31<sup>st</sup> May, World No Tobacco Day

Tobacco use remains one of the leading causes of preventable death worldwide. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), tobacco kills more than 8 million people each year, with around 1.2 million these deaths being non-smokers exposed to second hand smoke. Our resident pharmacists at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital had the opportunity to deliver a presentation on World No Tobacco Day, emphasizing the critical importance of quitting tobacco smoking. This presentation aimed to raise awareness among community and healthcare professionals, and included the participation of our dedicated interns. Residents discussed the severe health risks and side effects associated with tobacco use, as well as treatment options for cessation. By highlighting these issues, we hope to encourage both patients and healthcare professionals to support and advocate for a tobacco-free future.



### 3rd Annual PACE summit

Mr. Omar Akhlaq Bhutta, Director Pharmacy, was invited as the keynote speaker at the 3rd Annual PACE Summit in Islamabad. He shared knowledge and on how to improve one-self's and others' professional life. He further discussed the missing and essential concept of interprofessional collaboration, interprofessional education, and interprofessional organisation (IPO) in the healthcare system of Pakistan.



### 7th International Conference on Patient Safety (ICPS)

Mr. Omar Akhlaq Bhutta, Director Pharmacy, delivered a keynote speech at the 7th International Conference on Patient Safety (ICPS) in the Medication Safety session. His insights highlighted critical advancements in patient safety and medication practices. He discussed role of pharmacist in ensuring medication safety.



### One-day Seminar at Green International University, Lahore

The Department of Pharmacy's Capacity Enhancement Cell at Green International University, Lahore, hosted a seminar titled "Mindset behind Medication Safety". The guest speaker, Mr. Omar Akhlaq Bhutta, Director Pharmacy, leveraged his extensive experience in pharmacy to provide innovative insights on drug safety and its influence on the healthcare system. He also underscored the importance of interprofessional competition as a means to elevate health standards and medication safety in Pakistan.



### Seminar on 'Continued Professional Development in Hospital Pharmacy Settings - Discovering New Realms' at RIPS, Islamabad

Mr. Adeel Siddiqui, Assistant Manager Pharmacy, participated as the speaker at the seminar on 'Continued Professional Development in Hospital Pharmacy Settings - Discovering New Realms' at the Riphah Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (RIPS), Riphah International University, Islamabad. It was a 2 hour session, followed by half an hour of Q&A session. Focus of the seminar was to share his experience in pharmacy practice in hospital in terms of professional development, and the opportunities available in the field of pharmacy in current times. He was able to give exposure related to working in state-of-the-art healthcare facility in Pakistan, and encourage students to pursue career in hospital pharmacy.



To keep the Pharmacy Newsletter updated,  
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