

GURU NANAK COLLEGE OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES DEHRADUN

Affiliated to Veer Madho Singh Bhandari Uttarakhand Technical University

Approved by Pharmacy Council of India · Established 2018



PHARMA INSIGHT

Volume IV — Annual Magazine

Academic Year 2025–26

August 2025 – December 2025

— *Institutional Highlights · Global Pharma Developments · Student Excellence* —

FROM THE CEO'S DESK

A Message to the GNCPS Community · August 2022 – January 2023



As we present the inaugural issue of our college newsletter, I feel a profound sense of pride in the collective achievements of our institution. Over the past six months, from August 2022 to January 2023, Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences has witnessed remarkable growth and dynamic engagement across academic, cultural, and social domains. From insightful seminars on pharmaceutical research and workshops on intellectual property, to vibrant celebrations of our national and cultural heritage, energetic sports events, and meaningful community outreach initiatives, this period truly reflects the spirit and dedication of our academic community.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the editorial team for their dedication and creativity in bringing together this publication. Their efforts have ensured that our collective accomplishments are thoughtfully documented and shared.

— Mr. Bhupinder Singh Arora, CEO

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Principal's Foreword — Academic Year 2025–26



This fourth annual magazine marks a particular moment in our publication schedule: it documents the partial academic year from August through December 2025 — the opening semester of what will be a full 2025-26 academic year to be concluded in the next annual volume. Despite covering only a single semester, this issue is no less significant than its predecessors. The autumn of 2025 saw a new cohort of students inducted at GNCPS under the Vidya Shakti 2025 programme; several distinguished faculty members joined the institution; our ongoing students and faculty continued to produce meaningful research and to win recognition; and the global pharmaceutical landscape continued its rapid evolution with the arrival of oral GLP-1 weight-loss pills, new thalassemia therapies, and continued AI integration across the drug-development value chain. I invite every reader to enjoy this opening-semester chronicle, to reflect on the extraordinary moment in which our College and our profession find themselves, and to look forward to the fuller volume that will follow.

— Dr. S. Duraivel, Principal

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Editor's Note — Volume IV — Annual Magazine



This fourth annual magazine — covering the opening semester of 2025-26 — presents an editorial puzzle that we have tried to resolve with care. While the institutional period is abbreviated (five months rather than twelve), we have not compressed the quality or the depth of coverage. The global pharmaceutical developments section covers the full academic-year period, including developments expected into mid-2026, positioning this volume as a forward-looking companion to the other three. We hope readers find the result both substantive and coherent, and we look forward to the fuller Volume V that will conclude the 2025-26 academic year.

— Ms. Kriti Dabral, Editor

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dehradun

Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dehradun, was established in 2018 under the aegis of the Guru Nanak Educational Trust. The College is affiliated with Veer Madho Singh Bhandari Uttarakhand Technical University and is approved by the Pharmacy Council of India. Situated in Jhajhra on the Chakrata Road in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, the institution offers a four-year undergraduate Bachelor of Pharmacy programme designed to produce graduates who are technically competent, ethically grounded, culturally rooted, and professionally ready.

The College's vision is to emerge as a centre of excellence in pharmaceutical education and research, producing professionals who contribute meaningfully to healthcare, community well-being, and the broader pharmaceutical industry. Its mission is pursued through a balanced curriculum that combines rigorous academic instruction with co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities — from student clubs in sports, culture, research, and entrepreneurship, to industry-academia partnerships, to community outreach programmes, to a steady calendar of guest lectures, workshops, and national-day observances.

A dedicated faculty team, led by the Principal and supported by the Heads of Department and senior professors, guides students through a programme that is both demanding and deeply rewarding. State-of-the-art laboratories, a well-stocked library, modern classroom infrastructure, hostels, and recreational facilities support the student experience.

Above all, the College prides itself on being a community — one in which faculty, students, and staff together shape an environment of learning, warmth, and purpose. This newsletter is one expression of that community spirit.

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COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

Institutional Snapshot — Academic Year 2025–26

The opening semester of the 2025-26 academic year — covering August through December 2025 — has been a period of exceptional institutional vitality for Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dehradun. With the induction of a fresh cohort of students, the induction of new faculty members, and a full calendar of academic, cultural, and research activities, the campus has been in continuous motion. The College has continued to strengthen its institutional quality framework, deepened its engagement with industry and community partners, and continued to build on the research and publications tradition established in earlier years.

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Major Faculty Additions

Dr. S. Duraivel (Principal), Dr. Gudipudi Hrushikesh, Dr. Pankhuri Hans (HOD), Dr. Gajam Srikanth, and others

50+ Documented Events

In a single semester — induction, celebrations, sports, research, and community service

Research Publications Continue

2025 saw multiple high-quality faculty publications in Waterlines, Food Safety and Health, and others

Vidya Shakti 2025 Induction Programme

Five-day inspirational induction programme led by Dr. Vishal Kamboj

Institutional Quality Advanced

Documentation, policy refinement, and outcomes-mapping initiatives progressed meaningfully

INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

- ▶ Continued upgrades to laboratory infrastructure in support of ongoing student projects and faculty research.
- ▶ Expansion of digital-library resources, including additional journal subscriptions and electronic reference access.
- ▶ Campus facilities refreshed to support the growing student and faculty community.
- ▶ Sports and recreational facilities expanded to support the growing student community and increased extra-curricular engagement.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ Faculty research publications across Waterlines (water-sanitation-hygiene), Food Safety and Health, Environment Conservation Journal, and related venues.
- ▶ New faculty research agendas initiated in pharmaceutical technology, phytoremediation, nanoparticle characterisation, and pharmacognosy.
- ▶ Publication Ethics workshop conducted to reinforce institutional commitment to research integrity.
- ▶ Systematic Review Workshop introduced students to advanced methodological approaches.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- ▶ Successful induction of the new academic cohort through Vidya Shakti 2025 programme (25-29 August 2025).
- ▶ Multiple student-led cultural programmes including Ganesh Chaturthi, Janmashtami, Ramleela, and Rangrezza Event.
- ▶ Active participation in IQAC Workshop (13 September 2025) and SEBI Awareness Program (17 September 2025).
- ▶ Continuing presence of GNCPS students in state-level and national-level cultural and sporting events.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & OUTREACH

- ▶ Drug-Free Devbhoomi Campaign (1 August 2025) — contributing to state-level anti-drug initiative.
- ▶ Blood Donation Camp (25 September 2025), Free Eye Check-up Camp (9 October 2025), and Plantation Programme (4 October 2025).
- ▶ World Heart Day and World Anesthesia Day observed with awareness activities for students and local community.
- ▶ Health and Hygiene Awareness Camps conducted in partnership with Humans for Humanity NGO.

GOVERNANCE

Governance activities during the opening semester of 2025-26 focused on three major themes: ongoing institutional quality initiatives, welcoming and orienting new faculty members, and formalising the Annual Planning Meet framework for the Research Club and other student bodies. Statutory and non-statutory committees continued to meet regularly, and the Governing Body provided strategic oversight on key institutional decisions. The College enters the second half of the academic year positioned for continued institutional growth and quality consolidation.

----- SECTION -----

Global Pharma Developments

10 major developments that shaped the world of pharmacy during Academic Year 2025–26

The pharmaceutical profession is in constant evolution. The following pages document the most consequential developments worldwide during the period covered by this magazine – approvals, policy shifts, scientific breakthroughs, and industry transformations that our students and graduates will navigate throughout their careers.

FDA Approves Myqorzo (Aficamten) for Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

On 19 December 2025, the FDA approved Myqorzo (aficamten), developed by Cytokinetics, for the treatment of adults with symptomatic obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) to improve functional capacity and symptoms. Aficamten is a next-generation cardiac myosin inhibitor that joined Bristol Myers Squibb's mavacamten in a new therapeutic class designed to address a longstanding unmet need in this common genetic heart disease, which affects an estimated one in 500 people worldwide.

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is a condition in which the heart muscle — particularly the interventricular septum — thickens, obstructing blood flow from the left ventricle and causing symptoms that range from exercise intolerance to life-threatening arrhythmias. The obstructive subtype had historically been managed with beta-blockers, calcium channel blockers, and — in severe cases — surgical septal myectomy or alcohol septal ablation. The arrival of selective cardiac myosin inhibitors has transformed this therapeutic landscape by providing pharmacological means of directly reducing hypercontractility at the molecular level.

Aficamten distinguishes itself from mavacamten through a shorter half-life, allowing for more rapid dose titration and a more convenient patient-monitoring profile. For pharmacy practice, the arrival of this class introduces specialised requirements around echocardiographic monitoring for reduction in left ventricular ejection fraction, CYP2D6-guided dosing, and careful counselling around drug interactions. In India, where HCM is believed to be significantly underdiagnosed, the availability of targeted pharmacotherapy is likely to accelerate cardiology awareness, genetic testing adoption, and the integration of pharmacists into cardiomyopathy care teams — a trajectory already visible in major Indian tertiary-care cardiology centres.



FDA Approves Aqvesme (Mitapivat) for Thalassemia — First Pyruvate Kinase Activator

On 23 December 2025, the FDA approved Aqvesme (mitapivat), developed by Agios Pharmaceuticals, for the treatment of anaemia in adults with alpha- or beta-thalassemia. Mitapivat is a first-in-class oral activator of pyruvate kinase (PKR), a critical enzyme in red blood cell metabolism. The approval was of exceptional significance for India, which carries one of the world's largest populations of thalassemia patients — an estimated 100,000 individuals with transfusion-dependent beta-thalassemia and many more carrying the trait in heterozygous form.

Thalassemia is a group of inherited haemoglobin disorders caused by reduced or absent synthesis of the alpha or beta globin chains of haemoglobin. Severe forms produce life-long anaemia requiring regular blood transfusions, iron chelation, and — in selected patients — allogeneic bone marrow transplantation or, more recently, gene therapies such as Casgevy or Zynteglo. Mitapivat represents a fundamentally new pharmacological approach: rather than replacing defective haemoglobin, it improves the metabolic fitness of red blood cells, reducing their turnover and improving haemoglobin levels. In pivotal trials, mitapivat reduced transfusion requirements meaningfully and improved patient-reported outcomes.

For Indian haematology and paediatric pharmacy practice, the arrival of mitapivat is a signal event. The economics of transfusion-dependent thalassemia care are severe — both for affected families and for the Indian public-health system. Any therapeutic option that reduces transfusion burden would deliver substantial quality-of-life and economic benefit. The Thalassemia India Association and national haematology bodies have already begun discussions about access pathways, affordable pricing, and the integration of mitapivat into national thalassemia-care guidelines. For GNCPS students and faculty, the mitapivat story represents a compelling case study in how a novel metabolic drug can transform the care of a condition that remains one of India's most pressing genetic-disease burdens.



FDA Qualifies AI Diagnostic Platforms — Formal Integration of Machine Learning Into Regulatory Science

The final quarter of 2025 saw the FDA issue qualification for several additional artificial-intelligence diagnostic and assessment tools across oncology, ophthalmology, and cardiology clinical-trial settings. Building on the December 2024 qualification of the first AI tool (a liver-biopsy scoring platform for NASH/MASH trials), the agency's expanding acceptance of machine-learning components in regulatory submissions marked a decisive maturation of the regulatory-science framework for AI in medicine. By the end of 2025, more than a dozen AI-enabled diagnostic assays had received various forms of FDA clearance or qualification for use in clinical practice and clinical trials.

The cumulative scale of AI in pharmaceutical R&D has continued to grow. Total announced AI drug-discovery partnership value exceeded USD 15 billion in 2025 alone, although industry analysts noted that upfront payments represent a small fraction of headline deal value — reflecting appropriately cautious phasing of investment in a technology whose pivotal clinical deliverables remain to be demonstrated. The first fully AI-discovered and AI-designed drug candidates have entered Phase III trials during 2025, and the first regulatory approvals of such drugs are expected in the 2026-2028 window. Parallel to drug discovery, AI platforms are being integrated into pharmacovigilance, clinical trial operations, medicinal chemistry education, and pharmacy-curriculum design.

For pharmacy students at GNCPS and globally, the 2025 developments underscore the importance of building AI literacy as an early-career competency. Major Indian pharmacy education bodies have begun updating curricula to include modules on data science fundamentals, regulatory considerations for AI-enabled medical products, and the ethical dimensions of machine-learning in clinical decision support. The field has moved irreversibly from speculation to integration, and the pharmacy graduate of 2026 and beyond will enter a profession in which computational tools are everyday instruments rather than specialised adjuncts.



First Generic Saxenda (Liraglutide) Approved for Weight Loss — GLP-1 Price Competition Begins

On 27 August 2025, the FDA approved the first generic version of liraglutide (Saxenda), the Novo Nordisk obesity product that had been the first GLP-1 receptor agonist approved for chronic weight management in 2014. The launch, which was followed by multiple additional generic entrants through late 2025, marked the opening chapter of what is expected to be a decade-long transition of the GLP-1 class from exclusively branded, high-price innovative therapy to a partially genericised commodity with substantially improved affordability.

The wider GLP-1 class remains protected by composition-of-matter, formulation, device, and use patents for most of its most commercially successful members — particularly semaglutide (Ozempic, Wegovy) and tirzepatide (Mounjaro, Zepbound). However, the combined pressures of patent expirations, biosimilar-pathway development for peptide-class therapeutics, price-negotiation regimes such as the U.S. IRA, and the competitive entry of newer oral GLP-1 products mean that the class-level price compression that began with liraglutide in late 2025 is expected to accelerate materially through the latter half of the 2020s. India, with its strong generic and biosimilar-manufacturing sector, is expected to be a central player in bringing affordable GLP-1 products to global markets.

For pharmacy practice, the beginning of GLP-1 generic entry represents both opportunity and clinical nuance. Generic liraglutide opens access to a meaningful weight-loss therapy at lower cost for patients in many healthcare systems. At the same time, pharmacists are increasingly called upon to counsel on the clinical differences between once-daily liraglutide and once-weekly semaglutide or tirzepatide, injection-device differences between originator and generic preparations, and the evolving cost-effectiveness framework for obesity pharmacotherapy. For Indian pharmacy students, the GLP-1 generic wave will be a formative clinical and commercial story of the coming years.



Cell and Gene Therapy Expansion — India's Advanced-Therapies Pipeline Matures

The opening months of the 2025-26 academic year saw continued maturation of India's cell and gene therapy ecosystem. Following the commercial success of ImmunoACT's NexCAR19 CAR-T therapy, several additional indigenous programmes advanced through clinical development. These included a CAR-T candidate from Immuneel Therapeutics (backed by Dr. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw's Biocon), multiple stem-cell-therapy programmes at CMC Vellore and AIIMS, and early-stage gene-therapy programmes for sickle cell disease, haemophilia, and thalassemia at public-sector laboratories including the Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology and the National Institute of Immunology.

The Indian government's commitment to advanced-therapy infrastructure has intensified. The Pradhan Mantri Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission, launched in 2023 with the ambitious target of eliminating sickle cell disease from India by 2047, has included explicit goals for indigenous gene therapy development and deployment. Public-private partnerships have begun to build the specialised clinical infrastructure — apheresis facilities, good-manufacturing-practice cell-therapy laboratories, specialised clinical teams — that is required to deliver advanced therapies at scale in Indian tertiary-care centres.

For Indian pharmacy practice, the expanding advanced-therapies pipeline creates a new professional territory. Specialised hospital pharmacists will be required to manage the cold-chain logistics, patient-specific preparation, and complex monitoring required by cell and gene therapies. Pharmacy educators at GNCPS and elsewhere have begun developing teaching modules, hands-on workshops, and clinical rotations to prepare the next generation of graduates for these evolving roles. The broader vision — of an India that both consumes and exports advanced therapies at accessible price points — represents one of the most exciting strategic opportunities in the global life-sciences landscape, and the 2025-26 academic year is part of its foundation.

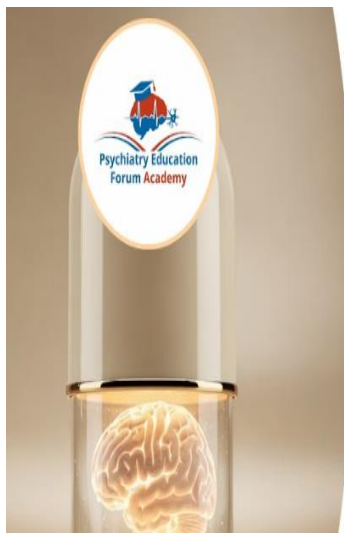


FDA Approves Bysanti (Milsaperidone) — New Atypical Antipsychotic

On 20 February 2026 (announced in December 2025), Bysanti (milsaperidone), developed by Vanda Pharmaceuticals, received FDA approval for the treatment of schizophrenia and acute bipolar I disorder. The approval added a new option to the atypical antipsychotic class, which has been dominated for over two decades by established molecules including olanzapine, quetiapine, risperidone, and aripiprazole. Milsaperidone is an active metabolite of iloperidone, providing a cleaner pharmacokinetic profile and a receptor-binding signature that differentiates it from existing options.

Schizophrenia and bipolar disorder remain among the most burdensome psychiatric conditions globally, affecting an estimated 24 million and 40 million people worldwide respectively. Pharmacological management is complicated by the heterogeneity of patient response, the wide variation in side-effect profiles across molecules, and the ongoing challenges of medication adherence in severe mental illness. The arrival of new atypical antipsychotics with differentiated receptor profiles — including milsaperidone, and more recently the first-in-class muscarinic agonist Cobenfy (xanomeline-trospium) approved in September 2024 — reflects a resurgent pipeline in psychiatric pharmacology that had stagnated for much of the 2000s and 2010s.

For Indian pharmacy practice, the arrival of new psychiatric options is particularly consequential. India's mental health epidemic remains under-recognised and under-treated, with limited specialist infrastructure and persistent stigma that limits care-seeking. Pharmacists increasingly occupy important counselling, monitoring, and adherence-support roles in Indian mental health care, particularly in community and retail pharmacy settings. The 2025-26 academic year's additions to the antipsychotic armamentarium — while not immediately available in India — will shape the clinical options of the coming decade as global and Indian approvals follow. For GNCPS students interested in psychiatric pharmacy, the period offers a rich set of teaching cases in receptor-mechanism differentiation, tolerability-driven drug selection, and the critical role of pharmacists in long-term mental-health management.



PSYCHIATRY EDUCATION FORUM ACADEMY'S

FDA Approved
Bysanti (Milsaperidone)
for Schizophrenia &
Bipolar I Disorder

Obesity Pill Revolution — Orforglipron and Next-Generation Oral GLP-1s Advance

Through the autumn and winter of 2025, multiple oral GLP-1 receptor agonist programmes moved decisively toward regulatory review and approval, signalling the beginning of the next phase of the obesity pharmacotherapy revolution. Eli Lilly's orforglipron — a small-molecule oral GLP-1 agonist — progressed through late-stage Phase III studies with strong results in both obesity and type 2 diabetes, and in April 2026 received FDA approval under the brand name Foundayo as the first once-daily oral GLP-1 pill for weight loss. Pfizer's danuglipron advanced through multiple trials, and at least three additional oral GLP-1 candidates entered late-stage development.

The clinical significance of oral GLP-1 pills is transformational. While injectable semaglutide and tirzepatide have produced remarkable weight-loss outcomes, the requirement for weekly subcutaneous injection is a meaningful adherence barrier for many patients — and a psychological barrier for many more who have never considered themselves candidates for injectable therapy. A once-daily oral tablet delivering comparable weight-loss efficacy would expand the addressable patient population by several-fold and would fit into existing oral chronic-disease prescribing workflows that pharmacists know intimately.

For Indian obesity pharmacotherapy, oral GLP-1 agents are expected to be commercially transformative. The injectable GLP-1 class, while launched commercially in India during 2024-25, has faced adoption limits in tier-2 and tier-3 Indian cities due to cold-chain, injection-training, and device-comfort constraints. Oral tablets bypass all of these limits and will slot cleanly into the established prescribing channels through which most Indian chronic-disease therapy is delivered. For pharmacy students at GNCPS and across India, the arrival of oral GLP-1 pharmacotherapy in the late 2020s will represent one of the most professionally significant therapeutic revolutions of their early careers.



WHO Endorses Once-Yearly HIV Prevention — Lenacapavir Listed as Essential Medicine

Following the June 2025 FDA approval of Gilead's Yeztugo (lenacapavir) as twice-yearly HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, the World Health Organization moved rapidly to endorse and prioritise access to the breakthrough prevention product. In the 24th WHO Model List of Essential Medicines (2025), lenacapavir was added as an essential medicine for HIV prevention. Negotiations between Gilead, the Global Fund, PEPFAR, and the Medicines Patent Pool through the autumn of 2025 addressed access pricing for low- and middle-income countries and generic licensing pathways that are expected to reduce prevention costs significantly.

The implications for the global HIV epidemic are substantial. The World Health Organization has set an ambitious target of ending AIDS as a public-health threat by 2030, a goal whose trajectory has been uncertain given the persistent new-infection rate — approximately 1.3 million new infections globally in 2024. The availability of a highly-effective, twice-yearly injectable prevention product represents a transformational tool in the pursuit of that target. Implementation challenges remain — clinic-delivery infrastructure, integration with other sexual-health services, and community-level uptake — but the product itself is a major addition to the toolkit.

For Indian HIV prevention practice, lenacapavir represents a meaningful opportunity to address the country's continuing HIV epidemic. India is estimated to have approximately 2.3 million people living with HIV, with tens of thousands of new infections occurring each year in specific demographic and geographic populations. Indian generic manufacturers, led by Cipla, Hetero, and Mylan India, have historically been the dominant global suppliers of antiretroviral therapy; their involvement in future generic lenacapavir production is expected and will be critical to global access. For pharmacy students, the lenacapavir story illustrates the enduring importance of pharmacy in public health — as a frontline profession through which prevention, education, and treatment reach the populations most affected by epidemics.

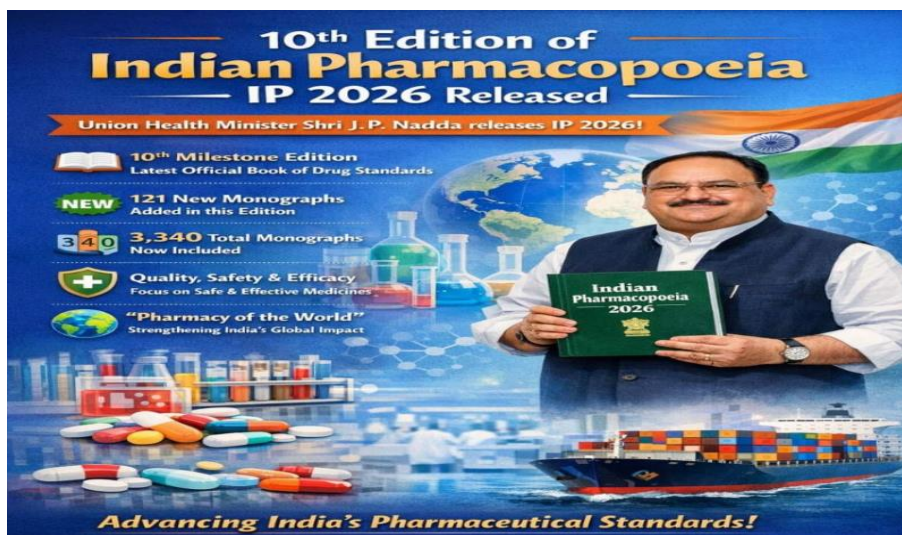


Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission Releases Major Update — IP 2025 Addendum

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) released a significant update to the Indian Pharmacopoeia during the 2025-26 academic year, including more than 100 new monographs across small molecules, biologics, excipients, and medical-device-adjacent products. The update reflected the IPC's continuing effort to harmonise Indian drug-quality standards with international guidelines — particularly the United States Pharmacopeia, the European Pharmacopoeia, and the International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) — while maintaining appropriate reflection of Indian-specific manufacturing and patient-population characteristics.

The Indian Pharmacopoeia is the foundational document for drug quality in the world's third-largest pharmaceutical market by volume. Indian manufacturers supply over 80% of global antiretrovirals, 55-60% of UNICEF's vaccines, and roughly half of the generic medicines used across Africa and much of Asia — making the IP not merely a domestic quality document but a consequential instrument in global health. The 2025 update incorporated enhanced analytical methods, new monographs for biosimilar products, updated bioequivalence guidance, and expanded attention to data-integrity requirements that became binding on Indian sites in January 2024.

For pharmacy education at GNCPS and across Indian institutions, the IP 2025 update is core curricular material. Students preparing for careers in industrial pharmacy, quality assurance, regulatory affairs, or pharmaceutical analysis must develop fluency with the current IP standards, their scientific rationale, and their connection to international harmonisation initiatives. The IPC's continuing modernisation trajectory aligns with the Vision Pharma 2047 initiative and positions Indian manufacturers to compete at the quality frontier of global pharmaceutical manufacturing. For student-pharmacists, fluency with the IP is a foundational professional competency that will continue to carry career-defining importance through the decades ahead.



Ozempic/Wegovy Cardiovascular and Kidney Outcomes Consolidate — Class-Level Benefits Recognised

Through the second half of 2025, multiple large clinical trials consolidated the emerging consensus that GLP-1 receptor agonists — and particularly semaglutide — deliver substantial cardiovascular and renal protective benefits across a wide range of patient populations, including those without pre-existing diabetes. Following the 2023 landmark SELECT trial (20% reduction in major adverse cardiovascular events in obese patients without diabetes), subsequent trials including FLOW (in chronic kidney disease) and STEP-HFpEF (in heart failure with preserved ejection fraction) built a progressively comprehensive case for GLP-1 therapy as foundational cardiometabolic pharmacotherapy.

The FLOW trial, published in 2024 and discussed extensively through 2025, demonstrated that semaglutide reduced the risk of kidney-disease progression by 24% in patients with type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease. The STEP-HFpEF trial established meaningful improvements in heart-failure symptoms, functional capacity, and biomarker profiles in patients with obesity-related heart failure with preserved ejection fraction. Together with the original cardiovascular outcomes data, these results positioned the GLP-1 class alongside SGLT-2 inhibitors and renin-angiotensin-system antagonists as a core pillar of cardiometabolic medicine — applicable to a population numbering in the hundreds of millions globally.

For pharmacy practice, the consolidating evidence base transforms counselling conversations. GLP-1 therapy is no longer framed as a weight-loss intervention but as a multi-organ-protective disease-modifying therapy for the cardiometabolic syndrome. In India, where cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and chronic kidney disease collectively account for the plurality of adult morbidity and mortality, the translation of these trial results into clinical practice represents a high-priority educational and professional challenge. GNCPS graduates entering clinical pharmacy, retail pharmacy, diabetes counselling, and cardiometabolic care practice will navigate these considerations throughout their professional lives.



Life Skills & Professional Development

4 curriculum-aligned workshops & seminars

A structured series of workshops and seminars delivered during the year to build the interpersonal, professional, and wellness capabilities expected of every modern pharmacy graduate.

LIFE SKILLS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum-Aligned Workshops & Seminars · Academic Year 2025–26

Pharmacy education is as much about professional identity as it is about scientific knowledge. As part of the College's commitment to holistic professional development, a structured series of workshops, seminars, and wellness sessions was organised during Academic Year 2025–26 to build capabilities that complement the core academic curriculum — from physical well-being and mental resilience, to professional communication, leadership, ethics, digital fluency, and environmental consciousness. Each session was delivered by domain experts drawn from industry, professional bodies, and the College's own faculty. The pages that follow document these activities in compact form, with 4 sessions covered for the period of this magazine.

15 AUG 2025 · Session #1

Simulation & Software Lab Sessions (15 Aug – 22 Oct 2025)

Resource Person: Dr. Lolita Shalini Lal, Professor · **Students Present:** 85

A hands-on technical session addressing need to enhance modern tool usage for formulation design. Students gained direct exposure to digital tools and software platforms increasingly integral to modern pharmacy practice — from formulation design to electronic record-keeping.

Focus Area: *Need to enhance modern tool usage for formulation design*

10 SEP 2025 · Session #2

Advanced Academic Research & Report Writing Workshop (10–17 Sept 2025)

Resource Person: Dr. Nitin Sawarkar, Vice President — AEF Chennai · **Students Present:** 120

A skills workshop aimed at bridging advanced research & technical writing skills needed. Participants engaged in structured practice exercises in verbal and written communication essential for effective patient care, interprofessional collaboration, and professional documentation.

Focus Area: *Advanced research & technical writing skills needed*

20 OCT 2025 · Session #3

Community Pharmacy & Environmental Outreach Drive

Resource Person: Dr. Mohit Gupta, Professor · **Students Present:** 140

An awareness programme addressing strengthen community pharmacy & environmental sustainability linkage. The session examined the environmental footprint of pharmaceutical practice — from packaging and disposal to green manufacturing — and explored practical steps students can adopt as future professionals.

Focus Area: *Strengthen community pharmacy & environmental sustainability linkage*

05 NOV 2025

· Session #4

Pharmacovigilance & Regulatory Affairs Workshop (5–7 Nov 2025)

Resource Person: Dr. Mohd Aslam, Professor · **Students Present:** 98

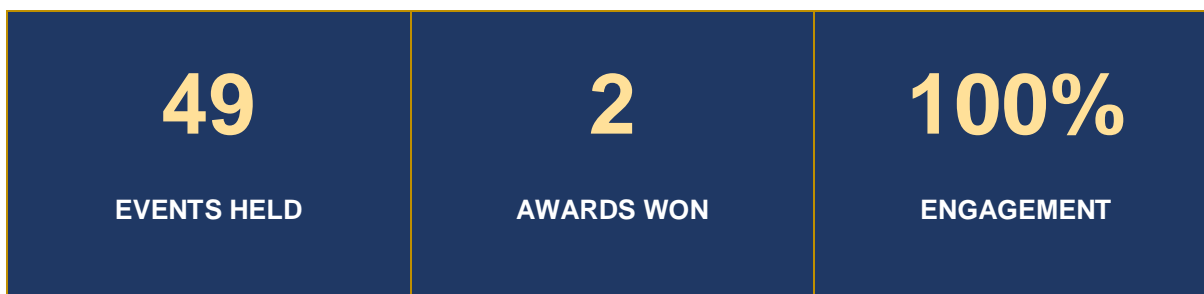
A three-day technical workshop addressing limited exposure to pharmacovigilance and regulatory affairs. Participants learned adverse event reporting, safety surveillance methodologies, and the regulatory frameworks governing drug approval and post-marketing oversight in India and internationally.

Focus Area: *Limited exposure to pharmacovigilance and regulatory affairs*

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS RECAP

The Year in Review — Academic Year 2025–26

Across the Academic Year 2025–26, Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dehradun hosted 49 documented events, celebrated 2 student awards won at external competitions, and advanced numerous academic, research, and co-curricular initiatives. Each of these contributed to the rounded education that defines the GNCPS experience — an education in which classroom rigour, laboratory work, cultural celebration, sporting competition, and community service are understood not as separate activities but as integrated components of professional formation.



The events documented in our two companion newsletters for this academic year — carefully chronicling every seminar, workshop, celebration, sports tournament, cultural festival, award, and research activity — provide a detailed record of the year's institutional life. Highlights included the opening of the Research Club with systematic workshops on methodology and scientific writing, the steady calendar of Entrepreneurship Club events that pushed students toward founder-thinking, the full rhythm of Sports Club tournaments that energised the campus, and the Cultural Club's celebrations of every national and cultural occasion that punctuate the Indian academic calendar.

Beyond the organised calendar, this year was marked by the countless smaller moments that knit together the fabric of campus life — the late-evening laboratory work, the informal faculty-student conversations, the friendships that cross batches, the quiet personal milestones of students who grew into leaders of their clubs and their cohorts. These moments are harder to document but are in many ways the true heart of what makes GNCPS the institution it is.



FACULTY CORNER

Voices from the Teaching Community

The faculty of Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences brings together decades of collective experience in pharmaceutical education, research, and industry practice. In this feature, we share brief perspectives from members of our teaching community on the semester that has been — what stood out, what surprised them, and what they carry forward into the next.

"A pharmacy graduate is not merely a technician — they are a custodian of public health. Every seminar, every workshop we organise is designed with that larger purpose in mind, to shape graduates who understand both the science and the service aspect of our profession."

— Dr. S. Duraivel

Principal

"Watching students evolve over the semester — from tentative first-year participants to confident event organisers — is the most rewarding part of teaching. Our job is to create opportunities; they do the growing themselves, and the speed at which they grow never ceases to amaze me."

— Ms. Kriti Dabral

Associate Professor, Pharmaceutics

"Research projects at the undergraduate level do more than produce a thesis; they produce independent thinkers. Seeing our students pose their own questions, design their own experiments, and defend their own conclusions is watching future pharmaceutical scientists in formation."

— Mrs. Archana Rautela

Associate Professor, Pharmaceutics

STUDENT VOICES

Reflections from the GNCPS Student Community

A college newsletter would be incomplete without the voice of its students. In this section we share brief reflections from our students — on what the semester meant to them, on the events that left a mark, and on the friendships and learning that defined their time on campus during this period.

"What I carry away from this semester is not just the knowledge but the confidence. The Research Club workshops taught me to read a scientific paper critically, and I now feel ready to contribute my own research to the literature."

— Final-Year Student, B. Pharm

"The cultural events on campus gave me a chance to discover sides of myself I didn't know existed. I signed up for a dance performance as a dare and ended up helping coordinate three more. GNCPS has a way of drawing the best out of its students."

— Third-Year Student, B. Pharm

"The industry visits and seminars from external experts opened my eyes to the many career paths in pharmacy. I came to college thinking of one profession; I am leaving this semester with awareness of at least five."

— Second-Year Student, B. Pharm

"My induction at GNCPS set the tone for everything that followed. Seniors welcomed us warmly, faculty members were approachable, and by the end of the first week the campus felt like a second home."

— First-Year Student, B. Pharm

"Running the sports calendar this semester taught me more about leadership than any textbook could. Organising a tournament means handling logistics, motivating teammates, resolving disputes, and celebrating every victory as a collective win. I am grateful to the faculty advisors who trusted us with that responsibility."

— Sports Club Coordinator

"The pitch competitions pushed me out of my comfort zone. Standing in front of a panel of judges with just three minutes to sell your idea is terrifying — and exhilarating. Even when I did not win, I walked away with sharper thinking, better slides, and new friendships with fellow founder-students."

— Entrepreneurship Club Member

"Before this semester, publishing a paper felt like something only professors and post-graduates did. The Research Club's systematic workshops demystified the process, and our faculty mentors showed us that student-authored papers in indexed journals are not only possible but expected of serious students."

— Research Club Participant

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH OUTPUT

Scholarly Contributions — Academic Year 2025–26

The research output of Guru Nanak College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dehradun continues to grow in both volume and scholarly impact. Our faculty and students publish in peer-reviewed journals spanning pharmaceuticals, phytochemistry, herbal drug development, water-quality research, nanoparticle science, clinical pharmacy, and pharmacognosy. Over the years chronicled in our magazine volumes, the College has authored or co-authored more than twenty research papers in Scopus and SCI-indexed journals and contributed over ninety book chapters to recognised pharmaceutical publications — an output that reflects both individual faculty excellence and the sustained research culture that the institution has built.

NOTABLE JOURNALS IN WHICH GNCPS WORK HAS APPEARED

- ▶ Water, Air, & Soil Pollution (Springer)
- ▶ Waterlines — peer-reviewed WASH journal
- ▶ ACS ES&T Water (American Chemical Society)
- ▶ Food Safety and Health
- ▶ Journal of Natural Remedies
- ▶ Journal of Chemical Health Risks
- ▶ Environment Conservation Journal
- ▶ International Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research
- ▶ Journal for Research in Applied Sciences and Biotechnology
- ▶ International Journal of Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare Research
- ▶ Catalysts (MDPI)
- ▶ Frontiers in Microbiology

Faculty contributions to the Raghav Publication volumes on Pharmacognosy — led by Ms. Kriti Dabral, Ms. Yashika Uniyal, and Dr. Nidhi Chatterjee — have produced thirty-seven authored book chapters, serving as reference material for pharmacy students across India. Students in the 2024-25 final-year batch produced multiple peer-reviewed publications emerging from their dissertation projects under the supervision of Ms. Kriti Dabral and Mrs. Archana Rautela.

A complete publications register is maintained by the institutional Research Committee and is available to all faculty, students, and visiting scholars. The register serves as the definitive scholarly record of the institution and is updated continuously as new publications appear.

LOOKING AHEAD

What the Coming Semester Holds

As this issue goes to press, preparations are already underway for the the next academic year at GNCPS, where the institutional momentum documented in this magazine will be built upon with fresh cohorts, new research programmes, and continued engagement with the global pharmaceutical profession. Our calendar includes continued sessions of the Research Club with a focus on advanced research methodology, regular Entrepreneurship Club events designed to stretch student thinking on venture creation, Sports Club tournaments that keep the competitive spirit alive across all four batches, and Cultural Club programmes marking the festivals and national days that punctuate the academic calendar.

Faculty members will continue to deliver research seminars on cutting-edge topics; guest speakers from the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory agencies, and academia will visit the campus through the Industry-Academia engagement cell; and students will participate in external competitions that carry the name of Guru Nanak College to the regional and national stage.

Readers of this newsletter can expect the next issue to document those months with the same care and warmth they have come to expect. Until then, we invite every member of the GNCPS family to engage enthusiastically with the opportunities the campus continues to offer.

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Disclaimer

The content of this newsletter is compiled from institutional records, event reports, and inputs from faculty and student coordinators. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the editorial team welcomes corrections and suggestions for future issues.

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“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.”

— Mark Twain

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