The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan

ICAP

ICAP Sector Series

Sector Spotlight: Pharmaceutical Industry

The Sector Series is an initiative designed to provide a holistic understanding of key industries by bringing together diverse professional perspectives on a single platform.

The first spotlight of this series focuses on the Pharmaceutical Sector, a critical industry that plays a vital role in healthcare, innovation, and economic development. The sector operates within a complex regulatory environment while responding to growing healthcare needs, evolving compliance requirements, and increasing adoption of technology.

This session aims to provide participants with practical insights into the business landscape of the pharmaceutical industry, key financial reporting considerations, sector-specific tax implications, ESG expectations, and the emerging role of artificial intelligence and digital transformation in pharma operations.

Thursday, 16 April, 2026 | **3:00 PM – 7:00 PM** | **ICAP House, Karachi**

Speakers Panel

Business Perspective

Mr. Hasham Ali Baber
CFO – Executive Director
GSK Pakistan

Hasham Ali Baber is Finance Director and Chief Financial Officer with a professional career spanning over 15 years in the Pharmaceutical Industry.

As a Chartered Accountant, prior to joining GSK, Mr. Baber was part of the PricewaterhouseCoopers as Supervising Senior.

During his career journey at GSK, Hasham held multiple local and global roles including Lead Finance Business Partner Pakistan LOC, Lead Regional Finance Hub and later Regional Financial Planning Director for the Emerging Markets. In 2016, Hasham established Pakistan as a planning hub for other GSK countries.

Following its successful implementation, multiple other hubs were set-up on the same model, hence establishing a path towards new ways of working for GSK at a global scale.

Accounting & Financial Reporting

Mr. Arif Nazeer
Partner – Yousuf Adil
Chartered Accountants

Arif is a partner at Yousuf Adil, Chartered Accountants. He brings more than 25 years of professional experience in accounting and auditing, gained at leading firms in Pakistan as well as internationally across the Middle East, the United Kingdom, and South Africa.

He also held a partner position in assurance and accounting advisory services at EY Ford Rhodes. His client portfolio includes publicly traded companies, governmental entities, diversified industries and multinational corporations, covering sectors such as Pharmaceuticals, Oil & Gas, Energy & Power, FMCG, Financial Services, among others.

Arif is a Fellow Chartered Accountant of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (CA Pakistan), and he holds a master's degree in economics from the University of Karachi.

Arif contributes to working groups across several Committees of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan, focusing on auditing, ethics, and International Financial Reporting Standards.

Mr. Zeeshan Zafar Khan
Partner – KPMG
Taseer Hadi & Co.

Tax & Regulatory Perspective

Mr. Zeeshan Zafar Khan is a seasoned tax professional with more than 17 years of experience in leading tax and accounting functions across multiple industries, ranging from services to manufacturing. Since becoming part of KPMG in 2012, he has been responsible for overseeing the tax affairs of multinational corporations (MNCs) with complex operational structures.

His expertise covers tax planning, structuring, and advisory services. He works closely with auditors, business executives, and legal advisors to assess tax developments and their implications. Additionally, he plays an active role in interpreting international tax treaties and their influence on business models. He currently provides tax advisory services to major clients in industries such as aviation, oil and gas, power, manufacturing, trading, insurance, hospitality, banking, finance, shipping, and non-resident investment portfolios. He also represents corporate clients in dealings with tax authorities at administrative and appellate levels.

With in-depth knowledge of Pakistan's taxation framework, he has advised on international taxation and transfer pricing matters. His extensive research in this domain has enabled him to develop specialized expertise in handling both inbound and outbound tax-related challenges.

ESG & Sustainability Perspective

Syed Ahson Ali Shah is Advisory Partner, Country Lead - ESG | Climate Change and Decarbonization. Ahson is an FCA and an MBA; he holds degrees in chemical engineering and computer engineering. With more than 16 years of expertise in Assurance and Advisory Services, he is a Partner with KPMG in Pakistan. He is a member of the Global ESG CoE and KPMG MESA Digital and Innovation Committee. He also serves as the ESG Champion for KPMG EMA on several KPMG platforms. He currently serves as the team leader for a group of experts in Pakistan for Risk and Management Consulting. As a member of the ICAP Technical Committee on ESG Standards, the IFRS ASEAN & OCEANIA WG, and on the regulatory front in the area, he is currently making contributions to the sustainability field together with Strategy, Accounting Advisory, Financial Risk Management, and Digital transformation.

Syed Ahson Ali Shah
Partner – ESG &
Climate Change
KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.

His command over ESG is an aggregation of Harvard Extension School on strategy and innovation, New York University Leonard N. Stern School of Business on Sustainability, the circular economy (IE Spain), policy coherence, SDG 16 Anti-Corruption, Sustainable Cities and Economies, climate change, the social agenda, and environmental standards from UNSSC, WEF and TCFD-related reporting and has been accredited by VRF under IFRS Foundation as an Integrated Reporting Framework Practitioner, an Accredited Training Partner of the IFRS Foundation [VRF. CDSB, SASB], and a qualified GRI Trainer.

Technology & AI Perspective

Mr. Muhammad Tahir Ashraf
AI Strategist & Digital Transformation Advisor

Muhammad Tahir Ashraf, widely known as Beyond Tahir, is an AI Strategist, Founder of PureDesigners, and Chairman of AAAI Pakistan. He is a leading voice in AI-driven transformation, helping organizations integrate artificial intelligence, automation, and digital systems into real-world business operations.

As an IBM Business Partner and certified AI consultant & coach, Tahir has delivered over 500+ AI trainings and advisory sessions across corporate, government, and professional institutions. His work spans key sectors including finance, healthcare, real estate, and education.

He has trained and collaborated with leading institutions such as ICMA Pakistan, ISACA, and national-level organizations, enabling leaders to adopt AI for decision-making, governance, risk management, and operational efficiency. Tahir is also a Forbes Council Member, IBM AI Education Leader, and founding Chairman of AAAI Pakistan, contributing actively to national AI policy and ecosystem development. He is the author of "404 Human Not Found", one of the region's early books on AI and prompt engineering.

His sessions are known for being practical, business-focused, and implementation-driven — equipping professionals with actionable insights to apply AI effectively within their organizations.

Moderator

Mr. Hanif Sattar
Former Chief Executive Officer
Otsuka Pakistan Limited

Hanif is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) and a seasoned finance and business leader with over three decades of experience in the pharmaceutical industry and corporate leadership. He has held several senior executive roles, most recently serving as Chief Executive Officer of Otsuka Pakistan Limited, where he led the organization for a decade, driving operational excellence and strategic growth.

Over the course of his career, he has also served as Director (Finance and Strategic Planning) at Martin Dow Limited and Director Finance and Company Secretary at Otsuka Pakistan Limited, gaining extensive experience in financial strategy, regulatory compliance, corporate governance, and industry engagement within the pharmaceutical sector. Hanif has played an active role in industry and professional forums, including serving as Regional Chairman of the Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PPMA) and contributing to various regulatory and policy discussions with government bodies, including the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan. His experience spans corporate leadership, regulatory strategy, and financial management across the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors. Currently, he works as an Independent Business Consultant, advising clients on strategic planning, regulatory matters, corporate structuring, and market development across multiple sectors.

Opening Remarks

Ms. Rizwana Abdul Karim
CPD Convener – SRC ICAP

Rizwana is an Associate Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) and a seasoned tax and finance professional with over 15 years of experience across KPMG, PwC, and EY. Currently serving as Director in the Tax Services department at KPMG in Pakistan, she brings deep expertise in taxation, advisory, and cross-border structuring for both corporate and individual clients. She is also member of Southern Regional Committee of ICAP for the term 2026-30.

Her work spans diverse sectors including banking, insurance, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, healthcare, and aviation. She has extensive experience representing clients before the Federal Board of Revenue and higher appellate forums and advising on complex local and international tax matters. Beyond her professional role, Rizwana contributes actively to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) through its Fiscal Law, Economic Advisory, CPD, and CA Women Committees. She is also a member of the Karachi Tax Bar Association and serves on the Executive Committee of the CA Toastmasters Club.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Bashir Ahmed
Chairman – SRC ICAP

Bashir Ahmed is an Associate Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) with a distinguished professional background in public sector finance and financial governance. He has contributed to the accounting profession through his service on several ICAP committees, including the Professional Accountants in Business Committee, Education & Training Committee, and Fiscal Law Committees, where he supported policy development, regulatory strengthening, and professional capacity-building initiatives.

He commenced his professional career with one of the Big Four accounting firms in Pakistan, where he developed strong foundations in auditing, financial advisory, and regulatory compliance. His core areas of specialization include Public Financial Management, with particular emphasis on budgeting and fiscal planning, taxation policy, public debt management, and investment strategy.

Currently, he serves as Head of the Debt, Risk & Investment Management Unit in the Finance Department, Government of Balochistan.

Programme

Timing	Details
02:30 pm – 03:00 pm	Registration & Networking
03:00 pm – 03:10 pm	Opening Remarks by Ms. Rizwana Abdul Karim
03:10 pm – 03:45 pm	Presentation by Mr. Hasham Ali Babar
03:45 pm – 04:30 pm	Presentation by Mr. Arif Nazeer
04:30 pm – 05:05 pm	Presentation by Mr. Zeeshan Zafar Khan
05:05 pm – 05:15 pm	Asr Prayer Break
05:15 pm – 05:45 pm	Presentation by Syed Ahson Ali Shah
05:45 pm – 06:30 pm	Presentation by Mr. Muhammad Tahir
06:30 pm – 06:55 pm	Q & A Session & Mementos Distribution
06:55 pm – 07:00 pm	Closing Remarks by Mr. Bashir Ahmed

Hi-Tea will follow the session.

Investment

PKR 5,000/-

Discounts (till April 14, 2026)

50% Discount for Pharmaceutical Sector

40% Discount for Early Bird registration

For Further Information:

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