

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

ISLAMABAD HEALTHCARE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (IHRA)

Ministry of NHSR&C DMLC Building (PRCS), 2nd & 3rd Floor, Sufi Tabassum Road, H-8/2, Islamabad.

PRELIMINARY REPORT

06 July,2023, an inspection team from the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) once again visited Shaafi Hospital located on Lehtrar Road, Islamabad, to investigate further regarding the complaint of burn case of new born in the Shaafi hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). IHRA team has been accompanied by subject specialist to proceed further in the matter.

To ensure the safety of new infants and patients, being admitted in Shaafi Hospital, the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) has decided to seal the NICU of the hospital until the completion of the inquiry and the submission of a factual report. This precautionary measure aims to prevent similar incidents from occurring and to maintain the integrity of the investigation. The team assessed the situation, examined evidence, interviewed staff members, and reviewed the hospital's protocols and procedures. During this period, the IHRA will conduct a thorough investigation to determine the cause of the burn incident and identify any lapses in patient care or safety protocols. Once the investigation is concluded, the IHRA will prepare a factual report containing our findings and recommendations. Based on this report, appropriate actions, such as penalties, guidance for improvements, or legal measures, may be taken if any negligence or malpractice is discovered.

The team has interviewed hospital staff, reviewed medical records, collected evidence, consulted with experts, and gathered other relevant information to establish the facts surrounding the incident. The findings of the inspection are as follows: -

- The hospital applied for registration with the IHRA, but registration was not granted.
- Six patients were admitted to the NICU during the visit.
- From July 1, 2023, a total of 24 patients were admitted to the NICU.
- Upon visiting the NICU, it was observed that the baby warmers were manually controlled and not equipped with automated temperature control.
- To test the thermostat of the equipment, One incubator was set at 33°C, but a digital thermometer showed a temperature of 30.5°C, indicating improper calibration of the incubators.
- Mr. Nadeem, the NICU staff member on duty at the time of the incident, reported that he was outside the NICU and discovered the fire upon reentering the room.
- Statements from the administration and NICU staff were contradictory, indicating a lack of consensus. Ms. Maryum, an Aya, reported seeing fire through the NICU door's seethrough glass, while Mr. Nadeem arrived from the lab and entered the room to

resuscitate the baby. However, the CCTV footage provided by the hospital administration did not show any female staff present in the NICU, contradicting Ms. Maryum's statement about entering the NICU after Mr. Nadeem.

The statements from Mr. Nadeem and Ms. Maryum suggest that there was no staff present in the NICU at the time of the incident.

• The time displayed on the provided CCTV footage was 08:27 PM, whereas the incident occurred at 04:30 PM, according to the hospital administrator. The hospital's CCTV system only has a three-day recording capacity, and they did not save the previous day's recording despite instructions from the IHRA team.

Note: The above information is based on preliminary investigation, detailed report will be shared in next few days after detailed inquiry of the whole matter