



AL SHIFA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

(Approved by AICTE, PCI, DME, UGC 2(F) & Affiliated to Kerala University of Health Sciences)
Kizhattur, Perinthalmanna. Pin: 679 325

CRITERIA 7 – INSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND BEST PRACTICES

7.2 BEST PRACTICE 1

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

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PRINCIPAL

AL SHIFA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
KIZHATTUR, POONTHAVANAM P.O.
MALAPPURAM DL., KERALA



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BEST PRACTICE 1

1. Title- Innovative Practices

The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) aims to promote innovation and entrepreneurship within academic institutions. Its primary goal is to foster a culture of creativity and innovation among students and faculty, encouraging the development of novel ideas, solutions, and technologies. IIC provides a platform to transform these ideas into real-world applications, supporting startups and enhancing the practical skills of students to align with industry needs. The council also plays a critical role in creating an ecosystem of innovation through collaborations, competitions, and mentorship.

2. Objectives of the Practice

- To encourage and support student innovation and entrepreneurship through activities like hackathons, workshops, and challenges.
- To build a strong foundation for a culture of innovation and creativity at Al-Shifa College of Pharmacy.
- To empower students with the skills and knowledge needed to solve real-world problems through technological and innovative solutions.
- To create an entrepreneurial mindset among students and faculty, fostering a connection between academia and industry.
- To provide students with the opportunity to showcase their innovative ideas on national platforms, such as the Smart India Hackathon.

3. Context

Al-Shifa College of Pharmacy has integrated IIC as part of its commitment to enhancing innovation and entrepreneurship within the institution. The college recognizes the importance of nurturing creativity among students, enabling them to

develop solutions to societal challenges. In this context, the IIC plays a crucial role in providing students with the guidance, resources, and opportunities to participate in national competitions such as the Smart India Hackathon, along with hosting various events that promote a culture of innovation.

4. The Practice

Under the IIC, Al-Shifa College of Pharmacy has conducted a wide range of activities aimed at fostering innovation:

- **Workshops and Training Programs:** Regular sessions to build the skills required for innovation, including design thinking, problem-solving, and entrepreneurship.
- **Hackathons:** Organizing internal hackathons and encouraging students to participate in national-level challenges like the Smart India Hackathon, which helps to channel their creativity and problem-solving abilities.
- **Mentorship Programs:** Providing expert guidance to students and startups, ensuring that their innovative ideas can be developed into feasible solutions.
- **Collaborations with Industry:** Partnering with industries to expose students to real-world challenges, providing practical learning opportunities.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Promoting the benefits of innovation and entrepreneurship through seminars, talks, and awareness drives.

5. Evidence of Success

- **Smart India Hackathon 2023:** Al-Shifa College of Pharmacy emerged as the winner in the Smart India Hackathon 2023, showcasing the creativity and problem-solving abilities of its students.
- **Smart India Hackathon 2024 Finalists:** The college's continued success in 2024, being recognized as a finalist, further exemplifies the effectiveness of its innovation initiatives.
- **Increased Student Participation:** A noticeable increase in the number of students participating in innovation challenges, hackathons, and entrepreneurial activities.
- **Innovative Solutions:** The development of innovative solutions addressing real-world problems, with students and teams gaining recognition for their contributions.
- **Institutional Recognition:** The college has gained recognition as an innovative and forward-thinking institution, enhancing its reputation in academia and industry.

6. Problems Encountered

- **Limited Resources:** At times, the lack of sufficient financial and infrastructural resources to support large-scale innovation programs can be a challenge.
- **Awareness Gap:** Some students are initially unaware of the opportunities provided by IIC and may lack the motivation to participate until they see tangible outcomes.
- **Mentorship Scarcity:** While mentorship programs are in place, finding enough industry professionals and experts to guide students effectively can be challenging.
- **Balancing Academics with Innovation:** Students often face difficulties balancing the demanding nature of their academic schedules with participation in innovation and entrepreneurial activities.

7. Resources Required

- **Financial Support:** Funding for organizing workshops, hackathons, and other innovation-related activities, as well as providing incentives for winners and participants.
- **Infrastructure:** Space for organizing events, workshops, and mentoring sessions, along with technical infrastructure such as computers, software, and equipment for prototyping and development.
- **Mentorship Network:** Access to a pool of industry experts, entrepreneurs, and innovators who can mentor students and help them refine their ideas.
- **Technology and Tools:** Access to the latest technological tools, software, and platforms to facilitate innovation and product development.
- **Collaborations with Industry:** Partnerships with industry leaders, innovators, and startups to provide students with real-world exposure, internships, and resources for innovation.

By providing these resources and supporting the active involvement of students in innovation activities, the IIC at Al-Shifa College of Pharmacy continues to drive excellence in creativity and entrepreneurship.