

Dr. Chetna K. Desai

MBBS, MD (Pharmacology), FAIMER Fellow

Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Dr. M.K. Shah Medical College & Research Centre, Ahmedabad | Past President, Academy of Health Professions Educators (AHPE)

Professional Profile

Distinguished clinical pharmacologist, medical educator, and national leader in pharmacovigilance with over 36 years of teaching, research, and academic experience. Her work spans clinical pharmacology, drug and medical device safety, competency-based medical education, curriculum reform, and national regulatory initiatives. She has previously led the Department of Pharmacology at B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.

Education

MBBS • MD (Pharmacology) • FAIMER Fellowship in Health Professions Education (CMCL) • FAIMER Global Fellowship (I-FACE), USA – Competency-Based Education

Areas of Expertise

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics • Pharmacovigilance & Materiovigilance • Competency-Based Medical Education • Curriculum Design & Assessment • Drug & Medical Device Safety • Educational Leadership & Faculty Development

Leadership & Contributions

Past President, AHPE • Former Chief Editor, *Indian Journal of Pharmacology* (2013–2017) • Coordinator, Medical Education Unit, BJMC • Coordinator, Regional Training Centre & ADR Monitoring Centre, Pharmacovigilance Programme of India. Led reporting of 15,000+ ADRs and 1,100 medical device adverse events. Served on CDSCO and DTAB expert committees and led the NMC Expert Group for competency-based MD Pharmacology curriculum guidelines. Has authored 99 scientific papers and served as General Manager, Gujarat Medical Services Corporation. Recipient of multiple honours including the Woman Pharmacologist Award (IPS, 2025), N.N. Datta Prize, and Dr. Rita Sood Memorial Oration.

Professional Philosophy

Advocates scientific rigour, ethical and evidence-based prescribing, safe and rational use of medicines, strengthened drug-safety systems, and learner-centred faculty development. Believes pharmacology education is central to patient safety and to developing thoughtful, responsible clinicians.