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#### REPORT on WORLD AIDS DAY

Dated: 01-12-2025

World AIDS Day was meaningfully observed on **1st December 2025** at **Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy Maha Vidyalaya (Co.Ed), Tarnaka**, under the guidance of the **Department of Pharmacology**. The event aimed to strengthen awareness about HIV/AIDS, promote preventive measures, and encourage responsible health practices among students.

The program was **presided over by Dr. B. Haarika, Vice Principal**, who highlighted the importance of student involvement in health awareness campaigns, especially on global observance days like World AIDS Day. She emphasized that youth play a crucial role in breaking myths, spreading scientific facts, and building a socially responsible community.



### SAROJINI NAIDU VANITA PHARMACY MAHA VIDYALAYA (Co-Ed.)



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## **World AIDS Day**

1st December 2025



Group Discussion

## **Challenges in Preventing and Treating AIDS**

1st December 2025

Organised by

Department of Pharmacology

Venue

SNVPMV Auditorium



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A special awareness talk was delivered by **Dr. T. Venu**, who addressed several key and sensitive issues related to HIV/AIDS prevention. His session covered the following essential points:

#### Key Awareness Highlights by Dr. T. Venu

#### > Increase in Awareness of Testing in Rural Areas

Dr. T. Venu emphasized that HIV testing remains one of the most powerful tools in controlling the spread of the infection, yet rural communities continue to face multiple barriers. Stigma surrounding HIV, fear of discrimination, and lack of privacy often prevent individuals from voluntarily approaching health centers for testing. Additionally, many remote villages experience limited healthcare infrastructure, shortage of trained professionals, and inadequate availability of diagnostic equipment. He stressed that increasing awareness through community health campaigns, mobile testing units, and local health worker training programs can dramatically improve early detection. Early diagnosis not only prevents complications but also reduces the chances of unknowingly transmitting the infection to others. Encouraging voluntary testing helps build a healthier community and reduces the burden on the healthcare system.

#### > Contaminated Needles Must Not Be Used

He highlighted that the use of contaminated or previously used needles continues to be a major cause of HIV transmission, particularly in resource-limited settings and regions where untrained practitioners operate. Unsafe injection practices often arise due to lack of knowledge, poor access to sterile supplies, or unsafe traditional medical practices. In addition, individuals involved in drug abuse are at high risk due to needle sharing. Dr. T. Venu stressed the importance of educating healthcare workers, rural practitioners, and the general population on the absolute necessity of using sterile, disposable needles for every injection. Awareness campaigns must reinforce that even a single reuse of a contaminated needle can lead to lifelong consequences. Ensuring proper disposal practices and availability of safe injection equipment is essential for eliminating this preventable mode of transmission.

#### > Drug Abuse and HIV Risk

Addressing the connection between drug abuse and HIV, he explained that substance abuse impairs judgment, increases impulsive behaviors, and exposes individuals to unsafe practices. Injecting drugs using shared or unsterile needles significantly elevates the risk of infection. Moreover, drug influence often results in unprotected



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sexual activities, further compounding the vulnerability. Dr. T. Venu insisted that educational institutions and community organizations should emphasize the dangers of substance abuse, not only from a psychological or social perspective but also in terms of HIV transmission. Rehabilitation programs, counseling services, and awareness sessions should be strengthened to protect youth from falling into high-risk habits.

#### **➤** Importance of Sex Education

Sex education, according to Dr. Venu, is not merely about teaching biological facts—it is a holistic tool to empower youth with knowledge about their bodies, sexual health, consent, and safe practices. Many young individuals hesitate to discuss sexual matters openly due to cultural stigma, leading to misinformation and unsafe behavior. Comprehensive sex education addresses topics such as condom usage, sexually transmitted infections, reproductive health, and emotional well-being. He encouraged institutions to incorporate well-structured awareness modules and workshops, stressing that educated youth make informed decisions, protect themselves, and contribute to breaking myths that fuel HIV-related stigma.

#### > Safe Blood Infusion Practices

Dr. Venu underscored the importance of rigorous blood screening in all medical settings. Blood transfusions, if not properly screened, can transmit HIV and other infections such as hepatitis B and C. He explained that blood banks must follow validated testing protocols, maintain high-quality equipment, and ensure proper documentation to guarantee patient safety. Regular audits, adherence to national guidelines, and staff training programs strengthen the safety net. He advised students—future pharmacists and healthcare professionals—to uphold these standards strictly when they enter clinical practice, reinforcing that every unit of blood must be tested before transfusion without exception.

#### > Condom Usage Must Be Increased

Condoms remain one of the most effective, accessible, and affordable methods to prevent the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Yet, social discomfort, misconceptions about effectiveness, and cultural barriers often discourage people from using them consistently. Dr. Venu urged students to normalize conversations around safe sex and work towards eliminating embarrassment associated with condom usage. He emphasized that consistent and correct use of condoms can save lives and significantly reduce HIV prevalence. Promoting



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awareness among peers, organizing health camps, and distributing educational materials can contribute toward shaping a responsible and health-conscious society.

#### **Faculty Participation**

Faculty members and Students from the departments of Pharmacology, Quality Assurance (QA), Regulatory Affairs (RA), Pharmaceutics, and Pharmaceutical Analysis attended the program and actively encouraged student engagement during the session.

#### **Student Participation and Q&A Session**

#### **Student Expressions and Contributions**

During the World AIDS Day program, the participating students from **M.Pharmacy I** semester: Ayeesha, Karthik, Sudha Rani, Vaishnavi, Haripriya, and Ram actively expressed their views, concerns, and suggestions regarding HIV/AIDS awareness. Their inputs reflected a strong sense of social responsibility and scientific understanding.

- ➤ Ayeesha expressed the need for more awareness sessions in schools and rural communities, stating that early education can significantly reduce misconceptions about HIV transmission.
- ➤ **Karthik** highlighted that drug abuse among youth often leads to unsafe practices, and he stressed the importance of strict monitoring and counseling services for students.
- > Sudha Rani shared her opinion on the importance of using sterile needles in all medical procedures and recommended increasing community-level training programs on safe injection practices.
- ➤ Vaishnavi emphasized the role of sex education, explaining that many young individuals hesitate to discuss sexual health due to stigma, which leads to misinformation.
- ➤ Haripriya discussed the importance of safe blood transfusion practices and suggested that every hospital should conduct periodic audits to ensure safe screening processes.
- ➤ **Ram** spoke about the need to normalize **condom usage**, explaining that fear and embarrassment prevent people from adopting safe sexual practices even when they are aware of the risks.

Their collective expressions during the session showcased maturity, awareness, and a genuine willingness to contribute to society's betterment. Their involvement enriched the event and added value to the discussions held under the guidance of faculty and resource persons.

These students significantly contributed to the event by engaging in an interactive **Question** & **Answer session**. Their questions reflected curiosity, awareness, and a strong desire to



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understand HIV/AIDS prevention scientifically. Some of the discussions during the Q&A included:

- ➤ How educational institutions can strengthen awareness among rural youth.
- Practical strategies to reduce drug abuse among college students.
- Misconceptions about condom effectiveness and correct usage techniques.
- ➤ How to ensure strict screening of blood before transfusion in hospitals.
- ➤ The psychological challenges faced by HIV-positive individuals.
- ➤ Ways to reduce stigma in communities through peer-led programs.

Dr. T. Venu appreciated the thought-provoking questions and encouraged students to become ambassadors of health awareness both within and outside the institution.

#### Conclusion

The World AIDS Day program at SNVPMV (Co.Ed), Tarnaka, was highly successful in spreading scientific awareness and reinforcing preventive strategies against HIV/AIDS. With active participation from faculty, students, and the insightful talk by Dr. T. Venu, the event achieved its objective of educating the college community about responsible health practices.

The collective efforts of the organizing team, faculty, and students contributed to making the event impactful, informative, and memorable.

#### **OUTCOME**

The World AIDS Day program organized by the Department of Pharmacology resulted in several meaningful outcomes, enriching both the student community and faculty. The expert session by **Dr. T. Venu** successfully enhanced the scientific understanding of HIV/AIDS, its modes of transmission, and essential preventive measures. Students gained clarity on critical topics such as the importance of rural HIV testing, safe injection practices, drug-abuse-related risks, sex education, and safe blood infusion protocols.

Participants demonstrated improved awareness, evidenced by their active engagement in the Q&A session. The program encouraged students to think critically about public health challenges and reflect on their role as future healthcare professionals. Many expressed deeper understanding of the consequences of stigma, unsafe practices, and lack of sexual health awareness.

Faculty and students from multiple departments Pharmacology, QA, RA, Pharmaceutics, and Pharmaceutical Analysis also benefited by aligning their perspectives on preventive healthcare. The event nurtured interdisciplinary interaction, fostering a collaborative learning environment. Students were particularly appreciative of the practical examples, real-world scenarios, and public-health-based approaches discussed during the session.



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Overall, the program strengthened the commitment of the institution toward promoting health education, community awareness, and responsible behavior among students.

#### **IMPACT**

The event had a notable and lasting impact on participants, shaping their attitudes, knowledge, and sense of responsibility toward HIV/AIDS prevention. One of the most significant impacts was the shift in perception, where students moved from viewing HIV as a distant issue to understanding it as a preventable public health concern requiring informed action.

The discussions on rural testing awareness motivated students to consider the gaps in healthcare accessibility and inspired them to support outreach initiatives. The emphasis on contaminated needle risks and drug abuse-related transmission created a strong sense of caution, encouraging students to advocate for safe practices within their communities.

The program's focus on sex education helped normalize conversations around reproductive and sexual health, reducing hesitation to discuss such essential topics. Students reported increased confidence in addressing condom usage, safe sex practices, and myth-busting related to HIV transmission.

Furthermore, the detailed explanation of blood transfusion safety sensitized participants to the crucial responsibilities of healthcare professionals in ensuring screen-tested blood for all patients. This reinforced their understanding of regulatory and ethical practices in clinical settings.

The collective impact was visible through the increased awareness, proactive questioning, and willingness of students to participate in future health-awareness activities. The program instilled a sense of empathy, social responsibility, and professional commitment, aligning with the institution's vision of producing competent and community-focused pharmacy graduates.

Overall, the World AIDS Day program created a profound educational and social impact, empowering students to act as informed ambassadors of public health and contribute toward reducing stigma and promoting HIV-prevention strategies in society.





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Observation of WORLD AIDS DAY at SNVPMV on 01-12-2025 in Seminar Hall

Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy Maha Vidalaya (Co.Ed)

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