



# High Alert Medicine Guidelines Pakistan

**We are pleased to announce that the first ever “High Alert Medicines (HAMS) Guidelines (Pakistan), developed by Pakistan Society of Health-System Pharmacist (PSHP) have been approved by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) and are now officially published on the DRAP’s website.**

DRAP in its official notification vide letter No. F. 9-7/2022 PV (PS), dated September 27, 2022 have directed all public & private hospitals to:

1. Develop high alert medications list specific to their setups within 6 months
2. Conduct training and awareness sessions on managing high alert medication & develop reporting culture of adverse drug reactions/events
3. Display the approved list in prominent places within pharmacies, doctors' offices and nursing stations and Inform all the healthcare staff about the list

DRAP in its letter has also further instructed the drug Inspectors to ensure displaying of list in the hospital pharmacies.

**PSHP greatly acknowledges the efforts of its members Salwa Ahsan (Chief of Pharmacy, Shifa International Hospitals Ltd., Islamabad) and Haris Aziz (Manager Pharmacy, Liaquat National Hospital, Karachi) for developing these guidelines and making them available for use at the national level.**

Every year 1 in 20 patients attending healthcare facility, is exposed to avoidable medication related harm. Almost 25% of these patients face severe or life threatening harm (WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge, Medication without Harm).

Since High Alert Medicines (HAMS) are the major cause of this severe/life threatening harm, it is our duty as a healthcare professional to learn and understand the requirements of: safe handling, dispensing, preparation, storage, prescribing and administration of HAMS, and ensuring best utilization of these guidelines to safeguard our patients.

**National High Alert Medicines Guidelines (Pakistan) are endorsed by the Hospital Pharmacy Section (HPS) of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)**

To access the guidelines:

Visit official webpage of DRAP (see under Publications >> Guidelines >> Pharmacovigilance >> High Alert Medicines guidelines).

Link: <https://www.dra.gov.pk/publications/guidelines/pharmacovigilance/>

**Abdul Latif Sheikh**  
President/CEO, PSHP

A member organization of

