

REVENG A. ABDULKAREEM

PhD Candidate | Biopharmaceutical Researcher | Licensed Pharmacist

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

A distinguished Academic Pharmacist and Researcher with over 14 years of experience in higher education and pharmaceutical regulation. Currently a PhD candidate at the University of Bath, specialising in **ensilication technology**, a novel method to thermally stabilise biopharmaceuticals (Rituximab) to overcome cold-chain challenges. Proven track record in academic leadership, having served as **Deputy Dean**, **Head of Department**, and a member of the **Higher Committee for the Selection of Medicines** and the **Medical Ethics Committee** in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. Expertise spans formulation science, protein biochemistry, and quality control.

EDUCATION

PhD in pharmacy and Pharmacology, *University of Bath, UK* | Nov 2021 – Present

- **Scholarship:** Fully funded by the highly competitive **HCED Scholarship** (Higher Committee for Education Development), a prestigious national program under the Prime Minister's Office of Iraq. Selection was based on **nationwide competition** and academic record, including ranking **1st** in undergraduate and master's classes.
- **Thesis:** Developing an Ensilicated Protein for Pharmaceutical Applications.
- **Research Focus:** Optimising ensilication technology to encapsulate the monoclonal antibody Rituximab within a protective silica shell, ensuring stability at room temperature to eliminate reliance on complex refrigeration infrastructure. By addressing the inefficiencies of cold-chain logistics, this work aims to enhance the global accessibility and cost-effectiveness of life-saving biopharmaceuticals, particularly for low-resource healthcare settings.
- **Key Achievements:**
 - **Research Funding:** Secured **£5,000 Research Grant** from the **Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)** (Grant No. R23-0237706438) for biological evaluation assays (Rituximab).
 - **Publication:** Published novel findings on thermal stabilisation of lysozyme in the *Molecules* journal (2024).
- **Supervisors:** Dr Asel Sartbaeva, Dr Françoise Koumanov, Dr Charlotte Dodson, Prof. Nikoletta Fotaki.

M.Sc. in Pharmaceutics, *Hawler Medical University, Iraq* | 2012

- **Distinction:** Graduated with **86%**.
- **Thesis:** Formulation and Evaluation of Bisoprolol Fumarate as an Orodispersible Tablet.
- **Technical Focus:** Demonstrated expertise in pre-formulation, manufacturing, and full quality control testing (disintegration, dissolution, hardness, friability, drug content uniformity) of solid dosage forms.

B.Sc. in Pharmacy *Hawler Medical University, Iraq* | 2007

- **Distinction:** **Ranked 1st** in the College of Pharmacy (Grade: 85%).
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE (UK & INTERNATIONAL)

Graduate Teaching Assistant / Demonstrator, University of Bath, Department of Life Sciences, UK | 2021 – Present

- **Pharmacy Practice Suite (PPS):** Instructed undergraduate students for over 4 years in the Pharmacy Practice Suite, overseeing clinical simulations and practical skills workshops.
- **Laboratory Supervision:** Supervised practical sessions, ensuring safety and compliance during experiments.

University Lecturer (Assistant Lecturer) University of Duhok (UOD), College of Pharmacy, Iraq | 2012 – 2021

- **Curriculum Delivery:** Taught theoretical and practical modules, including Pharmaceutics, Industrial Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Technology, Physical Pharmacy, and Pharmacy Ethics and Law.
 - **Supervision:** Supervised final-year graduation research projects for four years.
 - **Medical Teaching:** Delivered the "Cells and Receptors Module" to 2nd year students and the "Clinical Pharmacology module" for 3rd year students at the College of Medicine (2019–2021).
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ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

High-Level Drug Policy & Regulatory Governance

- **Member, Higher Committee for the Selection of Medicines (HCMS):** Ministry of Health, Kurdistan Region of Iraq (2012–2015). Served on this senior committee responsible for national drug selection, policy, and essential medicines lists, contributing directly to the national healthcare strategy.
- **Specialised Regulatory Consultation:** Advised the Kurdistan Medical Control Agency (2016–2017) on drug registration, quality assurance, and anti-counterfeiting protocols.
- **Member, Medical Ethics Committee:** Served on the joint committee for the University of Duhok and the Directorate of Health (2013–2016), reviewing research protocols to ensure ethical compliance in clinical studies.

Administrative Leadership (University of Duhok)

- **Deputy Dean:** College of Pharmacy (2016–2017).
 - **Head of Pharmaceutics Department:** (2014–2016).
 - **Faculty Representative:** Served on the University Council and Faculty Association (2012-2013).
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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

- **Curriculum Development and Quality Assurance:** Completed a 3-month advanced training program focused on optimising Pharmacy and Pharm D academic curricula and quality management, **Belmont University, USA** (2012).
 - **Medication Adherence (Morisky scale):** Completed specialised training on Morisky Adherence Scales (MMAS-4 and MMAS-8) and patient counselling techniques, **Sandiego (USA), 2017**.
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RESEARCH SKILLS & TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- **Protein Characterisation:** Circular Dichroism (CD), FTIR, UV-Vis, BCA, DLS, SDS-PAGE, Western Blot, HPLC, SEC, Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF/LC-MS).
- **Biological Assays:** ELISA, Cell-line studies (CDC, ADCC, Apoptosis and Autophagy assays on Raji cells).
- **Pharmaceutical Formulation:** Solid dosage form development, stability studies, and Quality Control (QC) analysis.
- **Software:** GraphPad Prism, Pymol, SPSS, Image Studio Lite, Image J, EndNote, XLSTAT.

PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. **Abdulkareem, R.**, et al. (2024). "Thermal Stabilisation of Lysozyme through Ensilication." *Molecules*, 29, 4207.
2. Al-Iela, O. Q. B., **Abdulkareem, R. A.**, et al. (2020). "Medication adherence among diabetic patients in developing countries: review of studies." *Syst Rev Pharm*, 11(8): 270-275.
3. **Abdulkareem, R. A.**, et al. (2016). "Errors and omissions in private clinics' prescriptions: A survey of prescription writing in Duhok, Kurdistan Region-Iraq." *J Pharmacovigilance*, 4(215): 2.
4. **Abdulkareem, R. A.**, et al. (2015). "Assessment of prescriptions in private clinics in Duhok City." *Malaysian Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 13(1): 58.

Selected Conference Presentations

- **Poster:** "Ensilication of Rituximab: A Novel Approach to Enhance Stability," *5th International Antibody Validation Meeting*, Bath, UK (Sept 2025).
- **Poster:** "Ensilication for Biopharmaceutical Stabilisation," *16th PharmSci International Conference (APS)*, Cardiff, UK (Sept 2025).
- **Poster:** "Ensilication for Room-Temperature Protein Storage and Stability," *RSC Chemical Biology Symposium*, London, UK (May 2024).
- **Keynote/Speaker:** "Assessment of Dietary Supplements in Prescriptions," *Pharma Research and Development Conference*, Philadelphia, USA (June 2018).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **Associate Member:** Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), UK (2023–Present).
- **Student Member:** Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences (APS), UK (2024–Present).
- **Postgraduate Member:** Biochemical Society, UK (2024–Present).
- **Member:** American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) (2012–Present).
- **Member:** Kurdistan Syndicate of Pharmacists (2007–Present).

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Training Award:** IKEEP Intrapreneurial Training Award (SETsquared Partnership).
- **Appreciation Awards:** Multiple awards from the UOD Presidency and College of Pharmacy for high scores in Continuous Academic Development (CAD) and committee efforts (2017–2019).
- **Top Rank:** Ranked 1st in Class for B.Sc. Pharmacy (2007) and distinguished performance in M.Sc. (2012).

VOLUNTEERING

- **Crisis Response:** Volunteered as a ward pharmacist during the ISIS conflict (2014) and the COVID-19 pandemic (2019-2020).
- **Oncology Pharmacist (Volunteer):** Azadi Teaching Hospital, Duhok, Iraq (2007–2009).
- Community Awareness Programs – Medication adherence, school drug safety campaigns