

# Over 1,000 violations recorded at healthcare facilities last year

Violations ranged from medical waste disposal to improper sterilisation

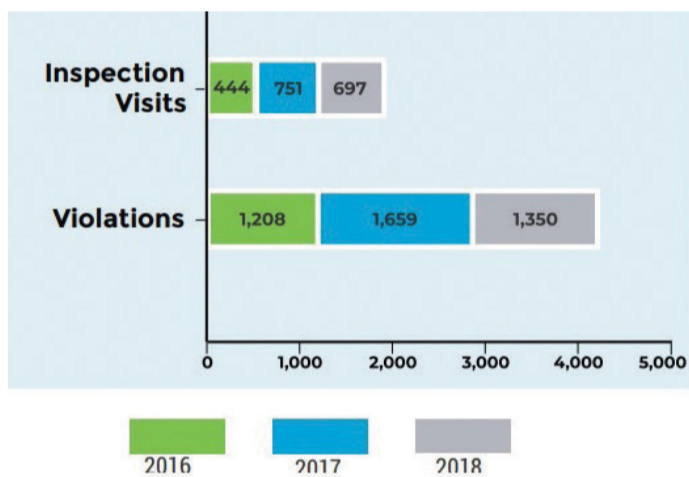
● At 95, the Capital Governorate has the maximum number of pharmacies in the Kingdom.

● Engineering, fire safety, licensing and patient record violations were as well discovered during inspections.

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

Over a thousand violations were found at healthcare facilities during the past one year, according to the regulator.

The National Health Regulator



“Majority of the violations were related to the facility structure, followed by devices failing the safety test and improper medical waste disposal.”

AUTHORITY

ry Authority (NHRA) says violations ranging from medical waste disposal to improper sterilisation were found at different healthcare facilities as its teams carried out inspections from time to time last year.

The authority said that 697 inspection visits were made last year out of which 384 were part of routine inspections.

“One hundred and eleven inspection visits were made to new healthcare facilities while 62 visits focused on auditing. The rest were follow-up visits, inspections based on complaints, adding services and changing facilities.”

According to NHRA, majority of the violations were related to the facility structure (267), followed by devices failing the safety test and improper medical waste disposal.

Others include engineering, fire safety, licensing and patient record violations.

Meanwhile, 40 violations were committed by the pharmacies in the Kingdom last year, according to the authority.

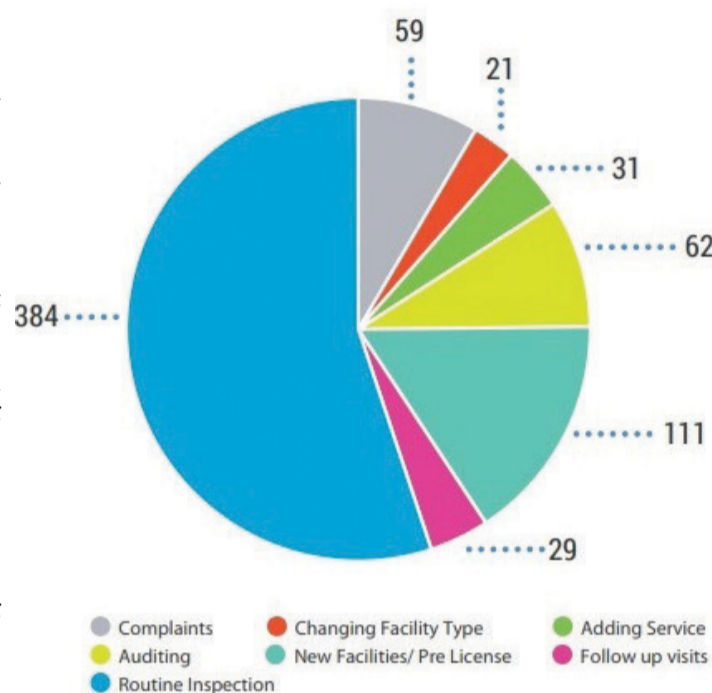
The NHRA has classified violations committed by these pharmacies into five categories. The most common category was related to medicines sold (15), followed by price price cheating (8), pharmacy set up violations (5), licensing violations (6) and temperature/humidity/refrigerator violations (6).

The authority said that 600 inspection visits were made to pharmacies last year.

The latest statistics says that there are currently around 263 licensed pharmacies, an increase of 50 when compared to 2017. Among them, 59 are hospital pharmacies while 204 are private pharmacies.

At 95, the Capital Governorate has the maximum number of pharmacies. It is closely followed

## Inspection Visits 2018



**697** inspection visits were made last year by different teams assigned by the authority.

by Northern Governorate (61), Southern Governorate (57) and Muharraq Governorate (51).

Most of the newly-started pharmacies were in the Capital Governorate (28). Thirteen pharmacies were launched in the Southern Governorate last year, while the Northern and Muharraq Governorates saw the opening of four and eight pharmacies respectively last year.

## Jail term upheld for Bahraini drug dealer

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The Supreme Criminal Court of Appeal has upheld a 10 year imprisonment sentence issued against a Bahraini man, who was convicted of peddling drugs and illegally possessing weapons (swords).

Court files show that the appellant was arrested after the other two suspects led to him, as he was their main provider of hashish and other narcotics.

The first two defendants were separately caught by the Anti-narcotics police and they confessed during the interrogation that they bought drugs from the appellant in return of certain amounts of money.

One of the arrested agreed to co-operate with the police and a trap was set after one

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PROSECUTORS

of the undercover officers offered to buy drugs worth BD100 from him.

As many as nine pieces of hashish, seven narcotics, five swords and BD6,000 were found possessed by the appellant at the time of his arrest, according to prosecutors.

Laboratory tests of the three suspects' urine and blood samples at the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Sciences showed traces of different types of drugs.

The High Criminal Court sentenced the three defendants last year. The trio were convicted of possessing and using drugs.

The first and second defendants were acquitted from the charge of selling drugs and were sentenced to one year imprisonment and to pay BD1,000 fine each, while the appellant was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and fined BD5,000 for selling drugs, in addition to a six-month imprisonment sentence and a BD100 fine for illegal possession of weapons.

He appealed against the verdict, but the court rejected his appeal.

## ‘No-one sought info’ from police in Russian woman death case

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Mohammed Zafran

The police haven't received any request for information from the family of Lyubov Mezentsev, contrary to international reports, the Ministry of Interior clarified yesterday.

Responding to media reports about a Russian woman who died after a fall earlier this month, the ministry stated that no request was received from the family of the deceased for

information.

Reportedly on June 5, Lyubov Mezentsev fell to her death from the sixth floor of a hotel room.

A report in the UK publication Daily Mail stated that the Russian woman, 22, was pushed to her death from a sixth floor hotel window in Bahrain.

According to the report, the woman came to the Kingdom to be with a man she met online.

The report quoted the woman's sister who made various claims.



Lyubov Mezentsev

Responding to the report, the ministry clarified yesterday: “In response to a report on a local newspaper and the Daily Mail about a Russian woman who fell to her death from a building on June 5, in which her family said that Bahrain Police are not sharing information with them, the following points would be highlighted.

“First: the Ministry of Interior posted on its Twitter Account on June 6 about the death of a European woman, 22, after falling from a build-

ing in Hooraa area, highlighting that the concerned authorities are taking the required procedures.

“Second: the Capital Governorate Police Directorate hasn't received any request from the family of the deceased for information.

“Third: The case was referred to the Public Prosecution, as it is the authorised organisation to publish such information if it decides to inform the public or any other bodies concerned.”

## Bahrain Pavilion gears up for GITEX 2019

● GITEX will be held from October 6 to 10, 2019, at Dubai World Trade Centre.

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Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH) and WorkSmart for events management has announced the setting up of the Bahraini Pavilion at the biggest tech show in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia.

GITEX will be held from October 6 to 10, 2019, at Dubai World Trade Centre.

BTECH Chairman Ubaydli Al Ubaydli said that BTECH and WorkSmart have joined hands for the last 13 years to organise the Bahraini Pavilion at GITEX, in a strategic partnership with government bodies including the Ministry of Transport and Communications, Information and e-Government Authority and the Economic Development Board.

Mr Al Ubaydli praised Tamkeen's efforts to support the Bahrain Pavilion in order to achieve common objectives in supporting private sector institutions to expand their business and grow their profits, as well as supporting Bahraini entrepreneurs and emerging technolo-

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Every year in October we take part at GITEX as a group of integrated Bahraini companies to reflect together the progress of the ICT sector in Bahrain.

MR UBAYDLI

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Through the Bahraini Pavilion, we provide tech companies a unique opportunity to enter the rapidly growing regional markets, now valued at billions.

MR AL HUJAIRI

gy companies to develop their projects.

“Every year in October we take part at GITEX as a group of integrated Bahraini companies to reflect together the progress of the ICT sector in Bahrain. We are able to enter into negotiations, get deals and hold discussions with our national counterparts and large companies seeking joint investments in the technical sector,” said Mr Ubaydli.

For his part, WorkSmart chief executive officer Ahmed Al Hujairi said, “The accumulated output of Bahrain's national pavilion at Gitex for 13 years and again this year, push organisers to do their best to ensure that

participants get the maximum benefit, through the acquisition of a strategic location for the pavilion at this exhibition, which is witnessing a fierce global competition for the reservation of space in it, and provide all the logistical support needed for exhibitors.”

“This important week is where the world's technology leaders, enterprises and startups come together to showcase the future of every business as it happens. Through the Bahraini Pavilion at GITEX we provide tech companies a unique opportunity to enter the rapidly growing regional markets, which are expected to reach \$ 168.8 billion by 2020,” Mr Al Hujairi added.