

Dr. Wasim Sajjad

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Profile

Dr. Wasim Sajjad is an Associate Professor at the National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS), Pakistan, and a science-policy practitioner working at the intersection of microbiology, biosecurity, health governance, and emerging technologies. His work spans antimicrobial resistance, microbial metabolite discovery, biosafety and biosecurity governance, vaccine ecosystem development, and responsible innovation in low- and middle-income settings. He has served as Secretary of the Institutional Biosafety Committee and has contributed to biorisk management and vaccinology curricula in Pakistan and the Eastern African region. Dr. Sajjad is a Fulbright Scholar and Honorary Associate at the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, University of Wisconsin–Madison, and an Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Fellow at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. His research and policy interests focus on equitable health security, AI-bio governance, and translating microbiology into practical public health and policy solutions.

Research Interest

Biosecurity and Biorisk Governance, Antimicrobial Resistance and Peptide Discovery, Quorum Sensing and Biofilm Inhibition, Microbial Metabolites from Extremophiles, AI–Biology and Emerging Technology Policy

Selected Publications

- ✓ Sajjad, W., Muhammad, M., Bukhari, S. M. A. U. S., Abbasi, L. W., et al. (2025). Application of bacterioruberin from *Arthrobacter* sp. isolated from Xinjiang desert to extend the shelf-life of fruits during postharvest storage. *Food Chemistry: Molecular Sciences*, *10*, 100239.
- ✓ Bhatti, M. A., Khalil, A. A., Ahn, M. J., Abbasi, S. W., ... & Sajjad, W. (2025). Breaking the biofilm barrier: Juglone derivatives as dual-action inhibitors and anti-quorum sensing agents. *Phytomedicine Plus*, *5*(1), 100698.
- ✓ Shah, I., Uddin, Z., Hussain, M., & Sajjad, W. (2024). *Streptomyces* sp. from desert soil as a biofactory for antioxidants with radical scavenging and iron chelating potential. *BMC Microbiology*, *24*(1), 419.
- ✓ Amin, A., Khan, I. U., Amin, M., Fatima, M., Sajjad, W., et al. (2024). Resurrected microorganisms: A plethora of resting bacteria underway for human interaction. *AMB Express*, *14*(1), 106.
- ✓ Fatima, M., Amin, A., Alharbi, M., Sajjad, W., et al. (2023). Quorum quenchers from *Reynoutria japonica* in the battle against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). *Molecules*, *28*, 2635.

Grants/Awards/Achievements

- ✓ Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Fellow, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (2026).
- ✓ Fulbright Scholar and Honorary Associate, Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, University of Wisconsin–Madison (2025–2026).
- ✓ Member Jury Nuclear Threat Initiative US 2025
- ✓ Next Generation Leader (NGL-50), The Spirit of Asilomar and the Future of Biotechnology, Stanford and Rice University Initiative at 50th Anniversary of Recombinant DNA Technology 2025
- ✓ Principal Investigator, HEC-NRPU grant on antimicrobial peptides from marine sponges against multidrug-resistant bacteria (PKR 7.5 million; 2022–2025).
- ✓ Presidential Fellow and Visiting Scientist Chinese Academy of Sciences 2024
- ✓ Youth for Biosecurity Fellow, UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, and Biosecurity Champion Fellow, Health Security Partners.
- ✓ Global Idea Market Winner (Seed Grant for Startup 3,500 USD) Future Earth & Belmont Forum