
Report on World Cancer Day 2026 Observed by Faculty of Pharmacy

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Mon, Mar 30, 2026 at 12:26 PM

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Observed by

Faculty of Pharmacy, Integral University, Lucknow.

10 February 2026

The Department of Pharmacy, Integral University, Lucknow, organized a guest lecture **on 10 February 2026** on the topic “Cancer Awareness.” The session was delivered by **Dr. Nafees Ahmad Siddiqui**, a Medical Oncologist from Nabeel Cancer Care Centre, Lucknow. The aim of the lecture was to increase awareness among pharmacy students about cancer prevention, early detection, and the role of healthcare professionals in cancer care. The Organizing Committee was led by **Prof. Syed Misbahul Hasan**, along with **Prof. Juber Akhtar** and **Dr. Asad Jamal Ansari**. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students & faculty aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 4, and 17.

Objective

The guest lecture was organized with the objective of creating awareness about cancer and its major causes, helping students understand the early signs and symptoms of the disease, emphasizing the importance of cancer screening and preventive strategies, and highlighting the vital role pharmacists play in cancer awareness and patient care. The lecture aimed to prepare pharmacy students to contribute effectively to public health initiatives related to cancer prevention and management.

Summary of the Lecture

During the session, Dr. Nafees Ahmad Siddiqui explained the fundamental concepts of cancer in a clear and systematic manner. He described cancer as a condition characterized by uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells and explained the difference between benign and malignant tumors. He also discussed the most common cancers prevalent in India, including breast cancer, lung cancer, oral cancer, and cervical cancer. The speaker highlighted that several lifestyle factors such as tobacco use, alcohol consumption, unhealthy dietary habits, obesity, environmental exposure, and lack of physical activity significantly increase the risk of developing cancer.

Dr. Siddiqui further emphasized the importance of recognizing early warning signs and symptoms of cancer. He explained that unusual lumps or swelling, unexplained weight loss, persistent cough or bleeding, non-healing ulcers, and changes in bowel or bladder habits should never be ignored. He encouraged pharmacy students to educate patients and the general public about these symptoms so that early diagnosis can be achieved, which greatly improves treatment outcomes and survival rates. The lecture also focused on cancer prevention strategies. Dr. Siddiqui advised avoiding tobacco and alcohol, maintaining a healthy diet and regular exercise routine, and taking preventive measures such as HPV vaccination. He discussed the importance of regular screening tests like Pap smear, mammography,

oral cancer screening, and other diagnostic examinations, explaining that early detection plays a crucial role in reducing cancer-related mortality.



A significant portion of the lecture was devoted to explaining the role of pharmacists in cancer awareness and patient care. Dr. Siddiqui highlighted that pharmacists can educate patients about cancer risk factors, counsel them on medication adherence and lifestyle modifications, monitor and manage adverse effects of chemotherapy, and promote screening programs within the community. He also emphasized the importance of emotional support for cancer patients and encouraged students to participate actively in awareness campaigns and consider specialization in oncology pharmacy.

The lecture concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session in which students actively participated and raised queries about cancer prevention strategies, management of chemotherapy side effects, and career opportunities in oncology pharmacy. Dr. Siddiqui responded to all questions with practical clinical examples and valuable insights from his professional experience.

Overall, the lecture was highly informative and helped students gain a better understanding of cancer causes, prevention methods, early detection strategies, and the important role pharmacists can play in oncology care and community awareness programs.

Following the expert talks, mementos were presented to the speaker. The talk concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Prof. (Dr.) Tarique Mahmood Ansari, Department of Pharmacy



Prof. (Dr.) Juber Akhtar,
Head,
Department of Pharmacy.

Prof. (Dr.) Syed. Misbahul Hasan,
Dean,
Faculty of Pharmacy