The foremost and essential aim of a healthcare professional team is to improve the patient health related quality of life and achieve both positive and cost effective clinical outcomes.

Poor medication adherence, irrational drug use, adverse drug reaction, major drug interactions and medication errors are the factors which exert the ineffective and unsafe drug treatment, deteriorate or protract illness.

Medication use system consists of discrete steps like prescribing, administration and monitoring. There is potential for error at every step of process in various forms as this system involves many different people including transfer of medication and information.

Medication error can be defined as any preventable event that may cause or lead to inappropriate medication use or patient harm while the medication is in the control of the healthcare provider, patient or consumer.

Cause of medication error are multifactorial which may include illegible orders, non availability of patient information, inadequate medical knowledge, increase patient load, failure to monitor drug concentration or drug therapy and not accounting for changes in renal and cardiac functions.

Impact of Medication errors related Problems are associated with morbidity and mortality. Clinical significance of most common type of medication error related problem needs an additional laboratory test, additional therapy, it even leads to prolonged hospital stay and health care cost.
Results of a study reveals that 157(51.6%) errors were noticed out of 304 prescriptions. Drug drug interactions stands on the top with 68.2% and incorrect interval (12.1%), overdose(07%), incomplete prescription(05%), under dose(2.6%), monitoring(2.6%), incorrect drug and allergy(1.3%). Results also demonstrate medication errors were more in prescription with above 60yrs(69.1%). Moderate errors 97(61.7%) were high when compare to severe and minor40 (25.4%) & 20(12.7%) respectively.[3] More errors were seen in administration (56%) followed by ordering(36%).[4]

Prevention to be taken in order to improve the medication safe use and prevent medication error by the healthcare professional through standardizing the medication order, omitting verbal orders, minimizing the floor stock medication, encouraging the unit drug dose system, resource of fine drug information to healthcare provider. Technology may also be applied to prevent the problems of medication error with the use of computer prescription order entry, bar coding system.[4-5]

The entire healthcare professional may unite together and conduct the programs like orientation, seminars and newsletters to discuss and minimize the incidence of medication errors.

REFERENCE
4. ASPH Guidelines on preventing medication errors with chemotherapy and biotherapy.
5. ASPH Guidelines on preventing medication errors in hospitals.