MEDICINE PRICES

Same strip, different job

A chemist sells medicines. A hospital pharmacy runs a medication system. Here is the work you never see.

Swipe →

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



CHEMIST VS HOSPITAL

What each one actually stocks and does

STOCK	Fast movers on demand vs hundreds of lines, 24×7
COLD CHAIN	A small fridge vs monitored storage for vaccines and biologics
PREPARATION	Dispenses packs vs prepares IV and chemotherapy doses
SELECTION	Stocks what sells vs formulary decided with doctors
SAFETY	Checks the script vs interaction, allergy and dose checks

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



EMERGENCY READINESS

Ready at 3 a.m., a few times a year

- Antidotes, anti-snake venom, clot-busting drugs on hand
- Specialty injections stocked even if rarely used
- Many expire on the shelf unused, by design
- That cost is real. It is the price of being ready.

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



HANDLING AND PREP

Where a slip ruins the medicine

- Biologics, insulin, vaccines lose effect if temperature slips
  Storage and transport monitored from store to ward
- Cytotoxic drugs prepared under controlled conditions
  Protects patients and staff
- Chemo doses checked against weight and lab values

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



QUIET DEFENCES

Formulary, authenticity and clinical review

- Brands vetted before they enter the hospital
- Bought through verified channels, recalls acted on
- Clinical pharmacists flag interactions, help switch IV to oral
- Reconciliation at admission, transfer and discharge
- Adverse reactions reported to the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India

NABH assesses medication management as a core accreditation standard.

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



In India most of this cost is recovered through the medicine line at MRP, rather than charged separately. The patient sees a familiar number and assumes overcharging.

Where medicines sit inside a case price, as in much of Europe, the comparison never arises.

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



DO THIS

Four things hospitals can do now

1. Publish a simple page on what the pharmacy does
2. Train billing and front desk to explain MRP in one minute
3. Include medicines in written estimates for planned admissions
4. Say clearly when families may buy outside, and why not

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



PATIENTS ASK

Straight answers to the common questions

ABOVE MRP?	Never. A hospital pharmacy sells at or below MRP
OWN MEDICINES?	Policies vary. Storage and authenticity cannot be verified. Ask first
WHY RESTRICT?	To control quality, cold chain and dosing
FORMULARY?	Medicines and brands approved by doctors and pharmacists

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com



READ THE FULL GUIDE

Hospital pharmacy vs chemist, in full

- The full seven-area comparison table
- Why emergency stock expires unused
- How to explain MRP at the billing counter
- gauravphogat.com/hospital-pharmacy-vs-chemist

Gaurav Phogat
gauravphogat.com

