



REPORT ON TWO DAYS OFFLINE REFRESHER COURSE FOR REGISTERED PHARMACISTS

21-22 March, 2026

A Two-Day Offline Refresher Course for Registered Pharmacists sponsored by the **Gujarat State Pharmacy Council** was successfully organized by **Dr. Chunibhai Vallabhbhai Patel College of Pharmacy**, Uka Tarsadia University, Bardoli on **21st and 22nd March 2026** at the DCVPCP Hall. The program aimed to update pharmacists with the latest knowledge in pharmaceutical practice, rational drug use, and emerging healthcare technologies.

The inaugural ceremony commenced at 10:00 AM in the presence of distinguished dignitaries. The program was inaugurated by Chief Guest **Dr. Dinesh Shah**. The ceremony was also graced by Guest of Honour **Shri Kashyapbhai Patel**. Other dignitaries who have grace the dias were **Dr. Shailesh Shah** and **Dr. Ashish Mishra**. The dignitaries addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of continuous professional development for pharmacists to ensure safe and rational use of medicines in healthcare systems. They also encouraged the participants to actively engage in the sessions and utilize the knowledge gained for improving healthcare services in their respective workplaces. **Shri Kashyapbhai Patel** explained the growing global challenge of antimicrobial resistance and highlighted how inappropriate use of antibiotics contributes to this problem.

Following the inaugural ceremony, the academic sessions of the first day began.

The first lecture was delivered by **Dr. Nehal Gandhi** on the topic “*Pharmacist as a Health Regulator*.” The speaker elaborated on the regulatory responsibilities of pharmacists and discussed how pharmacists contribute to maintaining drug quality, monitoring adverse drug reactions, and ensuring compliance with pharmaceutical regulations. The lecture highlighted the evolving role of pharmacists as healthcare professionals responsible for safeguarding public health.

The second lecture was delivered by **Dr. Mahesh Patel** on “*Rational Use of Medicines*.” During this session, the speaker explained the importance of appropriate medication use and

discussed strategies to minimize irrational prescribing and dispensing practices. The lecture emphasized that pharmacists play a vital role in preventing misuse of medicines, reducing adverse drug reactions, and promoting evidence-based therapy.

The third lecture of the day was delivered by **Dr. Pranav Shah** on the topic “*Self-Medication*”.

The fourth lecture was delivered by **Dr. Vilas Surana** on “*Role of Pharmacist in Healthcare Programs and Concept of Community Pharmacist*.” The speaker discussed the involvement of pharmacists in national health programs and emphasized the significance of community pharmacists in patient counselling, medication management, and improving public health outcomes.

The first day concluded successfully with positive feedback from the participants.

The second day of the refresher course began with the first lecture of the day was delivered by **Dr. Biren Shah** on “*Medication Errors*.” The speaker provided a comprehensive overview of medication errors occurring at different stages of the medication use process, including prescribing, dispensing, and administration. Strategies to prevent medication errors and improve patient safety were also discussed.

The second lecture was delivered by **Dr. Bhavin Vyas** on “*Drug–Food Interactions*.” The speaker explained how certain foods and beverages can alter the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs, potentially affecting therapeutic outcomes. The session emphasized the importance of pharmacists educating patients about appropriate dietary considerations during medication therapy.

The third lecture was delivered by **Dr. Gautam B Sonara** on “*Role of Nutraceuticals in Healthcare*.” The speaker discussed the increasing popularity of nutraceuticals and dietary supplements in preventive healthcare. The lecture highlighted the potential benefits of nutraceuticals as well as the importance of ensuring their safe and appropriate use.

The fourth lecture was delivered by **Dr. Kavit Patel** on “*Innovations in Healthcare: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Next-Generation Pharmacy*.” The speaker provided insights into emerging technological advancements and explained how artificial intelligence and machine learning are transforming various aspects of healthcare, including drug discovery, diagnosis, and pharmaceutical services.

A lunch break was organized from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM, after which the participants proceeded to the MCQ test.

The refresher course concluded with a valedictory ceremony. The ceremony was graced by the Chief Guest, **Shri Rasikbhai Patel**. The Guests of Honour included **Dr. Dinesh Shah** and **Dr. Shailesh Shah**. During the ceremony, the dignitaries appreciated the efforts of the organizing institute for conducting such a meaningful professional development program for pharmacists. They encouraged the participants to apply the knowledge gained during the course in their professional practice to improve patient care and promote rational use of medicines. The program concluded with a vote of thanks given by **Mrs. Binal Patel**; Program Coordinator, expressing gratitude to the Gujarat State Pharmacy Council, invited speakers, organizing committee, and participants for their valuable support and contribution to the successful conduct of the program.







