



# The ISoP Star

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*Reports from the world of  
pharmacovigilance*

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22-25 September 2026

**25th GLOBAL MEETING**

San José, Costa Rica 2026

# Ecosystems of trust: Pharmacovigilance for a healthier world

#ISoP2026CostaRica

isop2026costarica.org

## Countdown to Costa Rica

The International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISoP) is delighted to invite pharmacovigilance professionals, researchers, regulators, healthcare practitioners, patients, academics, and students from around the world to participate in the 25th ISoP Global Meeting, taking place in San José, Costa Rica, from 22–25 September 2026.

This landmark edition marks an important milestone as the long-standing ISoP Annual Meeting evolves into the ISoP Global Meeting, reflecting the growing international reach and impact of the pharmacovigilance community worldwide. Under the inspiring theme:

## “Ecosystems of Trust: Pharmacovigilance for a Healthier World”

the meeting will bring together global experts and stakeholders to explore innovative approaches, emerging challenges, and collaborative solutions in medicines safety and patient protection.

The meeting will also take place in synergy with the WHO Programme for International Drug Monitoring meeting following in San José, further strengthening opportunities for global collaboration and knowledge exchange. Hosted in the vibrant capital city of San José, Costa Rica, the

meeting promises a rich scientific and professional programme featuring:

### Programme Highlights

- Four pre-conference courses
- Plenary sessions with internationally recognised experts
- Multiple parallel scientific sessions
- ISoP-WHO joint session
- Interactive workshops and discussions
- Networking opportunities with colleagues from across the globe

The scientific programme will cover a wide range of timely and relevant topics, including:

- Digital Transformation & Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacovigilance
- Risk Communication and Risk Management
- Regulatory Science and Pharmacovigilance Systems
- Evidence Generation and Signal Management
- Vaccines and Public Health
- Medication Errors, Medical Devices
- Patient Engagement and Professional Development
- Wider Pharmacovigilance Horizons and Regional Advances
- Predictive safety

For registration, programme updates, and travel information, please visit the official meeting website:

<https://www.isop2026costarica.org/>

# ISoP Mid-Year Symposium 2026

## Collaboration in Pharmacovigilance in an evolving information environment

University of Hertfordshire - Hatfield, UK - 9-10 June 2026



### ISoP Mid-Year Symposium 2026

The ISoP Mid-Year Symposium 2026, held at the University of Hertfordshire in **Hatfield, United Kingdom** in June, brought together **104 participants from 23 countries**, representing regulatory authorities, academia, industry, healthcare organisations, research institutions, and international organisations. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration in pharmacovigilance within an evolving information environment and provided a valuable platform for networking, knowledge sharing, and cross-sector engagement.

Over two days, delegates explored key topics including global safety standards, risk management, patient-centred pharmacovigilance, capacity building, pregnancy research, medicines quality, workforce development, data engineering, signal detection, and the use of real-world evidence in safety decision-making. The programme featured expert presentations, panel discussions, oral abstract sessions, and poster presentations from international speakers and researchers.

Networking was a central component of the symposium, with dedicated poster sessions, discussion panels,

coffee breaks, and an evening reception enabling participants to build new collaborations and strengthen existing professional relationships.

Thank you to Prof Deborah Layton and Prof Sam Salek from the University of Hertfordshire for developing such a robust scientific programme and to all who joined us in Hatfield.

### Poster Prize



Poster #11: **Exploring Disparities in Pharmacovigilance Data Access: A Systematic Landscape Mapping of National Medicines Regulatory Authority Data Sharing Practices in Asia** by **Tiwaphon Thongsutt** was recognised by the ISoP Poster Prize Committee and the Hatfield Organising Committee.

*Next stop Abu Dhabi!*



# Upcoming events

## ISoP Mid-Year Symposium 2027

In collaboration with the  
Department of Health - Abu Dhabi



2–3 June 2027  
Abu Dhabi,  
United Arab Emirates

#ISoPAbuDhabi2027



## ISoP 26th Global Meeting

Bordeaux, France  
14–17 September 2027

#ISoP2027Bordeaux



#ISoP2028SouthAfrica



## ISoP 27th Global Meeting

Johannesburg, South Africa  
18–21 September 2028





## ISoP Africa Chapter Meeting 2026



The ISoP Africa Chapter Meeting 2026 took place from **18–20 May 2026 in Windhoek, Namibia**, bringing together pharmacovigilance professionals, regulators, academics, healthcare practitioners, industry representatives, and patient safety advocates from across Africa and beyond. The meeting was held under the inspiring theme: **“Patient Safety First: Strengthening Continental Pharmacovigilance Collaboration through the African Medicines Agency.”**

Hosted by the ISoP Africa Chapter, the conference welcomed more than 200+ delegates and marked the first time Namibia hosted the regional meeting. For more information about the meeting and future Africa Chapter activities, please visit ISoP Africa Chapter.

## ISoP Patient Safety Day 2026

ISoP proudly supports World Patient Safety Day 2026, led by the World Health Organization, under the theme: **“Safe Care for Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs)”**

### ISoP Patient Safety Day 2026





**Save the date**  
**17-18 September**

Safe Care for  
Noncommunicable  
Diseases

#ISoPPSD2026

Free Online Event



@ISoPOnline

## 10th ISoP IA Seminar 2026

The 10th ISoP Seminar on Intelligent Automation in Pharmacovigilance marks a decade of bringing together experts from across academia, industry, regulatory authorities, and technology providers to explore how innovation is transforming medicine safety.



International Society  
of Pharmacovigilance

10th ISoP Seminar  
Intelligent Automation in Pharmacovigilance

# 10



YEARS OF  
PV INTELLIGENCE

SHAPING THE FUTURE  
OF PATIENT SAFETY

3-4 December 2026 | Boston- Cambridge, USA

## Chapter updates

### Launch of the ISoP MENA Chapter and Elections

The new **Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Chapter**, brings together members from **22 countries** across the region into a unified network dedicated to advancing pharmacovigilance, medicine safety, education, research, and professional collaboration.

This new Chapter was established following a decision by the ISoP Executive Committee and builds on the strong foundations of the former Middle East and Egypt Chapters. The initiative has been led by the Chapter Coordinating Group comprising **Thamir Alshammari, Mohamed A. El Hawary, Hadir Rostom, and Manal Younus**.

As part of the Chapter's establishment, nominations are now open for the first MENA Chapter Executive Committee. The election process is being coordinated by the ISoP Chapters Nominations Committee and aims to ensure fair, transparent, and representative leadership for the Chapter.

The nomination period closes on 1 July 2026, with online voting scheduled for 24 July – 3 August 2026. The successful candidates will form the inaugural Executive Committee and guide the future development of the Chapter from September 2026 onwards. ISoP encourages members from across the MENA region to participate in the nomination and election process and help shape the future of pharmacovigilance collaboration within the region.

## SIG updates

### Herbal and Traditional Medicines



We welcome back Professor Joanne Barnes as the new Chair of the Herbal and Traditional Medicines (HTM) SIG, with Florence van Hunsel continuing as Co-Chair. We extend our sincere thanks to Souad Skalli, together with Florence van Hunsel and Jiao-bo Wang, for their leadership and dedication since 2022, during which the SIG expanded its membership and strengthened its international activities.

### Medication Errors SIG leadership Updates



ISoP is pleased to welcome **Rabih Dabliz, Sophia Trantz, and Lubna Merchant** as the new leadership team of the Medication Errors SIG, with roles rotating annually over the next three years to promote continuity and shared leadership. We extend our sincere thanks to Brian Edwards and Angela for his dedication, leadership, and ongoing support of the SIG, and wish the new team every success as they continue advancing medication safety initiatives within the global pharmacovigilance community



# ISoP General Assembly 2026

We're excited to invite all ISoP members to the **ISoP General Assembly 2026**, taking place on **24 September 2026, from 17:30 to 19:00 UTC** during the **25th Annual Meeting in Costa Rica (ISoP 2026)**.

Whether you'll be in Costa Rica or joining online from across the globe, you won't want to miss this important gathering.

Key updates, strategic decisions, and your opportunity to shape ISoP's future all in one dynamic session!

Be informed. Be involved. Be part of ISoP's future.

✨ Stay tuned for more details and the full agenda – coming soon!

## Beware of Fraudulent Emails Claiming to Be from ISoP

We are aware that some members may have recently received fraudulent emails sent in the name of ISoP's President, Omar Aimer, from false email addresses such as

[presidentsocietyexecutiveboard@gmail.com](mailto:presidentsocietyexecutiveboard@gmail.com) or  
[presidentboard2025@gmail.com](mailto:presidentboard2025@gmail.com).

If you receive one of these emails, please do not respond or click any links. **Delete the message immediately.** ISoP Executive Committee members and the Secretariat will never ask members to transfer funds outside the normal membership application and renewal process.

If you are unsure whether a message is genuine, please contact Sophie at **[administration@isoponline.org](mailto:administration@isoponline.org)**.

# Your feedback helps shape the **future of ISoP**

Take our short survey ⌚ 5-7 min



We encourage you to follow ISoP on Facebook and Instagram: **@ISoPOnline**, or LinkedIn and X: **International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISoP)**.

Our website, **[www.isoonline.org](http://www.isoonline.org)**, is updated regularly. The Members-Only section provides access to the *Drug Safety* journal, presentations from annual meetings, the webinar library, and allows you to update your personal information.

**As always, please send your comments, ideas, and contributions for ISoP Star to:**

ISoP Secretariat Ltd 140 Emmanuel Road, London SW12  
0HS, UK

Tel & Fax: +44 (0)20 3256 0027

Email: [support@isoonline.org](mailto:support@isoonline.org) Website:  
[www.isoonline.org](http://www.isoonline.org)