

Table 1 Classification of health laws in Pakistan according to the public health functions delineated by the World Health Organization

Classification	Topic (No. of laws)
Laws pertaining to preparedness and public health response to disease outbreaks, natural disasters and other emergencies	Control of communicable diseases (9) Emergencies and disasters (6) Malaria eradication (3) HIV/AIDS (1)
Laws pertaining to health protection, including management of environment, food and toxicological and occupational safety	Food laws (57) Laws related to occupational health (6) Prohibition of smoking and substance (12) Intoxicants (1) Environmental protection (2) Drug laws (13) Laws for the enforcement of the International Health Regulations (8)
Laws pertaining to health promotion and disease prevention through population and personalized interventions, including action to address social determinants and health inequity	Blood safety (8) Breast feeding & maternal, newborn and child health (3) Disabled persons (3) Mental health (1) Social determinants of health (28) Laws related to marriage, divorce and child custody and maintenance (13)
Laws assuring effective health governance, public health legislation, financing and institutional structures (stewardship function)	Health governance (24)